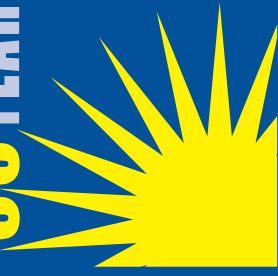


90 YEARS



# NEW HAMPSHIRE ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

Volume 24, No. 1

Summer 2005 Newsletter

## Save This Date Please Join Us!

### Hancock, New Hampshire Old Home Days

On Saturday, August 20, 2005 at 12:00 Noon on the steps of Hancock's Town Hall, the New Hampshire Association for the Blind will present town officials with a plaque honoring our foundress, Emma Coolidge Weston. At the age of fourteen, Emma came to live in Hancock, NH. where she resided except when teaching at the Perkins School for the Blind. The Hancock Historical Society will house a small display of articles and photos from the archives commemorating Mrs. Weston's life throughout the summer. The Historical Society's summer hours are Wednesdays: 9-11AM and 1-3PM, and Saturdays: 1-3PM. ♿

## Living With Blindness The Mary Gale Foundation Grant Award

More older women facing blindness and vision impairment will be helped! In January, the New Hampshire Association for the Blind gratefully received a \$100,000 grant from the Mary Gale Foundation. The Association's multi-year project supported by the award will provide vision rehabilitation services, specialized aids, and adaptive devices for senior women residing in the City of Manchester and the towns of Auburn, Bedford, Candia, Hooksett, Goffstown, Litchfield, and Londonderry.

"The elderly, economically disadvantaged female segment of the Greater Manchester population is growing rapidly," said Kathy Sullivan, Chair of the Mary Gale Foundation Trustees. "The Mary Gale Foundation award will support the services the Association provides to enable these women to live independently longer," Sullivan stated. The Mary Gale Foundation's mission and focus is to provide financial support for service providers of elderly and needy women who are residents of this area.

Several community agencies and human service providers in the area, such as the NH Optometric Association, Service Link, and The Visiting Nurses are collaborating with the Association to reach out within the individual communities to garner referrals of women in need. The Association's

Rehabilitation Services Department expects the funds will allow as many as 100 elderly, needy women to each receive individualized training and recommended aids and devices at no cost to them.

"Our goal," said Nancy Druke, Director of Social Work for the Association, "is for each individual participating in the program to maintain or increase independent living skills. ♿





# 2nd Annual Blind Awareness Walk

On Saturday, May 21st nearly 300 Walkers and Volunteers gathered for the Association's 2nd Annual Blind Awareness Walk, raising over \$20,000 for vision rehabilitation services! Thank you to everyone who participated in making this day such a great success!



**MEDIA SPONSOR:**  
93.3 The Wolf

### Walk Committee

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| Amy Nichols and Sheba, <i>co-Chair</i> | Marie Johnson, <i>co-Chair</i> |
| Janet Akins and Fonzy                  | Bertha Ashford                 |
| Joyce Bollengier                       | Karen Jantzen                  |
| Maggie Jespersen and Worcester         | Don Nelson                     |
| Thelma Nichols                         |                                |



**RECEPTION SPONSOR:**  
Outback Steak House

## 2nd Annual Blind Awareness Walk Sponsors

### GOLD

- Anonymous
- Citizens Bank
- The Eye Center of Concord

### INKIND SUPPORT

- Associated Grocers of New England
- Boys and Girls Club
- Cambridge Trust Company of NH
- Concord Area Transit
- Concord Community Television
- Debbie K Graphics
- Eckerd/Brooks Pharmacy
- H&R Block
- Henniker Septic Services
- Hood
- In A Pinch Café
- Lakes Region Coca Cola
- Panera
- PSNH
- Red Cross
- Rite Aide
- Shaws
- Starbucks
- Stonyfield Yogurt
- Umen Design
- Walmart & Sam's Club

### SILVER

- AG Edwards, Nashua
- Cleveland Waters & Bass
- Jefferson Pilot
- Liberty Mutual
- Merchants Automotive Group
- Red Arrow 24-Hour Diner

### BRONZE

- AG Edwards, Concord
- Antrim/Bennington Lions Club
- Behavioral Health Network
- Caring Family Dentistry
- Catholic Medical Center
- DRD Rental Corp
- Fonzy, Janet & Ken Akins
- Great Brook Veterinary – Antrim
- Julia Little/Mary Woodland
- Lefebvre Construction
- National Federation of the Blind-NH
- Northeast Delta Dental
- Ocean National Bank
- Rochester Eye Care
- Sturm, Ruger & Co.

