

# HELPFUL RESOURCE GUIDE

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## **i. TRANSPORTATION, TRAVEL AND MOBILITY**

- M.A.R.T.A. (Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority) serving Dekalb & Fulton Counties. For bus schedules and route planning call 404-848-4711. For the MARTA Mobility Division - that provides door-to-door van transportation service, call 404-848-5389. The fare is \$3.50 each way and requires a one-day or more advance reservation. The initial application process may take 2-3 weeks. If you are legally blind you are eligible for a half fare ID "Breeze" Card for riding M.A.R.T.A.'s rail and bus route system. You must go to one of M.A.R.T.A.'s offices to apply for this ID card.
- Gwinnett County Transit, Express Routes, 6 Local Routes, and Para transit service within  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile of local routes. Website: [www.gotransit.com](http://www.gotransit.com) or call 770-822-5010
- Cobb Community Transit: Call 770-428-1218 to get bus schedules & routing information. Para-transit Div. 770-427-2222: A door-to-door van transport service for disabled individuals. The cost is \$2.50 one-way with at least a 24-hour advance reservation required. An initial application process is required that takes about 30 days.
- Cobb Senior Services – Call to apply – 770-528-5364 To qualify, client must be: 60 years or older A Cobb County resident. Not drive/ You can live with someone who drives, if he or she is not available to drive you to your destination. Call 770-528-5380 to schedule a ride AFTER you apply.
- Greyhound and Trailways Bus Lines: 800-752-4841
- Amtrak: 800-872-7245
- Atlanta Taxicabs: 404-215-2882
- Lions Cub Shuttle Service: Provides transportation within and between metro Atlanta counties. Call Katrina Carr at 770-632-0323.
- Christian Air: 770-228-2884. They provide transportation for medical needs.
- Senior's Ride Program. Gwinnett County: 770-822-8850  
Cobb County: 770-528-5355. North Atlanta: 404-237-7307
- Maps YAHOO: <http://maps.yahoo.com/broadband#env> - a  
MAPQUEST: <http://www.mapquest.com> -to obtain direction or maps

- Disabled Persons Parking placard and/or tag. An application, which must be completed by the applicant and their doctor, for either the tag or placard are now both obtained from your local tag office where you get your tag renewed annually. Applications can be picked up in person, mailed to you by calling your local tag office, or downloaded from the Internet at <http://motor.etax.dor.ga.gov/forms/pdf/motor/mv-9d.pdf>
- The Cobb County Tag Office is located at 700 South Cobb Drive, Marietta, GA 30060-3115. Their telephone number is: 770-528-8247
- Accessible World seeks to help educate the general public, the disabled community and the professionals who serve them by providing highly relevant information about new products, services and training opportunities designed specifically to eliminate geographic and access barriers that adversely affect them. For more information and to listen to recent podcasts visit: <http://www.accessibleworld.org>.
- Walk Score. Walk Score helps people find walkable places to live. Walk Score calculates the walkability of an address by locating nearby stores, restaurants, schools, parks, etc. For more information visit: <http://www.walkscore.com/>.
- Guide Dog Schools
  - Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation: 860-243-5200 serving NE US
  - Guide Dogs for the Blind, Inc: 800-295-4050
  - Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind: 800-548-4337
  - Guiding Eyes for the Blind: 914-245-4024
  - Leader Dogs for the Blind: 888-777-5332
  - Guide Dogs of America – CA.
  - Guiding Eyes for the Blind - NY
  - Southeast Guide Dogs, mainly SE - FL.
  - Seeing Eye- NJ
- Air Travel
  - The U.S. Department of Transportation---has a Toll Free Hotline for air travelers with disabilities which is available seven days a week from 7:00A to 11:00P Eastern Time. The “Hotline” serves to provide air travelers with disabilities the education to understand their rights under the Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA), “Hotline” operators can provide on-the-

spot assistance in resolving disability-related air travel problems. "Hotline" operators are well versed in the ACAA and Part 382 and can also respond to requests for printed consumer information about air travel rights. They provide a variety of services to callers including contacting air carriers and convincing them to accept service animals and electric wheelchairs on board flights, to stow folding wheelchairs in the cabin, and to provide requested assistance. Call the Hotline at 800-778-4838 (voice) or 800-455-9880 (TTY).

- Transportation Security Administration (TSA) ---talk to a supervisor if faced with any security screening or access issues caused by the airport operations, not an individual airline or call 800-778-4838, 24 hr hotline to resolve any real-time issues that can not be resolved by a supervisor. Any problems should be reported ASAP or within the week of occurrence. For a list of rules visit [www.dot.gov/airconsumer/problems.htm](http://www.dot.gov/airconsumer/problems.htm)
- Issues with Air Carriers  
Complaint Resolution Officer (CRO), Dept of Transportation title given to an individual that resolves any issues pertaining to persons with disabilities. Ask any carrier's personnel to involve this individual if that carrier's personnel prove to be unsatisfactory
- Transportation Search -database of transportation services, which can be found on the home page through the link at <http://www.mdsupport.org/>
- The Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute provides tactile street maps via the Web. The system uses a server-based geographic information system (GIS), and will be able to produce tactile graphic files properly prepared for standard Braille embossers, swell paper, ViewPlus Tiger embossers, or other tactile output devices. Ultimately, the software will be available as an online service that allows anyone to request a tactile street map of any location at any scale, download the files and emboss or render the tactile map immediately. The street maps are automatically produced with appropriate information density, Braille labels, and simple line figures to optimize their use by a blind map reader. The current system only includes USA data. In the future, other data sources may

be used. If you are interested in learning more, or would like to become a beta tester, visit <http://www.ski.org/tmap>

- The Hadley School for the Blind: Phone: 800.526.9909 or 847.446.8111, Fax: 847.446.0855 Email: [student\\_services@hadley.edu](mailto:student_services@hadley.edu) The Hadley's new course, "Going Places" is for you! Available in large print and Braille (cassette and online coming soon) this tuition-free course will help you establish your ability to travel independently.
- Mobility devices- Links to websites <http://www.nsf.gov/od/lpa/newsroom/pr.cfm?ni=103>

## ii. FINDING INFORMATION

- Directory Assistance Information
  - If you are an ATT customer Call 800-982-2891 to get an application to apply for free local telephone directory assistance. If you use another local telephone service other than ATT, most, like MCI will offer this free service as well. Just call customer service with your carrier.
  - Free directory assistance for any city and state for all residential, government and business listings. This service also offers free connection to any number you request. You may sometimes have to listen to an advertisement before requesting a number. It is not necessary to fill out a directory assistance exemption form to use this service. The toll-free number for this assistance is 800-373-3411 (800-free-411).
  - Yellow pages. Voice Access Communications' Audio Yellow Pages is a free interactive speech program for people with disabilities. Available 24 hours a day, this service offers callers 10 million nationwide business listings by city and state or zip code and business type. To access this service, call 888-654-1236
  - White Pages via the Internet [www.whitepages.com/](http://www.whitepages.com/) to obtain phone numbers for individuals or businesses nationwide.
  - There is another option to get free directory assistance for obtaining U.S. business phone numbers from Google. From any phone (landline or cell) dial 800-goog-411 or 800-466-4411. This service will provide you with the numbers and will connect you, too.
- InfoLink The announcement of information about organizations, products or services is not to be interpreted as an endorsement of InfoLink by the Center for the Visually Impaired. To have your event or information included on InfoLink, or to receive InfoLink via E-mail, to make comments or suggestions regarding this service or for more information on the programs and services offered at the Center for the Visually Impaired, please contact Katey Glass at 404-875-9011, ext. 4277 or e-mail [infolink@cviga.org](mailto:infolink@cviga.org). InfoLink may also be accessed via

telephone at 404-875-8418, toll-free at 800-558-5451 (outside of the Atlanta calling area only) or through CVI's Website at <http://www.cviga.org>

- Tell Me is a free voice activated information service that can be accessed via touch-tone telephones and enables callers to check the time, get news, weather, sports, traffic and entertainment updates, set up and follow stock portfolios and access a host of other information. Call 800-555-8355 Finding business numbers anywhere in the United States is now available through TellMe at no cost. There are no sales ads when looking up numbers using TellMe. Say "business search" at the main menu, and follow the voice prompts.
- Internet Search Engines- [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)
- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

### iii. GENERAL RESOURCES & INFORMATION

- Absentee balloting Call to request a ballot.
  - Cobb County: 770-528-2300
  - DeKalb County: 404-298-4020
  - Fulton County: 404-730-7072
  - Fulton County, South Fulton Annex: 404-306-3050
  - Gwinnett County: 770-822-8787
- No-Call listing blocks telemarketing calls 1-877-426-6225 or [www.nocall.gov](http://www.nocall.gov)
- **RPList** an e-mail formatted chat-room, gain information, ask other affected individual's questions or discuss issues. <http://listserv.icors.org/SCRIPTS/WA-ICORS.EXE?SUBED1=rplist&A=1>
- **MDList.** The MD Community's Email Discussion Group. The macular degeneration mailing list (MDList) is a place where you can send and receive email communications with others who have MD in common. To subscribe, send a message to: [MDLIST@MDSUPPORT.ORG](mailto:MDLIST@MDSUPPORT.ORG) and type SUBSCRIBE in the subject window. The Website for MD Support also is another source for information. <http://www.mdsupport.org/>
- FFB Online chat room. Visit <http://www.blindness.org/forms/register.asp> to join in discussions about Stargardt Disease, Macular Degeneration, Retinitis Pigmentosa, Choroideremia, Usher Syndrome & Other Retinal Diseases
- Elevator tips At the landing outside the elevator when one arrives, one chime indicates that the elevator is going up, two chimes indicate that it is going down. Inside the elevator on the control panel that displays the floor numbers, the star, in place of the corresponding number, indicates the main floor of the building, usually street level.
- US Federal Tax Exemption: 800-829-1040
- US Postal Service: Free Matter for the Blind 404-765-7541
- Panasonic Corporation has created an access and compliance office. The company invites people who are blind to submit ideas regarding how it can make Panasonic products--VCRs, telephones, DVD players, etc.--more accessible. Call Robert

