

OFFERING
HOPE &
MAXIMIZING
QUALITY OF
LIFE FOR
PEOPLE

VIC NEWS QUARTERLY



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Goodbye and Hello

At the beginning of this year, we had to say goodbye to our Clinic Director, Leslie Boyle, who had to resign for personal reasons. Leslie was hired by VIC in March of 2010. She did an amazing job managing our clinic, doing outreach and developing our quarterly newsletter. Leslie was also instrumental in getting us the grant for free advertisement of our services on KNDO. With her friendly and calm manner, she was very well liked by patients and everybody who worked with her. Leslie was always willing to go the extra mile for patients. She will be greatly missed. We hope she will stay in touch with us and wish her the best of luck for her future.



Our new Clinic Director is Marsha Lance. Marsha began her association with VIC over two years ago when, as a Terrace Heights Lions Club member, she was recruited to volunteer for VIC in the clinic. Marsha will now be managing the clinic as well as stepping out into the community to promote awareness of VIC services and benefits to the low vision community.

Marsha graduated from WSU with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Home Economics. After working as a Retail Store Manager in Seattle, Marsha met her now husband of 27 years and moved to the Yakima Valley where they raised two sons who are now in college. Marsha comes to VIC after 20 years of service in the dental field as a Business Assistant and Dental Assistant. Congratulations on your new position, Marsha! We know you will do an excellent job!

VIC IS NOW ON FACEBOOK!

In keeping with the times, Vision for Independence Center is now on Facebook! "Like" us and keep up with the latest news and happenings from VIC.



WHAT'S NEW IN THE VIC STORE?

Come see the new items in our VIC store! One of the latest and greatest is the Mattingly wired mouse. This reading aide works like a computer mouse, except it is rolled over the information you wish to read and is projected on any TV/Monitor using video input.

The mouse features optional viewing modes:
Full Color, High Contrast Positive, and High Contrast Negative.

More options include:

- Zoom in/out digitally
- Up to 70x digital magnification
- Freeze and defreeze current image
- Unique guiding wheel mechanism
- Light, convenient, ergonomic, and easy to use
- One year manufacturer's warranty.



If you are interested in trying out the mouse for yourself or a friend or family member, please call VIC at (509) 452-8301. Also, we now have gift certificates available!

25% OFF SALE

COME CHECK OUT THE VIC STORE AND SEE OUR GREAT SELECTION OF
LOW VISION DEVICES
AND THROUGH APRIL 29TH,
ALL WATCHES IN THE VIC STORE ARE 25% OFF!



WE HAVE MEN'S, WOMEN'S, AND CHILDREN'S LARGE NUMBER AND
TALKING WATCHES WITH A
VARIETY OF STYLES TO CHOOSE FROM.

CONTINUING EDUCATION IN LOW VISION REHAB

In January, the VIC team had the opportunity to attend a presentation by John D. Shepherd, M.D., of University of Nebraska Medical Center. Dr. Shepherd is the Director of Weigel Williamson Center for Visual Rehabilitation.

Dr. Shepherd was a practicing eye surgeon when he was struck by tragedy and found himself going through rigorous physical therapy after a terrible accident. After completing therapy, Dr. Shepherd could not go back to doing eye surgery as he could not stand for a very long time due to the pain in his back. He was not sure what he would do if he could no longer be a surgeon. Thinking back to his experience in going through therapy, Dr. Shepherd contemplated how he could use that, along with his expertise as an ophthalmologist, to help others. Eventually, his path led to low vision rehabilitation. Dr. Shepherd realized the need and decided to use his skills to serve the low vision population.

Dr. Shepherd pointed out that before he became aware of the overwhelming need for low vision services, he had sent patients to buy magnifying glasses at the grocery store; not realizing that low vision patients need so much more and need training in the appropriate use of devices such as magnifying glasses and the wide array of devices available. He saw that there is a great need to assist those patients who cannot be helped by surgery or a simple prescription for glasses.

The doctor discussed examination techniques, demonstrating devices to assist the patient, and developing the overall rehabilitation plan, including occupational therapy: visual skills training, appropriate use of devices in the activities of daily living, and environment adaptations.

All in all, it was a positive experience and educational for the VIC team. It was encouraging to hear that there are more facilities out there providing these much needed services. The VIC staff is inspired to educate more OD's and Ophthalmologists to recognize the need to refer their low vision patients for further evaluation by trained low vision professionals.



KNDO COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS GRANT

Vision for Independence Center recently received word that it was selected as one of 11 recipients of a Community Connections Grant, offered jointly by American West Bank and KNDO. The purpose of the grant is to increase the awareness of Yakima area agencies and organizations such as VIC. The selection was made from over 100 applicants in the Yakima area with VIC selected by employees of area bank branches. The grant provides VIC with over \$3,000 worth of ads on KNDO which will be aired during September. The information will also be aired on SWX, KNDO's sports station and on the KNDO website.

DONATE YOUR OLD "CLUNKER"



If you have a vehicle that is no longer running or no longer in use and taking up space in your garage or driveway, please consider donating it to VIC online. VIC is a member of V-Dac, an online vehicle donation program. For more information, go to www.v-dac.com to read about how their program works and how to donate to VIC.

CENTRAL WASHINGTON INSURANCE



VIC would like to thank Central Washington Insurance for sponsoring this quarterly newsletter. Central Washington Insurance is your full-service insurance provider with access to hundreds of services in practically every insurance category. Whatever your insurance needs, the experienced staff at CWI will work hard to make certain your personal and commercial coverage is taken care of with fast, friendly service. CWI is located at 410 South 1st Street in Selah. For more information, go to www.centralwainsurance.com or call (509) 697-4871.

Thank you, Abbott's Printing, Inc., for a great job on our newsletter and all of our printing needs. Abbott's is the printer of choice for VIC.



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