*And thank you for the wonderful donations of Door Prizes!*



**EVENT ENTERTAINMENT:**  
Off The Cuff



This Newsletter is published by the New Hampshire Association for the Blind

Current newsletters and Annual Reports are available in Braille, on disk, and on audiocassette. If you prefer to receive future editions of our publications in one of these alternate formats, please call the Association at 1-800-464-3075.






**S**aturday, May 14, 2005 brought an informative program to the Parrott Avenue Place. The Educational Series Partner Agencies presented, free to the public, "Caring for an Elder: Caring for Yourself." After an early morning Registration and Breakfast, a panel discussion took place that included a range of issues: the choices seniors and caregivers incur when facing long-term care issues; how family relationships impact care; how to work towards conflict resolution; the importance of Self-Care throughout the care giving process; and a caregiver's personal experience.

A Fall 2005 Community Education Caregivers Workshop sponsored by Parrott Avenue Place Educational Series Partner Agencies is in the early stages of planning. Stay tuned for details.

On the third Thursday of the month the Seacoast Peer Support Group meets from 1:30 PM until 3:00 PM at the Senior Center at Parrott Avenue Place in

Portsmouth. This group had its first meeting in April of 2005 and was modeled after the successful Peer Support Group at the McGreal Sight Center in Concord. The Association's staff arranges transportation, which is always a huge obstacle for individuals with visual impairments. This group provides a community-based opportunity for men and women with vision loss to support one another as only they can do. Members of the group range in age from early 20's to late 70's, and did not previously know one another. All combined, there is a wealth of life experience, which is drawn upon as they cope with the distinct challenges of visual loss. The power and strength these individuals gain bolsters their self-esteem and gives them the courage to face life without sight. As one member exclaimed, "The support group gave me what I needed to enter the world again and be active in living my life." 




## Braille

**D**uring the month of May, an *Introduction to Braille* class took place at the McGreal Sight Center. One of the Association's Teachers of the Visually Impaired (TVI), Kristin Strange, instructed parents and education aides as well as Association staff, about the basics of Braille. The New Hampshire National Association of Parents of the Visually Impaired, the M.I.C.E. Program, and the Association for the Blind sponsored the classes. 



## Agency Receives Reaccreditation

**T**he New Hampshire Association for the Blind has been granted reaccreditation at the highest level by the National Accreditation Council for Agencies Serving the Blind and Visually Impaired (NAC).

The National Accreditation Council is the only national accrediting organization that has defined standards for and accredits private agencies serving the blind and visually impaired. The Association has been accredited under NAC since the 1970's. 



## Our Volunteer Spirit

During the past several months, many volunteers have come to the McGreal Sight Center from other organizations to help with a variety of projects. We wish to take this opportunity to recognize and thank them for the valuable contributions of their time and talents.

Students from both Bishop Brady High School and Concord High School fulfilled their community service requirements by helping with spring clean-up. Twenty-five volunteers from the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program of Merrimack County prepared the mailing of thousands of brochures for the 2nd Annual Blind Awareness Walk. All volunteers demonstrated true "volunteer spirit."

Starbuck's Coffee, the Merrimack County Leo's, and the Concord High National Honor Society joined our staff and volunteers the day of the Blind Awareness Walk to help make the event a safe, comfortable and enjoyable time. Thank you to all for your strong commitment to the NH Association for the Blind and your continued support of New Hampshire people who are blind and visually impaired. 🐾

## Partners In Sight

A monthly giving program, *Partners In Sight* is helping to ensure that resources are always available to those coping with blindness and vision loss every day.

Mr. Thomas P. Ahearn  
Mr. & Mrs. Akerman, Sr.  
Mrs. Claire Boucher  
Mrs. & Mrs. John S. Caro  
Mr. & Mrs. James Carr  
Mr. Michael Cocchiario  
Mr. & Mrs. James G.

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For pennies a day, you too can join this giving program and help remove the isolating barriers that come with the loss of sight. For more information, please call the Development office at 1-800-464-3075. 🐾



## Securing the Future

A charitable gift annuity to benefit the New Hampshire Association for the Blind gives you a fixed income for life, an immediate income tax deduction, and estate tax savings for your heirs. You can establish a gift annuity with the Association for as little as \$5,000. Gifts may be in the form of cash, appreciated securities, or real property.