Wegner at 201-392-6115, or e-mail  
wegnerr@us.panasonic.com

- The blind Handy Girl list is for women to discuss better ways of doing things around the home. To join, send a blank message to [blindhandygirl-subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:blindhandygirl-subscribe@googlegroups.com).
- Homestead Exemptions for the blind
  - Dekalb County 404-371-8297
  - Forsyth County 770-781-2110
  - Fulton County 404-730-6100
  - Gwinnett County 770-822-8800
- A Note About Looking Good An article about makeup for the visually impaired, "Discounts on Makeup Services Help Visually Impaired Women Look Their Best", written by Ben A. Shaberman, appeared in the Summer issue of the Foundation Fighting Blindness: "In Focus" Newsletter. We think it will interest our lady friends. While we tend to dress more casually and wear less makeup in the summer, most of us still are vain enough to want to look good. The article describes how Patti Pruitt, who suffers from retinitis pigmentosa, has made it her mission to identify a beauty spa and a paramedic aesthetician (a certified and trained permanent makeup artist) in every major U.S. city that will offer discounts to women with visual impairments. Patti posts the names of these spas and aestheticians on the web page:  
[www.blindnessga.org/servspons.htm](http://www.blindnessga.org/servspons.htm). She has her eyelashes darkened and her eyebrows waxed at the spa. You might enjoy and feel good indulging in some of these types of treatments.

#### iv. **HARDWARE & DEVICES**

- The Association of Blind Citizens operates the Assistive Technology Fund, which provides funds to cover 50% of the retail price of adaptive devices or software. The products covered by this program must retail for a minimum of \$200 with a maximum retail price of \$6,000. Applicants must be legally blind, a resident of the United States, have a family income of less than \$50,000 and have cash assets of less than \$20,000. There are two application deadlines per year: June 30 and December 31. Applicants may apply once during a calendar year. For more information, email [atf@blindcitizens.org](mailto:atf@blindcitizens.org).
- Humanware Victor Reader Stream. This device is a flashed based digital memory reading device that is compatible with Talking Books (NLS) National Library Service for the Blind & Handicapped. Device includes the classical 4-way navigational keys, bookmarking & key reading. You will be able to access downloaded books from the NLS onto your computer & then onto this device. It is also compatible to play Daisy Books Bookshare.org, text to speech, MP3 books & music, Audible Books. It's the size of a pack of playing cards makes it more portable than the free desktop players that the NLS will be issuing. It will also have recording capability with a built in microphone or jack for external microphone. Plus a jack for headphones or external speakers plus a USB port. \$329 for more info visit [www.humanware.com](http://www.humanware.com) or 800-722-3393
- Luggage locator Transmitter-receiver \$25.95 Innovation House- Canada 877-661-6660 or [www.innovationhouse.com](http://www.innovationhouse.com) Can be adapted to locate any other item you choose.
- Item Locator Kit "Now You Can Find It" A fantastic accessible gadget that guides you to four items that tend to get lost, such as glasses, cell phones, keys etc. Item #412310 Originally \$49.95 \*\*\*\* Now Just \$39.95!
- Talking thermostat website at: <http://www.talkingthermostats.com> or by e-mailing [harry@talkingthermostats.com](mailto:harry@talkingthermostats.com). ~\$150
- The Calvin Thermostat – voice activated, fully programmable thermostat. Keypad or voice command operation. \$130 for

- more info call Independent Living aids 800-537-2118 or [www.independentliving.com](http://www.independentliving.com)
- The VIP Series is the first digital thermostat with audio playback of day, time, indoor temperature, temperature setting and programming instructions, which enable users who are blind and visually impaired to precisely and easily manage their indoor comfort. When the day/time, weekend or weekday schedule buttons are pressed, you are voice prompted to enter the correct settings. When you press the REPORT button, you hear "day of the week, time, indoor temperature and the thermostat setting." Press the UP or DOWN arrow buttons and you hear "raise or lower the temperature as well as the new temperature setting." Press the HELP button and you hear "Obtain a telephone number to call for assistance with your thermostat". The VIP Series has two models, the VIP 1000 Series that offers heating and cooling control for conventional gas, oil, electric systems and the VIP 2000 Series that offers heating and cooling control for heat pump systems. In addition to the verbal instructions mentioned above, a CD with complete instructions to operate the VIP, large print format of operating instructions, a user's guide with technical information, and a lifetime warranty are included with the product. The VIP 1000 Series costs \$129.95. For more information, call 800-838-8860, or email [talkingthermostats@talkingthermostats.com](mailto:talkingthermostats@talkingthermostats.com) or visit <http://www.talkingthermostats.com/blind.shtml>
  - ScriptTalk- Talking Labels a means to read Prescriptions as well as the "Idmate" which reads bar codes. Made by EnVision America, Inc. 307-452-3643 or visit [www.envisionamerica.com](http://www.envisionamerica.com)
  - Talking watches, clocks, scales and more – see catalogs- LSS & others listed in the catalog section
  - Talking Checkbook 2.0 -enables people with disabilities to manage finances and print their own checks independently. Features include accessibility with JAWS and Window-Eyes, a calculator, and a calendar.. Talking Checkbook also includes its own voice output. A template for signing printed checks is also included. The program is available for \$59.95 plus shipping and handling. For more information, visit <http://www.readingmadeeasy.com> or call 815-722-5961.

- Cell phones & devices/ services
  - Magnifics Inc. now has available the Phone Monocle, a soft, pliable and hypoallergenic cell phone magnifier. It slips around any phone -- Nokia, Motorola, Seamen's, or Panasonic -- and magnifies the display up to 250%. For more information, contact: Magnifics Inc. 2631 Mayfield Ave., La Crescenta, CA 91214 Phone 818-248-2228
  - Verizon Wireless has an off-the-shelf accessible cell phone. The LG VX8300 speaks many of the functions and has voice recognition built in. For example, just to name a few of the many useful functions, blind and visually impaired people can independently enter their contacts, look up a contact's information, and check battery status, signal strength and time. The LG VX8300 also has talking caller ID. For more information, visit [www.verizonwireless.com](http://www.verizonwireless.com).
  - <http://www.nsf.gov/od/lpa/newsroom/pr.cfm?ni=103>
  - **AT&T Wireless VoiceDial Exemption Program.** Providing helpful dialing assistance, AT&T recognizes that voice-enabled services can provide helpful dialing assistance for customers with significant visual, cognitive, and physical disabilities. That's why we're pleased to waive the \$4.99 monthly feature charge for our VoiceDial service for those with qualifying disabilities. Normal airtime charges apply to all calls made using VoiceDial. VoiceDial can be accessed by dialing \*8 from your wireless phone. With VoiceDial, you can:
    - ✓ Dial by saying the number you want to call, or by saying a name from your personal address book.
    - ✓ Keep a personal address book of up to 2,000 contacts, enough to store all the important numbers you need.
    - ✓ Take advantage of our host of information services, so information on stocks, sports, weather, and news is never more than a verbal request away.

To learn whether you qualify for our VoiceDial Exemption Program, or to obtain application and certification forms, please call the National Center for Customers with Disabilities. Voice calls: 1-866-241-6568  
TTY calls: 1-866-241-6567

- Email list for discussing cell phone accessibility. The BlindPhones mailing list has been a major independent way for people to discuss access to mobile phones. To join, send a blank message to [Blindphones-subscribe@googlegroups.com](mailto:Blindphones-subscribe@googlegroups.com).
- Talking ThermostatsColor detector
  - The Cobolt Speechmaster Talking Colour Detector is made by Cobolt Systems Ltd. of England, web site: [cobolt.co.uk](http://cobolt.co.uk). The color detector is distributed by Jett Enterprises, 2710 Golondrina Way, Pal Springs, CA 92264, telephone 800-275-5553. Cost \$115.95.
- Talking microwave by Hamilton Beach (model number: 87106) can be purchased from Best Buy ([www.bestbuy.com](http://www.bestbuy.com)). Best Buy has this priced at \$59.99. For more information, visit the website or your local Best Buy store.
- GPS Systems- Global Positioning Systems for mobility
  - Wayfinder Access is a GPS system that works with the Mobile Speak Screen Reader and Mobile Magnifier for mobile phones, thus creating a very small and potentially more affordable GPS solution. For more information, visit: <http://www.wayfinder.com/news.en.php?id=92&year=2007>.
  - Handy Tech North America, formerly Triumph Technology, is proud to be the first U.S. company to offer the Way Finder Access GPS Navigation software along with Mobile Speak for Symbian phones. You may listen to an audio demo at: <http://www.triumphonic.com/demos/wfadem0.mp3>. Code Factory of Barcelona Spain has partnered with Sweden-based Way Finder to offer what is arguably the world's most powerful GPS navigation solution for people with visual impairment. The intuitive user interface makes it easy to explore unfamiliar areas as well as identify, select and navigate to points of interest with a combination of pre-recorded prompts and the high quality Mobile Speak screen reader. Easily save your favorite destinations, select passenger car, taxi or pedestrian routes, and always find out where you are with the use of the "Where am I" feature. Also, gather information such as street crossings, points of interest and favorites within a vicinity as well as speed,

altitude and coordinates. For more information visit:  
<http://www.handytech.us>.

- Olympus unveils three new DS-Series digital voice recorders: the DS-30, DS-40 and DS-50. The recorder has the ability to record lectures in high sound quality and is also great for listening to audio books and music, making them the all-in-one audio device. The three new devices offer a voice confirmation function that can be turned on or off. When turned on, the function enables the devices to speak, helping users to navigate the folders and various set-up options. The instruction manual is available to users as an audio file. For more information, visit: [www.olympusamerica.com](http://www.olympusamerica.com).
- The Kurzweil-National Federation of the Blind Reader is a revolutionary device, a portable, hand-held camera that will read print and on-screen text to people living with blindness or low vision. Sorting mail, checking ATM receipts, glancing at handouts, Reading modes for books, articles, and labels; bills and memos. SPECIFICATIONS - Dimensions - 5.5 in. (L) x 3 in. (W) x 2.25 in. (H). Weight -12.8 oz. (0.8 Lbs.). Camera Resolution - 5.0 mega pixels. Storage -1GB SD card (up to 900 images and documents). Battery Life - 6 hours or 100 pictures. Focal Range - 3.9 in. (10cm) to infinity, auto focus. Operating System - Windows Mobile 5.0. CPU Speed - 624 MHz. Memory - 64MB RAM / 128MB ROM. For more info call Kurzweil Education Systems, Inc. 100 Crosby Drive Bedford, MA 01730 (800)894-5374 Option #4 for Customer Service website: [www.knfbreader.com](http://www.knfbreader.com)
- The MonoMouse is a device shaped like a computer mouse that connects to your household TV and magnifies text for reading. Just scroll the MonoMouse over the text you wish to read and it will be clearly magnified on your TV. MonoMouse costs \$185. For more information, call 408-224-8188, or visit <http://www.bierley.com>
- Freedom Scientific has announced the release of the Pac Mate Omni, the much-enhanced version of the Pac Mate pocket PC device now running Windows Mobile 6 with accessibility based on JAWS. Upgrades for owners of older units are reasonably priced. For more information visit: Customers of AT&T Wireless can get the MobileSpeak screen reader or the MobileMagnifier for use on any of five supported phones for

\$89, a significant discount on the usual price for these products. The five supported phones are: Cingular 3125, Nokia N75, Nokia E62, Samsung Blackjack (with Windows Mobile 5) and Pantech Duo. For more information visit:  
<http://www.wireless.att.com/about/disability-resources.jsp>

## v. ASSISTIVE SOFTWARE

- Screen magnification and reading software
  - Zoomtext, by AISquared, 802-362-3612  
[www.aisquared.com](http://www.aisquared.com)  
Screen magnification and / or screen reading option
  - Magic- another screen magnification software program.  
[www.freedomscientific.com](http://www.freedomscientific.com)
  - Jaws– screen reading software only by Henter-Joyce a div of Freedom Scientific, [www.freedomscientific.com](http://www.freedomscientific.com) or call 800-444-4443
  - Windows accessibility options  
<http://www.komando.com/tips/index.aspx?id=334> Windows also has its own built-in magnifier.
  - For additional info on magnifiers, visit  
[http://www.komando.com/text\\_link.html](http://www.komando.com/text_link.html)
- Dragon- software that replaces the keyboard by converting speech to written digital text. <http://www.dragontalk.com/>
- Code Factory, the maker of screen readers for mobile phones, is changing its licensing scheme. Until recently the Mobile Speak or Mobile Magnifier license has followed the phone. Now, the license will follow the user, so that users can buy new equipment and apply their same license to the new equipment. For more information visit: <http://www.codefactory.es/ucl>.
- eyePilot - <http://www.colorhelper.com/> is a program that is designed to help viewers distinguish between colors on the screen. Click an element on the screen. Then, everything that is a different color is grayed out. It makes things much easier. It runs \$34 for Windows or Mac. Plus, you can try it before you buy it.
- J-Say Pro is an exciting product which addresses the needs of visually impaired people who are unable to use the keyboard or who want to take advantage of the additional functionality provided by the product. J-Say Pro combines the unparalleled flexibility of JAWS for Windows screen reading software with the outstanding voice recognition capabilities of Dragon Naturally Speaking. In addition to allowing the

user to dictate text to compose word processed documents or E-Mail messages, J-Say Pro provides the user with complete hands-free control of the computer. Furthermore, the hundreds of commands which exist within the JAWS screen-reading package are represented as voice commands. For more information visit: <http://www.ulva.com/Online-Store/Voice-Recognition/j-say-pro.htm>.

## vi. **TECHNOLOGY TRAINING SERVICES FOR HARDWARE-SOFTWARE & DEVICES**

- CVI – Center for the Visually Impaired. see Rehab Agencies
- BLVS - Blind and Low Vision Services of North GA– see Rehab Agencies
- Private / Individual training – Sue Bernardo 404-406-2565
- Private / Individual training- Darren Duff is a blind Assistive Technology instructor offering specialized instruction and on-site computer training for most software and hardware for the visually impaired. Examples include JAWS, ZoomText, Microsoft Windows, PacMate and Talks for series 60 Nokia phones. Darren works with both private pay individuals and those who are enrolled in Vocational Rehabilitation. For a free quote, or if you have any questions, call or e-mail Darren at 678-936-6113 or [duff379@gmail.com](mailto:duff379@gmail.com).
- E-access Bulletin is a free, independent monthly e-mail newsletter on information technology issues for people with visual impairment and blindness. The Bulletin covers everything from consumer electronics to the internet, examining design and access issues and technical developments. To subscribe, e-mail [eab-subs@headstar.com](mailto:eab-subs@headstar.com) Put 'subscribe eab' in the subject line. For more information, visit <http://www.headstar.com/eab>
- Access World, the American Foundation for the Blind's bi-monthly publication on assistive technologies, has been relaunched as a free newsletter available solely on the Web. New features include the option to send files directly to Braille printers or Braille note-takers. The first online issue includes a feature on Access World's ongoing investigation into accessible mobile phones. Visit <http://www.afb.org/accessworld>

## **vii.     HARDWARE & SOFTWARE VENDORS**

- Southern Low Vision- Lou Gambo- 404-367-9495, Telesensory brands
- Visual Enhancements, Inc. - Mike Martenson  
Box 49734 Athens, GA 30604-0734 TOLL FREE (877) 236-7092 FAX (706) 546-1671 Mike@Visual-Enhancements.com A DOL Contract # 5566033
- Goodkin & Assoc. – 770-944-8226, Pulse Data brands
- Pulse Data- call them direct at 800-722-3393 x253, Kim Casey
- Morris Int'l. Wendy Morris- 770-551-8455, Optelec brands
- Visual Enhancement Inc. – 877-236-7092,
- Computer Resources & Training- Kent Plemmons- 800-232-5899, Optelec Brands

## **viii. WEBSITES TECHNOLOGY & GENERAL INFORMATION**

- [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) search engine
- [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) search engine
- Kim Komando is a radio talk show host about computers and devices many of which are specifically geared to the visually impaired. Visit her website at [http://www.komando.com/kool\\_show.asp?showID=158801](http://www.komando.com/kool_show.asp?showID=158801) or listen to her shows for helpful tips
- <http://www.blindcooltech.com/> this website provides useful information about a variety of subjects, mostly about technology for the vision impaired.
- [www.blindresources.info](http://www.blindresources.info) his resource homepage Joe Stuckey, a blind musician from Macon, GA lists some of his resources.
- [www.howstuffworks.com](http://www.howstuffworks.com) find out how stuff works
- Mobility devices- Links to websites  
<http://www.nsf.gov/od/lpa/newsroom/pr.cfm?ni=103>
- Tigerdirect.com – use this website to order computer equipment and supplies
- [www.hicom.net/~oedipus/blind.html](http://www.hicom.net/~oedipus/blind.html) low vision resources
- AccessWatch offers consumers the opportunity to read reviews of mainstream software and to learn how these programs work with speech, as well as tips and tricks for making a favorite program work even better. Read software reviews from other blind computer users who are currently using off-the-shelf software you are considering buying. After you've read several reviews of a particular program, you may submit one yourself. If you don't see a particular program in the list, simply add the program to the database and be the first to write a review. Be sure to read the guidelines carefully before submitting. Visit <http://www.accesswatch.info/review.php>
- The AT Connection is a new web-based forum where users of assistive technology can post reviews and exchange information about their experiences with assistive technology products. There is no cost or commitment for use of this resource. Call the AT Network information and referral hotline

at 800-390- 2699, Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., or Visit