In return, the Association will make fixed payments to you at attractive interest rates. At the end of your/the donor's lifetime, the remainder of the gift is added to our invested funds for vital program support, unless designated otherwise.

When you invest in the Association with a gift annuity, you are helping to secure the future availability of our specialized services for all those who will need them.

The rates used are set by the American Council of Gift Annuities. Currently, through June of 2006, the following rates apply:

### Charitable Gift Annuity Rates

One Life Examples		Two Life Examples		Rate
Age	Rate	First Life	Second Life	
65	6.0%	70	65	5.7%
75	7.1%	78	73	6.3%
80	8.0%	83	78	7.0%
90+	11.3%			

All those who provide for the financial future of the Association with a gift annuity or other planned gift are invited to join the **William & Elizabeth Yates McGreal Society**.

If you wish to explore the benefits of a gift annuity or other planned gift in confidence and without obligation, please contact Kathleen Carroll, Vice President for Development and Planned Giving, at 1-800-464-3075 (toll free in NH) or via email: [kcarroll@sightcenter.com](mailto:kcarroll@sightcenter.com) 

## GIFTS & GRANTS

Our corporate and foundation funding partners play a critical role in helping our clients regain and maintain their independence.

These funding partners are all committed to helping blind and visually impaired New Hampshire residents be active participants in their communities, maintaining the tradition of Granite Staters helping their neighbors in need. The following gifts have been received between September 1, 2004 and May 31, 2005. On behalf of our clients, the Association's Board of Directors, staff and volunteers, thank you!

### For General Service Provision

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Abbie F. Moseley Trust                  | Lane & Elizabeth C. Dwinell Charitable Trust |
| Ann DeNicola Trust                      | Michael Scott McLaughlin Foundation          |
| Arthur Ashley Williams Foundation       | Mildred W. & Charles P. Page Fund            |
| Dixie Wonders Revocable Trust           | Ocean National Bank                          |
| Exeter Lions Club                       | Robert H. & Gertrude E. Sedgley Fund         |
| Florence B. Mudgett Trust               | Rotary Club of Concord                       |
| The Greenspan Foundation                | Rye Lions Club                               |
| Grimshaw-Gudewicz Charitable Foundation | Sim-Ayres Foundation, Inc.                   |
| Harry A. Nichols Trust                  | The Tallman Fund                             |
| Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation  | Tyco International (US) Inc.                 |
| Jack and Eleanor Sawyer Fund            | Walter O. Nichols Trust                      |
| Gruber Foundation                       | William W. Evans Trust                       |
|   | Marion E. Stubbs Trust                       |

### For our Senior Services Program

Cogswell Benevolent Trust

### For Comprehensive Service Delivery in Greater Manchester

The Mary Gale Foundation  
The McNinch Foundation

### For the Transportation Program

Ella Anderson Trust

### For Technology & Low Vision Aids/Devices

Autodesk, Inc.  
BAE Employee Community Fund (*Greater Nashua clients*)  
Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation  
Verizon NH

### For our Educational Services Program

The Gibney Family Foundation  
The Lizzie Cheney Trust

### For our Seacoast Services Program

Roger R. & Theresa S. Thompson Endowment Fund  
Rotary Club of Portsmouth  
United Way of the Greater Seacoast, Community Impact Grant



# Memorial and Tribute Gifts

*These thoughtful gifts are in memory of a loved one or honor special occasions or individuals. They represent another important way to support the mission of the Association and essential vision rehabilitation services. Tributes to the following individuals were received from September 1, 2004 to May 31, 2005, and we extend warmest thanks to all donors.*

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## Baseball Caps

The Association is pleased to introduce a new baseball cap with a graphic design by Carol Hills, President of JUST IMAGINE, INC. Unveiled at the Second Annual Blind Awareness Walk, the hat is for sale at the Association's store for \$15 and is available in 3 color schemes. To order yours, visit [www.sightcenter.com](http://www.sightcenter.com). 

## Welcome & Best Wishes

The New Hampshire Association for the Blind welcomes two employees, Judy Carlson and Kristin Strange (M.Ed., COMS). Judy works as the lead Grant Writer in the Development Office. Judy's experience encompasses all kinds of writing, including freelance. Kristin arrived at the New Hampshire Association for the Blind via the Ministry of Education & Development in Hamilton, Bermuda bringing a wealth of experience in working with students struggling with vision loss.

During the spring semester at the University of New Hampshire, Susan Cannon worked as a Master's Level Social Work Intern at the New Hampshire Association for the Blind. As her internship ends, we wish her the best. 