<http://www.techconnections.org/forum.cfm>

- CSUN is the 22nd Annual International Technology and Persons with Disabilities Conference. Sponsored by the Center on Disabilities at California State University, Northridge, the Conference is the largest and longest-running event of its kind in the world. All webcasts are free and no registration is required. For more information, please refer to the following webcast page:  
<http://www.letsgoexpo.com/expo/index.cfm?EID=80000065&p=1&page=about&ECTID=34>
- There is a mailing list to discuss open-source software for the blind. To join, put the word "subscribe" in the subject field of a message to the following address:  
[blindopensource@freelists.org](mailto:blindopensource@freelists.org).
- In the January 2007 issue of AccessWorld there are reviews of the two screen readers for mobile phones, a discussion of accessibility of home appliances, reviews of two portable magnifiers, a review of HumanWare's Auto-Reader, and more. To learn about these visit: <http://www.afb.org/accessworld>.
- e-mail discussion lists for blind cell phone users. The first list, Blind Cell Phone Users, is a general list where all aspects of accessibility of cell phones and the software that make them accessible to the blind is discussed. You can join by sending a blank e-mail to the following address: [blindcellphoneusers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:blindcellphoneusers-subscribe@yahoogroups.com). The second list is specifically for those users of the LG VX line of phones. You can subscribe by sending a blank email to: [BlindusersLGVXPhones-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:BlindusersLGVXPhones-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).
- Tired of those inaccessible sales circulars in print newspapers? Looking for one source of accessible information about sales on computer hardware and software, electronics and appliances? Visit [www.SalesCircular.com](http://www.SalesCircular.com) to compare prices in major retail stores nationwide.
- Are you tired of automated phone systems? Would you like to learn how to get a human on the phone? Learn how by visiting the following website: <http://gethuman.com/>. The most popular page on this site is located at <http://gethuman.com/us>. On this

page, you can find phone numbers and codes to get to a human when calling a company for customer

- iPod is a new electronic discussion group. The purpose of this list is discussion of all aspects of using iPods or similar products, as well as the software used to transfer files onto the device, by people who are visually impaired. You can also discuss other MP3 players. To subscribe to this list, send a blank message to [blindipod-request@freelists.org](mailto:blindipod-request@freelists.org)

## ix. PRODUCT CATALOGUES & SUPPLIERS

- LS&S 800-468-4789 or [www.LSSonline.net](http://www.LSSonline.net)
- MaxiAids 1-516-752-0521 or [www.maxiaids.com](http://www.maxiaids.com)
- Can-do Products 800-537-2118 [www.independentliving.com](http://www.independentliving.com)
- Independent Living Aids 800-537-2118  
[www.independentliving.com](http://www.independentliving.com)
- Tigerdirect.com – use this website to order computer equipment and supplies
- Lighthouse Professional Products 800-826-4200
- Lighthouse International 800-829-0500
- American Printing House for the Blind 800-223-1839
- Sammons Preston Healthcare & physical therapy equipment 800-323-5547 or  
[http://www.promedproducts.com/?gclid=COPC\\_fLA1ZACFRY0sgod0jqLXQ](http://www.promedproducts.com/?gclid=COPC_fLA1ZACFRY0sgod0jqLXQ)
- Ott-Lite makes a variety of True-Color lighting products, including a TrueColor Lamp, TrueColor FlexArm Clamp-On Lamp (13 watt), TrueColor FlexArm Plus Lamp (18 watt) and Floor Lamp (13 and 18 watts). For more information: OTT-LITE Technology Consumer Information Dept. Environmental Lighting Concepts, Inc. 1214 West Cass Street, Tampa, FL 33606 1-800-842-8848 or 1-813-621-0058. Some models of these lights are available at Office Depot, Michaels Craft Store, and, JoAnn, Etc. Michael's & JoAnn's often have 50% off coupons in the Sunday AJC). You can also do a web search and find numerous sources for purchasing these lamps.
- The Whirlpool Corporation will provide clear plastic Braille overlays and knobs for Whirlpool washers, dryers, microwaves ovens and dishwashers. Large print, Braille or audio cassette owner's manuals are also available. Have the Model Number handy when you call and allow 4-6 weeks for delivery. Call 1-800-446-2574 ext. 4201 or contact them on the web at [www.whirlpool.com/braille/braille](http://www.whirlpool.com/braille/braille)
- TechnoMart, a new InfoLink feature. This service will enable individuals to sell & buy used low vision equipment. For more information, call Penny Zibula at 404-875- 9011 ext. 4359, or e-mail [infolink@cviatlanta.org](mailto:infolink@cviatlanta.org)

**x. PRIVATE AGENCIES AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROVIDE INFORMATION, SUPPORT, COUNCILING AND OTHER SERVICES**

- FFB Foundation Fighting Blindness [www.blindness.org](http://www.blindness.org)  
National's website, 800-683-5555 National's ph # 800-683-5555  
GA Chapter - [www.blindnessga.org](http://www.blindnessga.org) or call 770-491-1629
- NFB National Federation of the Blind 410-659-9314
- ACB AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND 1-800-424-8666
- Georgia Council of the Blind President Marsha Farrow Phil ones at 770-923-1039, Or Jerry Orr at 404-870-0210  
<http://www.georgiacounciloftheblind.com/index.html>
- The Association of Blind Citizens – they offer financial assistance for purchasing equipment  
[www.assocofblindcitizens.org](http://www.assocofblindcitizens.org)
- Sheppard Center's Benefit Navigator Program – This agency offers free advice about applying for Social Security Benefits and back to work programs..  
Contact Sally Atwell - 404-350-7589
- United Way To find help - counseling, child care, shelter, food, and more, or to give help: just dial 211 and find the resources you need. Open 24 hours a day. Outside of metro Atlanta area codes? Call 404-614-1000 or search their database at [www.unitedwayatl.org](http://www.unitedwayatl.org)
- Vision Impaired Personal Services (VIPS) offers mail reading, bill paying assistance, letter typing, faxing, business handling assistance, Notary Public, mailing and shopping services. The cost is \$10 per hr with a \$20 min.770-474-3474
- Tax-Aide volunteers across the country are available to provide tax help for preparing and filing federal tax returns. The United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) is sponsoring the largest free tax counseling and preparation program in the country, available through AARP. Help is available for low or middle-income taxpayers with disabilities who want tax help and free filing of their simple U.S. federal income tax returns. People seeking tax help who have more complex returns will be advised to get professional tax assistance. You need not be a member of AARP or a senior to receive tax help from Tax-Aide.

For more information, call toll-free: 1.888.AARPNOW (888-227-7669) or visit [www.aarp.org](http://www.aarp.org).

- Cross Keys Counseling Center Inc. Tiffany Starnes, Licensed Professional Counselor 4234 Hendrix Dr Forest Park, GA 30297 404-366-3420, emergencies 678-462-2905, 404-316-6627 voice mail e-mail [tiffanystarnes@earthlink.net](mailto:tiffanystarnes@earthlink.net)
- Cane Repair – free service Elizabeth Isaacs, a mobility instructor in Lawrenceville, repairs white canes free of charge. She is currently fixing grips, tips, tapes and bungee cords. You may send your cane to her, free matter for the blind, at: Elizabeth Isaacs 1785 Presidents Drive Lawrenceville, GA 30043 Phone: 770-963- 9562 E-mail: [whitecanes@charter.net](mailto:whitecanes@charter.net)
- Support for Vision Loss: A series of tapes from the Braille Institute of America A set of 12 tapes designed to help people deal with their vision loss, especially those newly blind or with low vision. Call the Braille Institute to request the introductory tape to the series called, *A Sound Solution*. If you like the intro tape, you can order the rest. All tapes are free. 1-800-272-4553. <http://www.biasoundsolutions.org/Index2.html>
- Braille Repair and Service Atlanta Braille Repair and Service provides quality, prompt, local service for your Braille writer at a reasonable rate. Call 770-432-7280 or e-mail [doctorbraille@bellsouth.net](mailto:doctorbraille@bellsouth.net)
- A Lion's Lighthouse 404-325-3630
- Guide Dog Users Inc. an agency that advocates for the rights and interest of dog guide users as well as providing useful information, products and services. call or visit their website 888-858-1008 [www.gdui.org](http://www.gdui.org) to subscribe to their newsletter (Pawtracks) call 614-766-5524 or email at [www.pawtracks@gdui.org](mailto:www.pawtracks@gdui.org)
- Fund-It Etc. is a newly formed non-profit organization that will assist non-profit organizations and individuals with disabilities in locating funding resources for conventions, seminars, conferences and assistive technology. For more information, call Stephanie Scott at 404-202-1650.
- Home Instead Senior Care provides companion and home helper services, including shopping, errands and incidental to church, social events and appointments at a reasonable price and their employees are bonded. 770-425-4240

- Zifty is a Web-based delivery service for meals, movies, prescriptions and other. Items This service is available to residents in Midtown Atlanta, which covers homes and offices south of Lindbergh and LaVista Road, west of Clifton Road and Maynard Terrace, east of Northside Drive and Howell Mill, and north of Decatur Street and Confederate Avenue. If you are not sure if you are inside of the delivery area, call 404-817-3345, or visit <http://www.zifty.com>
- National Braille Press (NBP) has opened a brand new online store, where many Braille products can be purchased. A help page is available for those who want navigation assistance. Each department at NBP has its own section with links appearing on the home page. To buy Braille books, including children's Braille books, subscribe to the Children's Braille Book Club, read about how the press got started in 1927, donate to the cause, take an online tour of the plant, check out NBP's new Braille literacy program, or discover how NBP is contributing on the education front, visit <http://www.nbp.org>  
Right now
- Fulton County Disability Information Assistance Line (DIAL) at 404-730-6900 for information about employment, disability rights, housing, and other disability-related issues. To receive the Fulton County Office of Disability Affairs newsletter, Disability Connection, call Sharron Pearson at 404-730-7390. Specify which format you prefer.
- Lift is a non-profit company that recruits, qualifies, trains and hires information technology professionals who have physical disabilities and places them with major corporations. Johnson & Johnson and Verizon Wireless are two of more than 80 corporate clients that Lift has served. For more information, call 908-707-9840, or visit <http://www.lift-inc.org>
- The Association of Blind Citizens operates the Assistive Technology Fund, which provides funds to cover 50% of the retail price of adaptive devices or software. The products covered by this program must retail for a minimum of \$200 with a maximum retail price of \$6,000. Applicants must be legally blind, a resident of the United States, have a family income of less than \$50,000 and have cash assets of less than \$20,000. There are two application deadlines per year: June 30 and December 31. Applicants may apply once during a calendar year. For more information, email [atf@blindcitizens.org](mailto:atf@blindcitizens.org).

**xi. REHABILITATION AGENCIES PROVIDING MOBILITY, ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND ASSISTIVE LIVING**

- CVI - Center for the Visually Impaired – 404-875-9011 for training, support groups, mobility, assisted living and training on devices and aids. They are now offering Medicare-reimbursed vision rehabilitation services for people who have low vision. To request an appointment at CVI's Florence Maxwell Low Vision Clinic or for additional information about Medicare coverage for low vision services, call 404-875-9011.
- BLVS - Blind and Low Vision Services of North GA– 770-432-7280 or 800-726- 770-432-7280 provides vision rehab services, including low vision evaluations, optical devices and aids, training in independent living skills, Braille, computers and technology, orientation and mobility, and monthly support groups. Agency is based in Smyrna (Cobb County) and serves 28 counties in Northwest Georgia.
- Veterans Administration – Kendall Prescott, Low Vision Coordinator 404-728-4830
- Sue Bernardo 404-406-2565 Private / Individual instruction on orientation and mobility & assistive technology training on computers, hardware and software
- MONS International – similar to CVI & BLVS providing a variety of low vision training, services and products. Visit their website at [www.magnifiers.com](http://www.magnifiers.com) or call Charly Brown at 678-488-1308 or Wendy Mons at 770-551-8455, or toll free 800-541-7903.
- Hadley School for the Blind 800-323-4238, They provide free classes on a correspondence basis on a wide variety of subject.
- The Carroll Center for the Blind recently launched Carroll Tech, a program that offers on-line classes in the use of popular applications using either JAWS for Windows or ZoomText. Each of the 24 classes currently scheduled to take place during 2004 is designed to take full advantage of the World Wide Web. Over the course of six weeks, students take 12 lessons consisting of on-line manuals, streamed videos, e-mailed exercises, auto-graded quizzes and audio chat sessions.

Classes cover the use of the Microsoft Office applications, Outlook, PowerPoint, Access and Excel, and are offered at the introductory, intermediate and advanced levels. To take one of the Carroll Tech classes, students must pass a pre-qualifying quiz to insure that they have the word processing, web browsing, e-mailing and file management skills necessary to successfully complete the course work. Students must also demonstrate that the computer system where they intend to do most of their work is capable of accessing the course content, including streamed videos, audio chat sessions and on-line quizzes. The cost per class is \$50 and is payable through PayPal, by personal check, credit card or purchase order. Each class is offered on a first-come-first-served basis; classes are limited to five students. For more information, visit <http://www.carrolltech.org>

## xii. CAREER INFORMATION

- Career Networking eSight career network  
[www.esightcareers.net](http://www.esightcareers.net)
- Listserve (by CVI) has been established for job seekers who are blind or have low vision, potential employers and service providers. The purpose of the listing service is to post information on employment opportunities, resources and upcoming events, such as entrepreneurs seminars, "Let's Get Ready to Work" workshops and resource and network fairs. To join the Georgia Coalition Employment Network, send a blank e-mail to [coalitionemploymentnetwork-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:coalitionemploymentnetwork-subscribe@yahoogroups.com) For more information, call Stephanie Scott, Chairperson, at 404-366-1170.
- CVI also hosts a monthly employment resource group. The group is open to all blind/visually impaired adults for networking and to discuss barriers in employment. This group will resume in February 2008. Contact Rasheeda Wilkins 404-875-901 or [rwilkins@cviga.org](mailto:rwilkins@cviga.org)
- Georgia Department of Labor - GA Div of Rehab Services 404-657-3000
- ADA – Americans with Disabilities Act- see Governmental Services section about your rights in the workplace.
- HireAbilities is a national network of emerging professionals with disabilities, encouraged by existing professionals, employers and community partners. HireAbilities believes that people with disabilities should enjoy the same array of employment opportunities as people without disabilities, and that the presence of professionals with disabilities in the workplace is an important component of an employer's commitment to disability diversity. The organization's focus is on emerging professionals -- those about to begin their careers. HireAbilities will assist these individuals in becoming leaders in their fields. The company also reaches out to schools and employers interested in enhancing their commitment to disability diversity and offers them consulting services and a connection to disability talent. For more information, visit <http://www.hireabilities.org>

- Sheppard Center's Benefit Navigator Program – This agency offers free advice about applying for Social Security Benefits and back to work programs.. Contact Sally Atwell - 404-350-7589
- eSight's "Swimming in the Mainstream" blog is designed to facilitate discussions and increase networking opportunities for people with disabilities, the career counselors who serve them and employers who are disability friendly. For more information or to participate, visit <http://www.tabinc.org/sim/>
- Job Accommodation Network or JAN. 800-526-7234 or visit their website at [www.jan.wvu.edu](http://www.jan.wvu.edu) . They can assist with answering many questions and provide a form letter that can be used as a template when notifying the employer of a need for a reasonable accommodation.
- Contact The Atlanta Bar Association at 404-404-521-0777 and for a fee of \$ 35 they will provide a referral to a local lawyer who would specialize in representing individuals with disabilities within Fulton, Dekalb & Gwinnett Counties.

### **xiii. EXERCISE, PHYSICAL FITNESS & SPORTS**

- Tandem Bicycling 404-728-4830
- US Blind Golfing Assoc. – Atlanta Chapter 404-292-0041
- Ski for Light 2008. Do you cross country ski? Do you want to learn? If you are a visually impaired adult who would like to spend a week skiing or learning to ski, join us in Bend, Oregon, for the thirty-third annual Ski for Light International Week, February 10 to 17, 2008. Each year nearly three hundred skiers and guides gather together for a week of recreational skiing, fun, friendship, and fellowship. Skiers and guides come from all over the U.S. and other countries and from a wide variety of occupations and interests. Visually and mobility-impaired skiers are matched with sighted guides and ski together for the week, working to develop skills and techniques. Accommodations will be at the Riverhouse Hotel in Bend, Oregon, a small but vibrant city near Redmond, Oregon, with skiing on nearby Mount Bachelor. The center there has fifty-six kilometers of Nordic trails and an alpine ski area. Visit the Ski for Light Webpage at [www.sfl.org](http://www.sfl.org) for more information. The cost for the week is \$775 double occupancy and includes meals, ski passes, and transportation to the ski area. For more information contact Dave Thomas at (303) 298-0672 or email [davet@sfl.org](mailto:davet@sfl.org), or Lynda Boose, VIP applications coordinator at (906)
- Taekwondo Seoul is now offering classes for individuals with visual disabilities from ages 13 to adult on Saturdays from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Taekwondo Seoul is located on Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road in Suwanee near I-85. Master Young J. Yoo , a 6th Degree Black Belt, and his assistant instructors have several years of experience in working with individuals with various disabilities. Taekwondo teaches the knowledge of both sports and life skills through individualized programs that help students strengthen themselves physically, mentally, and emotionally in a fun, positive, and supportive atmosphere. Class sizes are limited. For more information, contact Master Young J. Yoo at (770)932-8866.

- GA Blind Adventurers- 404-250-9216 or 770-943-3296 sponsored by CVI
- National Camps for Blind Children/Adults, a program of Christian Record Services, Inc. periodically plans blind biker camps/ trips. Sighted captains will pilot bikers who are blind on tandem bikes specially designed to endure on-and-off-road conditions. The routes are on the Silver Comet and Chief Ladiga Trails. All participants will need to be in good physical condition for the ride whether they ride the route in its entirety or only a portion. Participants will need to prepare by riding a stationary bike for 30 minutes to one hour a day, at least three days a week for eight weeks. This is a serious requirement, especially for someone who is not athletic or physically active, in order to safely participate. If possible, it is suggested that riders who are blind practice riding on a tandem bike to get used to the experience and necessary teamwork. For more information, call Danny Wells at 404-794-8719 or 404-19-9209.
- Goalball is a paralympic sport developed for people with visual impairments. Anyone interested in playing, or wishing to find out more about the sport, can contact Derrick Thigpen at 404-875-9011 ext. 4373.
- CVI announces the following exercise classes beginning the week of January 7, 2008. All classes are during the day unless noted otherwise. For more information or to register for a class, please contact Annie Maxwell on or before Friday, December 21 at 404-875-9011, ext. 4371.
  - AEROBICS: Mondays January 7 through March 10 (10 weeks) in the STARS Activity Room from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Instructor: Kristi Maxwell Logue, exercise physiologist, Emory University. Cost: \$10 due the first day of class.
  - WEIGHT TRAINING: On Wednesdays, January 9 through March 12 (10 weeks) in the exercise room at CVI from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Instructor: Kristi Maxwell Logue, exercise physiologist, Emory University. Cost: \$10 due the first day of class.
  - YOGA: On Thursdays, January 10 through March 13 (10 weeks) in the STARS Activity Room from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Instructor: Vimla Kushwaha. Cost: FREE
  - AEROBICS (evening): On Mondays, January 7 through March 10 and Wednesdays, January 9 through March 12 (10 weeks) in CVI's

STARS Activity room from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Instructor: Michelle Mobley, Health Fitness Center. Cost: \$50 for one night per week or \$100 for both nights, due the first day of class.

- **YOGA (evening): On Tuesdays, January 8 through March 11 (10 weeks) in the BEGIN classroom from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Instructor: Michelle Mobley, Health Fitness Center. Cost: \$50 due the first day of class.**
- **American Blind Bowlers Association (ABBA) league is currently in the planning stages for the Atlanta metro area. A minimum of 16 members is required. Games will begin in September following Labor Day and the season will consist of a total of 30 weeks of actual bowling, excluding weeks that involve holidays. A midtown location with access to MARTA is being considered. For more information, call Leonard Ellis at 404-252-5675.**

## **xiv. READING, BOOKS, MAGAZINES & NEWSPAPERS**

- NLS National Library Service for the Blind and Handicap.  
<http://www.loc.gov/nls/> The address for the Download Pilot for free digital books is:  
<https://www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb/DownloadPilot.html> or call 888-657-7323) to connect to a local participating library
- The Georgia Library for Accessible Services (GLAS) 404-756-4619 or check with your county for a branch of the Library of NLS. Descriptive videos available for check-out by registered library users. The videos can be played with a standard VCR machine without special or adaptive equipment. As with all circulating library materials at GLASS, registered library users can obtain descriptive videos by visiting GLASS in person or by requesting that videos be mailed to their homes. The library user incurs no charge for receiving or returning descriptive videos through the mail. Descriptive video titles can be selected from a catalog, and users will receive videos from their selected list as they become available. A catalog of descriptive videos for children ages 5 through 12 is also available. Up to two videos may be borrowed at a time, and must be returned within 14 days. 800-248-6701, or e-mail [glass@georgialibraries.org](mailto:glass@georgialibraries.org) or visit <http://www.georgialibraries.org/public/glass.html>
- Newspaper/Magazines/Books NFB NEWSLINE has revolutionized the reading of the newspaper for people who are blind. Now you can access over 56 newspapers via touch-tone telephone on a toll-free number from anywhere within the continental USA. To register, call 404-759-5513
- Book Ears 404-816-2665 buy, sell & trade books on tape
- Dialog Magazine - a quarterly publication on tape, of a wide variety of subjects that are written by or about the visually impaired. 800-860-4224 or [www.blindskills.com](http://www.blindskills.com)
- Georgia Radio Reading Service (GaRRS) is an independent, not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide blind and print-handicapped Georgians with access to the printed word. Their staff of primarily volunteers read articles from more than 120 magazines and 35 newspapers, which are broadcast

on a daily basis. In addition some 25 unabridged books are read each month. These publications are broadcast 7 days a week 24 hours per day. This service requires a special receiver obtained from GaRRS. You can rent the received for an annual donation of \$35.00 or purchase for \$95.00. For more information and to obtain an application: GaRRS 260 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW Atlanta, GA 30318 Or Call: 404-685-2820 or 1-877-937-3378 (Toll Free) [www.galinks.com/garrs](http://www.galinks.com/garrs)

- Recordings for the Blind 800-221-4792
- Choice Magazine Listening (CML) is a free service for any adult US resident who is unable to read standard print due to loss of vision or other disability. Six times a year, CML provides eight hours of unabridged selections of articles, short stories and poetry from leading publications. The non-profit Lucerna Fund has been offering this service since 1962. Recordings are produced in the Library of Congress Talking Book format. For more information or to order your free subscription, write to: Choice Magazine Listening 85 Channel Drive Port Washington, NY 11050 Or call 888-724-6423 Or e-mail [choicemag@aol.com](mailto:choicemag@aol.com) or visit <http://www.choicemagazine.com>
- National Braille Press (NBP) has opened a brand new online store, where many Braille products can be purchased. A help page is available for those who want navigation assistance. Each department at NBP has its own section with links appearing on the home page. To buy Braille books, including children's Braille books, subscribe to the Children's Braille Book Club, read about how the press got started in 1927, donate to the cause, take an online tour of the plant, check out NBP's new Braille literacy program, or discover how NBP is contributing on the education front, visit <http://www.nbp.org> Right now
- Dialogue is an international news magazine published bi-monthly since 1961 for individuals who are blind or visually impaired and their friends and families. Dialogue reviews low vision aids, provides tips/techniques for coping with vision loss, and shares experiences of people living successfully who are blind or are visually impaired. Dialogue publishes articles, personal essays, interviews, news and resources. Dialogue is available in large print, Braille, cassette, diskette and e-mail.

The yearly subscription cost is \$42. For more Information visit:  
<http://www.blindskills.com/dialogue.html>.

- For those who love reading and have online access there is a new online reading discussion group for the blind and visually impaired. The group's purpose is to discuss reading experiences, both good and bad. In addition, members may direct other participants to new sources for materials, which are accessible. To sign up send a blank email to [EnjoyReading-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:EnjoyReading-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).
- Digital books – downloads & services
  - NLS National Library Services for the Blind & Handicap, NLS Announces BARD

NLS has expanded its download pilot test program to include any patron with a player capable of reading its new Digital Talking Book (DTB) files. The expanded and re-titled Braille and Audio Reading Download (BARD) program allows patrons to download digital talking book files over the internet and play them back through a DTB-enabled player. Patrons enrolling in the program must be active readers in good standing; have access to a commercially available digital player compatible with NCS materials (Victor Reader Stream); have an e-mail address; and have access to a high-speed Internet connection. You can apply for this program on line at [www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb](http://www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb)

- The address for the Download Pilot site is:  
<https://www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb/DownloadPilot.html>  
NLS Downloadable Audio Book and Magazine Service  
<https://www.nlstalkingbooks.org/dtb/>
- Uible & ACB Radio - have teamed up to bring you some great benefits! Audio books and a vast quantity of spoken word material can be purchased and streamed on-line, download it to your PC, and even take it on the go through a range of supported mp3 players or by burning it onto CD! It's all possible with Audible.com. When you use the links from our home page to become an Audible Listener, you can get an audio book and a month's subscription for free! Join one of the Audible Listener plans and get your reading started with a free great best

seller! Where Audible really shines is in its ability to let you take what you download anywhere, with its tiny, user friendly MP3 player. Enjoy your newspaper on the bus, or learn a foreign language while on the treadmill. Commit to being an Audible listener for a year, and we'll give you an MP3 player absolutely free. Listen to ACB Radio's comprehensive demonstration and tutorial of Audible, on our website at [www.acbradio.org](http://www.acbradio.org).

<http://www.acbradio.org/>

- Bookshare.org is an online subscription service that enables U.S residents to access a shared collection of scanned digital books. This service was first launched in February 2002 and already has close to 11,000 books available for download to subscribing members. To register for this service, you must provide proof of disability and pay the \$25 sign up fee and \$50 annual subscription fee. Books are available for download in digital grade 2 Braille or a text-only version of the NISO/DAISY format, for which a software player is provided with membership. For more information, please visit the website at [www.bookshare.org](http://www.bookshare.org) or email [info@bookshre.org](mailto:info@bookshre.org). You may also contact Bookshare.org at 480 California Ave, Suite 201, Palo Alto, CA 94306-1609. Their fax number is 650-475-1066.

➤ <http://dlrinc.com/>

➤ [http://digitalbooks.gwinnettpl.org/6B9BC0DA-DA86-4ECE-B910-0F7C8C4C1E31/10/1\\_03/en/Default.htm](http://digitalbooks.gwinnettpl.org/6B9BC0DA-DA86-4ECE-B910-0F7C8C4C1E31/10/1_03/en/Default.htm)

➤ <http://netlibrary.com/Gateway.aspx>

➤ <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,198031,00.html>

➤ <http://gutenberg.org> > 2 < <http://worldebookfair.com> >

- Suggested Reading

- What do you do when you are told your child is blind? What skills are the most important for a newly-blinded person to learn? What adaptations and technology is available? Fred Olver's new book, "Dealing with Vision Loss", is said to answer these questions and many more. Olver, who is blind himself, has a Bachelor of Science in Communication Arts and Secondary Education and a Master of Arts in Blind Rehabilitation Teaching from Western Michigan University. According to Olver's home page, "His life experience as well

as his work as a Rehabilitation Teacher and developing technology and training for individuals in the use of talking computers and software, uniquely qualifies him to speak to the many questions about vision loss." In addition, a large list of resources is included. The book is available in many formats, including print, CD, and EBook. The latter, presented in Adobe PDF, is the best value at \$15.95. An MP3 version of the book is currently being produced. For more information visit: <http://www.dealingwithvisionloss.com>.

- Touch the Top of the World NLS # RC 51505 by Erik Weihenmayer. An inspiring true story of the first blind man to climb Mt. Everest. Erik Weihenmayer, who has been blind since the age of 13, but who has never allowed his handicap to hold him back. Weihenmayer and several climbing friends risk their lives and face nearly unbearable conditions as they attempt to scale the world's tallest peak. They even see the frozen remains of climbers who failed in similar attempts. This is the unforgettable story of a man who dared to dream and ignored the impossible odds against him.
- Freedom for the blind By James H Hombrick (sp?) Enrich and promote your career – the secret is empowerment NLS # RC 55216
- My friend you are legally blind NLS # RC 53279, a writers struggles with AMD

## **xv. ENTERTAINMENT, MEDIA, RADIO, TV. MOVIES**

- Audio described TV programming and videos - for current information 800-333-1203,  
<http://main.wgbh.org/wgbh/access/dvs/>
- Books & Videos on tape The Georgia Library for Accessible Services (GLAS) 404-756-4619 Or check with your county for a branch of the Library of Congress Talking Books Program. Descriptive videos available for check-out by registered library users. The videos can be played with a standard VCR machine without special or adaptive equipment. As with all circulating library materials at GLASS, registered library users can obtain descriptive videos by visiting GLASS in person or by requesting that videos be mailed to their homes. The library user incurs no charge for receiving or returning descriptive videos through the mail. Descriptive video titles can be selected from a catalog, and users will receive videos from their selected list as they become available. A catalog of descriptive videos for children ages 5 through 12 is also available. Up to two videos may be borrowed at a time, and must be returned within 14 days. For more information about descriptive videos or other services offered by GLASS, or to obtain an application for service, call 800-248-6701, or e-mail [glass@georgialibraries.org](mailto:glass@georgialibraries.org) or visit <http://www.georgialibraries.org/public/glass.html>
- Local library's also have books on tape and sometimes audibly described movie videos
- The Special Needs Library of Northeast GA. They are similar to GLAS and serve Gwinnett County. 800-531-2063
- 11 The Alliance Theater will have performances audio described:  
call 404-733-5000.
- InfoLink is an email & call in announcement service about events, entertainments, trips, exercise programs, plays etc. It is disseminated by the Center for the Visually Impaired. InfoLink is not to be interpreted as an endorsement by the CVI. To receive InfoLink via E-mail go to  
[http://app.bronto.com/public/?q=landingpage&fn=Mail\\_Landing](http://app.bronto.com/public/?q=landingpage&fn=Mail_Landing)

Page\_Link&id=aqsffgmmnpkiakhljgyokpyxhfvvbcm&page=subadd&type=page or call 404-875-9011

- Tell Me is a free voice activated information service which can be accessed via touch-tone phone and enables callers to check the time, get news, weather, sports, traffic and entertainment updates, set up and follow stock portfolios and access a host of other information. Call 800-555-8355.
- VSA-Arts of Georgia provides free tickets (or tickets at a nominal cost) to visually impaired individuals and a companion. Here's how it works: Call the VSA hotline at 404-221-1270, then press "2" A recording lists the events they have tickets for. Write down the event you're interested in and the date. To get tickets: Call Pat Hanus at Tech-Able 770-922-6768. It's simple and it's free! The hardest part may be choosing which event to attend!
- **Mopix Motion Picture Access.** Access to Movie Theaters for Patrons who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Blind or Visually Impaired. Rear Window® Captioning and DVS Theatrical®, developed by The Media Access Group at Boston public broadcaster WGBH, make theaters accessible to audiences with disabilities the day and date films debut, and during regular showtimes. Rear Window Captioning enables movie fans with hearing loss to enjoy a film via reflected captions that appear on a Plexiglas panel at the seat. Patrons sitting in the surrounding seats cannot see the captions. DVS Theatrical presents concise narration of visual cues, including scenery, facial expressions and silent movements of characters, through a FM or infrared system delivered to headsets. There is no additional charge to use the systems. For a list of theater locations and showtimes visit their website at <http://ncam.wgbh.org/mopix/nowshowing.html>

Current list of GEORGIA Theaters with Mopix Systems.

AMC Barrett Commons 24  
2600 Cobb Place Lane, NW  
Kennesaw  
770 421-0423

Auditorium # 7 only

**AMC Colonial 18**  
**825 Lawrenceville-Suwanee Road** Auditorium # 16 only  
**Lawrenceville**  
**770 237-0744**

**AMC Discover Mills**  
**15900 Sugarloaf Parkway** Auditorium # 13 only  
**Lawrenceville**  
**678 847-9265**

**AMC North Dekalb 16**  
**2042 Lawrenceville Highway** Auditorium # 6 only  
**Decatur**  
**404 325-0700**

**AMC Parkway Pointe**  
**3101 Cobb Parkway S.E.** Auditorium # 7 only  
**Atlanta**  
**770 937-0730**

**AMC Southlake Pavillion 24**  
**7065 Mount Zion Circle** Auditorium #10 only  
**Morrow**  
**770 472-8665, ext. 0**

**Consolidated Georgian 14**  
**232 Newnan Crossing Bypass** Auditorium # 7 only  
**Newnan**  
**704 554-1695**

- Entertainment website and / or e-mail updates on music, sports, Restaurant etc  
<http://home.digitalcity.com/atlanta/entertainment/>
- ACB Radio In addition to informational and entertainment programming of interest to people who are blind, ACB Radio now offers World Blindness News from its home page. ACB Radio, in association with Moreover.com, enables you to

access the latest information about what's happening around the world in the blind community through current articles gathered from a wide variety of national and international newspapers. For more information, visit <http://www.acbradio.org>

- The Georgia Radio Reading Service can now be heard over the Internet. Visit <http://www.galinks.com/garrs> Click on the Listen to Live Broadcast link.
- Dating site specifically designed for people with disabilities that is easy to navigate with a screen reader. It only takes a few moments to sign up
- and to get used to the format of the Web site. <http://www.hfriends.com>
- NHEST (Natural History Education, Science, and Technology) is a nonprofit organization that provides educational and recreational opportunities for people of all ages who are blind and visually impaired. Sign up for the ir free newsletter, ilderNHEST News, about the outdoors, science, technology, what NHEST offers and more. Send a blank e-mail with "Subscribe" in the subject line to Chrissy Laws at [cjlaws@mfx.net](mailto:cjlaws@mfx.net)
- or visit <http://www.nhest.org>
- All inPlay is a Web site where people who are blind, have low vision, and who are fully sighted can play games together as equals. All inPlay has created completely accessible online games. No special accommodations. No special rules. No special handicapping. Just elegant, well-designed games providing fun, community, and friendship, worldwide. Blind and sighted players can go head-to-head, where the only key to success is your skill as a player. For more information, e-mail [support@allinplay.com](mailto:support@allinplay.com) or visit <http://www.allinplay.com> A free trial of All inPlay software is available at <http://www.allinplay.com/playnow.html>
- Learn to play your favorite instrument without having to read printed or Braille music. Bill Brown has created beginner courses for a dozen instruments including piano, guitar, bass, violin, banjo and flute. These courses are taught in an all-audio format, so there is nothing to read. Each course contains at least four tapes or CDs and costs as little as \$39. There are

more than 600 individual song lessons that are taught in the same all-audio format. The price of these lessons starts at \$10. For more information, visit [www.MusicForTheBlind.com](http://www.MusicForTheBlind.com) or call (888) 778-1828.

- **New Generation of Audio-Described Museum Tours**  
Available: Antenna Audio (<http://www.antennaaudio.com>), the global leader in audio and multimedia interpretation, announces a comprehensive audio tour installation at the George H. W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in College Station, Texas. The tours, which feature the voices of George Bush, Barbara Bush, and Doro Bush, will be available in English and Spanish, as well as in American Sign Language through a multimedia guide. Additionally, an audio-descriptive version of the tour will be available for visitors who are blind or partially sighted. In Atlanta, Antenna Audio devices can be found at: the Atlanta History Center, High Museum of Art, and the Michael C Carlos Museum. Call each venue for details.

## xvi. SHOPPING ALTERNATIVES

- [www.cdnow.com](http://www.cdnow.com) to order CD's
- [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) to order books, music, gifts etc. They have established a link which makes it easy to navigate information and make purchases using a screen reader. Visit <http://www.amazon.com/access>
- VisAbility - a non-profit accessible retail store located on the street level of CVI's Midtown Atlanta location. VisAbility will cater to the needs of people of all ages with vision loss and will offer guests the opportunity to shop by touch and auditory information for hundreds of items previously unavailable in Atlanta. VisAbility is located at CVI at 739 West Peachtree St. NW. For directions visit: [www.cviga.org](http://www.cviga.org) or call 404-875-9011.
- Blind Treasures is the first auction site dedicated for use by people who are blind. All individuals, blindness-related vendors or organizations are welcome to auction off any adaptive or general items they may have to sell. There are no listing or selling fees. <http://www.blindtreasures.com/auction>
- Tigerdirect.com – use this website to order computer equipment and supplies
- Tired of those inaccessible sales circulars in print newspapers? Looking for one source of accessible information about sales on computer hardware and software, electronics and appliances? Visit [www.SalesCircular.com](http://www.SalesCircular.com) to compare prices in major retail stores nationwide.
- Sophia's Shopping Service is an Atlanta-based grocery shopping and delivery service. Sophia's uses clients' lists to shop and deliver Groceries, Natural and Organic Foods, Pet Supplies and warehouse Store items. Orders may be placed by phone, fax, or e-mail. Sophia's shops at Kroger, Publix, Sam's Club, Costco (for perimeter area customers), and Petsmart. For more information, call 404-486-4200, or e-mail [john@SophiasShoppingService.com](mailto:john@SophiasShoppingService.com) or visit <http://www.SophiasShoppingService.com>

### **xiii. EXERCISE, PHYSICAL FITNESS & SPORTS**

- Wilderness Inquiry 800-728-0719 or [www.wildernessinquiry.org](http://www.wildernessinquiry.org)
- The Fulton County Parks and Recreation Brochure for Fall and Winter 2002/2003 is now available in Braille. To request a copy, call 404-730-6200. National Park Service [www.nps.gov/fees\\_passes.htm](http://www.nps.gov/fees_passes.htm)
- Golden Access Passport For citizens or permanent residents of the United States who are blind or permanently disabled) The golden Access Passport is a lifetime entrance pass to national parks, monuments, historic sites, recreation areas, and national wildlife refuges that charge an entrance fee. The Golden Access Passport admits the pass signee and any accompanying passengers in a private vehicle if a park has a per vehicle entrance fee. Where a per person entrance fee is charged, the Golden Access Passport admits the pass signee, spouse, and children.
- The Golden Access Passport also provides a 50% discount on federal use fees charged for facilities and services such as camping, swimming, parking, boat launching, and tours. In some cases where use fees are charged, only the pass signee will be given the 50% price reduction. The Passport is nontransferable and does NOT cover or
- reduce special recreation permit fees or fees charged by concessionaires. A Golden Access Passport must be obtained in person at a federal area where an entrance fee is charged. It is available only to citizens or permanent residents of the United States who are fly determined to be blind or permanently disabled. You may obtain a
- Golden Access Passport by showing proof of medically determined permanent disability or eligibility for receiving benefits under federal law.
- Georgia State Parks 404-656-2770 [www.gastateparks.org](http://www.gastateparks.org) discounts for disabled vets Sr. citizens on entrance fees and other services.
- National Park Service 404-562-3123

- Hunting/Fishing Licenses 770-414-3333
- The Kennedy Space Center offers accessible tours for people with various disabilities. Features include audio guides and hands-on models of the space shuttle and Apollo Saturn V rocket. Each model is three feet high and allows guests with low vision or blindness to use touch to conceptualize the space shuttle and the rocket. The center provides all of its services for guests with disabilities free of charge or at a minimal fee. For more information, or to arrange reservations for guests with disabilities, call 321-449-4364, or visit <http://www.kennedyspacecenter.com>.
- NHEST (Natural History Education, Science, and Technology) is a nonprofit organization that provides educational and recreational opportunities for people of all ages who are blind and visually impaired. Sign up for the free newsletter, *ilderNHEST News*, about the outdoors, science, technology, what NHEST offers and more. Send a blank e-mail with "Subscribe" in the subject line to Chrissy Laws at [cjlaws@mfj.net](mailto:cjlaws@mfj.net) or visit <http://www.nhest.org>
- National parks offer free admission to people with disabilities. Access Pass is a free lifetime pass available to U.S. Citizens or any permanent residents of the United States that have been medically determined to have a permanent disability. For more information, visit <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/access.html>.

## xviii. MEDICAL, HEALTH & HEALTH BENEFITS

- When Congress created Medicare in 1965, it excluded from coverage items considered routine and low cost, including hearing aids, dental care and most eye care, including glasses. Now the "eyeglass exclusion" is at the center of a debate over whether Medicare should cover a variety of devices for people with low vision. For more information read the following article from the Wall Street Journal from December 2 at [http://online.wsj.com/article/SB119655002490510825.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB119655002490510825.html?mod=googlenews_wsj).
- Schwans is a Minnesota-based company which provides free home delivery of prepared foods in 48 states, including the Atlanta area. The food arrives frozen and ready to be reheated in the oven or microwave. Catalogs, heating directions and nutritional information are available in regular print, Braille, four-track cassette and electronic format. For more information, call toll-free 888-724-9267. <http://www.schwans.com>
- Sammons Preston Healthcare & physical therapy equipment 800-323-5547 or [http://www.promedproducts.com/?gclid=COPC\\_fLA1ZACFRY0sgod0jqLXQ](http://www.promedproducts.com/?gclid=COPC_fLA1ZACFRY0sgod0jqLXQ)

## **xviii. MEDICAL, HEALTH & HEALTH BENEFITS GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES, AGENCIES & PROGRAMS**

- VA Hospital- Atlanta - Veterans Affairs Medical Center 404-321-6111 -VISTA 404-728-4830 Kendall Prescott VA Regional Office 800-827-1000
- Blind Veterans Assoc. 404-347-3760
- ADA Violations or Complaints: Each local government must have an ADA Coordinator—check with each local government to see who theirs is and file a written complaint with them  
Complain, in writing, to the business, and also to the Regional Office of the firm, if applicable Sometimes, if it is an architectural barrier in a building, you may complain to the building code official of the city or county Justice Department has a complaint process that you can download from their website publications listing:  
[www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm) They ask you to send a letter to the Department of Justice, including the following information: Your full name, address, and telephone number, and the name of the party Discriminated against; The name of the business, organization, or institution that you believe has discriminated; A description of the act or acts of discrimination, the date or dates of the discriminatory acts, and the name or names of the individuals who you believe discriminated; and Other information that you believe necessary to support your complaint. Please send copies of relevant documents. Do not send original documents—retain them for your files. The Department of Justice mailing address is: U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Civil Rights Division Disability Rights – NYAVE Washington, D.C. 20530 OTHER ADA CONTACTS: Justice Department ADA Information Line—technical assistance specialists answer general questions on the ADA Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 – 6; Thursday, from 1 – 6. 1-800-514-0201 (Voice) 1-800-514-0383 (TDD) web page: [www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/adahom1.htm) They will also mail you a single copy of any of their publications—in alternate format if you request it—generally at

no charge. Access Board 1331 F Street, NW, Suite 1000  
Washington, DC 20004-1111 (202) 272-0080 (Voice) (202)  
272-0082 (TTY) (202) 272-0082 (FAX) (800) 872-2253 (Voice)  
(800) 993-2822 (TTY) web page: [www.access-board.gov](http://www.access-board.gov) E-  
mail site for: Information: [info@access-board.gov](mailto:info@access-board.gov) Technical  
Assistance: [ta@access-board.gov](mailto:ta@access-board.gov) Electronic and Information  
Technology: [508@access-board.gov](mailto:508@access-board.gov)

- Federal Fair Housing FHEO, Atlanta Hub (404) 331-5140  
HOTLINE # 1-800-440-8791, Ext. 2493 Intake Chief, Mr.  
Stigger—(404) 331-5001, Ext. 2424 (SSA) Social Security  
Admin 800-772-1213, disability, Medicare and other benefits  
GA Dept. of Labor/ GA Div of Rehab Services 404-657-3000 5  
DisabilityInfo.gov is a comprehensive online resource  
specifically designed to provide people with disabilities access  
to disability –related information and programs available  
through the government on numerous subjects, including civil  
rights, education, employment, housing, health, income  
support, technology, transportation, and community life. Go to  
<http://www.DisabilityInfo.gov> for much information.
- The U.S. Department of Transportation---has a Toll Free  
Hotline for air travelers with disabilities which is available seven  
days a week from 7:00A to 11:00P Eastern Time. The “Hotline”  
serves to provide air travelers with disabilities the education to  
understand their rights under the Air Carrier Access Act  
(ACAA), “Hotline” operators can provide on-the-spot assistance  
in resolving disability-related air travel problems. “Hotline”  
operators are well versed in the ACAA and Part 382 and can  
also respond to requests for printed consumer information  
about air travel rights. They provide a variety of services to  
callers including contacting air carriers and convincing them to  
accept service animals and electric wheelchairs on board  
flights, to stow folding wheelchairs in the cabin, and to provide  
requested assistance. Call the Hotline at 800-778-4838 (voice)  
or 800-455-9880 (TTY).
- Transportation Security Administration (TSA) ---talk to a  
supervisor if faced with any security screening or access issues  
caused by the airport operations, not an individual airline or call  
800-778-4838, 24 hr hotline to resolve any real-time issues that  
can not be resolved by a supervisor. Any problems should be  
reported ASAP or within the week of occurrence. For a list of

rules visit [www.dot.gov/airconsumer/problems.htm](http://www.dot.gov/airconsumer/problems.htm) Issues with Air Carriers Complaint Resolution Officer (CRO), Dept of transportation title given to an individual that resolves any issues pertaining to persons with disabilities. Ask any carrier's personnel to involve this individual if that carrier's personnel prove to be unsatisfactory. Transportation Search---database of Transportation services, which can be found on our home page through the link at <http://www.mdsupport.org/>

## **xix. SELF IMPROVEMENT**

- Toastmasters International's Beyond Sight Communicators (a club for people who are blind and visually impaired and interested in improving their verbal communication) meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month. The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 8, 2008 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. at CVI on the fourth floor in the BellSouth Community Room. Please note that the front doors of CVI will be closed 30 minutes after the meeting ends and participants must leave the building before then. Adult guests who are using Para transit may want to consider asking for an L-van pick up at a local public area other than at CVI. CVI recommends the AT&T North Avenue MARTA station, using the address of 675 West Peachtree Street at the Mall Entrance at Third Street and West Peachtree Streets. This station is a secure spot for waiting with public pay phones, restrooms, seating, and security guards. For more information, call Garrick Scott at 404-371-1000.