**This is the GUIDE PAGE MAGAZINE web-text edition for February 2021.**

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**The GUIDE PAGE MAGAZINE is published monthly by: CWAB® (registered trademark), Inc., 38 Washington Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701.**

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**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind, Inc.**

**Executive Officers:**

**Joann Wallace - President**

**Joanna Holbrook – Vice-President**

**Leah Thompson - Secretary**

**Laundle Powers - Treasurer**

**Board Members:** **Wanda Annis, Mike Fitzpatrick , Trish Walker, Mark Oldaker, and Kim Blake.**

**Emeritus members: Ken Hicks, and Ernie Golder**

**Toni Walls, Executive Director**

**Jerry Crabtree, GUIDE PAGE editor**

**Major funding provided by the Teubert Foundation,**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind**

**Mission and Vision Statements**

**OUR MISSION: Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind is committed to promoting and advocating the economic, educational, and social welfare of the blind and visually impaired of all ages so that they can maintain a lifestyle comparable to other members of society.**

**OUR VISION: CWAB® (registered trademark) will be seen nationally as a model for organizations and agencies that help blind and visually impaired persons achieve maximum independence. CWAB® will be known for timely and appropriate state-of-the-art responses to the changing needs of consumers throughout the Tri-State area and beyond.**

**Letter regarding COVID vaccine availability:**

**January 14, 2021**

**Dear Consumer,**

**As of January 13, 2021 the state of WV has opened up eligibility for the vaccine for COVID-19 to those 70 or older.**

**Contact information for those in Cabell County is 304-526-3383**

**Contact information for those in Wayne County is 304-272-6761**

**There is a website in Cabell County to sign up for these shots. After signing up, they will then call you with an appointment. The website is** [**https://cabellhealth.org/**](https://cabellhealth.org/)

**If you need assistance with signing up please call us at 304-522-6991. You may ask for Pam or Toni to offer assistance with this.**

**Toni I Walls, COMS, CVRT**

**Executive Director**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind**

**In this issue:** **Mission and Vision Statements, Vaccine Announcement Letter, Table of Contents, From The Director’s Desk, COVID-19 Risk Questionnaire For Building Entry, Notes From The Editor, A Word Search For February!, Annual Awards Presented, Helping the Visually Impaired During COVID-19, President’s Day Closing, Cabell-Wayne’s Ongoing Fundraisers, GUIDE PAGE By Email, Guidelines for Rehab Services, Shopping Opportunity, Getting Crafty At Home!, CWAB® Services.**

**ON THE COVER. A “HappyValentine’s Day” greeting!**

**From The Director’s Desk**

**Hello to all,**

**January has definitely been a challenging month with weather. Please be careful as the winter progresses. We want you all safe and well for the 2021 year.**

**While this year looks different on the calendar for us at CWAB® I want to remind you that your staff is still here, working hard to serve you, despite the challenges of COVID-19. We are still approving new consumers, providing assistive aids, approving and paying for eye exams and eye glasses, providing transportation and transportation passes, technical assistance and equipment, shopping services, and even providing craft kits at home for those of you who are interested. Please reach out if you are curious if we may be of service to you.**

**For those of you who are interested in the COVID-19 vaccine, we will provide information as we get it. Feel free to call to talk to Pam (Consumer Advocate) or myself if you have questions about this.**

**I want to thank everyone for their continued support of the CWAB® Services Division staff. The staff works hard to provide the best services we can to our consumers and it is nice to hear back from you that we are doing just that. Also, if you ever have a concern or an idea you would like to share with me or the staff of CWAB® please do so!**

**Until next month .....**

**Toni Walls, COMS, CVRT**

**Executive Director**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind**

**There are two photos with this article. The first picture is of Toni Walls. She is seated with her torso turned slightly toward the photographer. She is wearing a black sweater over a floral print blouse. She has below the shoulder-length hair, and is slightly smiling. The background of the image is totally black. The second, our agency logo – woman with a cane, man with a guide dog, both in black silhouette, appearing in the lower right-hand corner of the last page of this article.**

**COVID-19 Risk Questionnaire For entry into**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind Buildings or Vehicles**

**Based on prevailing information from WV DHHR and CDC**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_**

**Yes No**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Temperature Check \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\***

 **Do you currently have any of the following symptoms:**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Cough**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Chills**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Fatigue**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Muscle or body aches**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Headache**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ New loss of taste or smell**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Sore throat**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Congestion or runny nose**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Nausea or vomiting or Diarrhea**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Have you traveled in the last 14 days to an area known to have a high incidence of COVID-19 positive cases?**

**\_\_\_ \_\_\_ Have you been exposed to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind Services Division, Board of Directors, and Association membership have only the best interest and concern for consumers and staff alike. COVID-19 has presented a challenge world- wide. To respond to the challenge of COVID-19 these are few of the steps CWAB® Services Division has taken:**

**Developed a COVID-19 Risk Assessment for entry into CWAB® facilities. This form is completed each day by staff and served consumer alike.**

**Gathered personal protection equipment and supplies to provide for staff and consumer. These include masks, face shields, and hand sanitizer.**

**Gathered antiseptic supplies for building and vehicles. These include Lysol®, bleach, and other anti-viral supplies.**

**Outfitted each vehicle with plexiglass, to cut down on consumers’ exposure.**

**Limiting the number of consumers transported to promote social distancing.**

**Limiting entry into CWAB® buildings to the CDC guidelines or better.**

**The agency logo – a woman with a cane, and a man with a dog guide, in black silouette appears at the end of this article.**

**Notes From the Editor**

**Hello! Welcome to our February Guide Page Magazine! I trust you had a safe and enjoyable New Year’s?**

 **February is traditionally the month for our “Valentine Social”, (or, “Winter Ball, as it is sometimes referred). This year however, will be different. There will be no social gathering. Yes, COVID-19 is still a threat to our well being. So, for now, no activities.**

 **This disappoints me as well. I have a host of songs I am just itching to play! But they will keep until the time is right.**

 **Until then, stay safe, and stay well!**

**On the next page of the print edition is a word search puzzle for February. Details of this item will not appear in the braille, text, or audio editions of the Guide Page Magazine.**

**ANNUAL AWARDS PRESENTED**

**Every year the Association President names the Board Member of the Year and the Director of the Services Division names the Employee of the Year. These awards are given at our annual Association Christmas Dinner. This year, due to COVID-19 we weren’t able to hold our annual dinner. Awards were given privately.**

 **EMPLOYEE of the YEAR**

**Services Division Employee of the Year for 2020 was Zach Davis. Zach holds the position of Vision Rehabilitation Assistant. He also is working toward his degrees in VRT and OM while he works. Zach dreamed up the very successful fundraiser Sweets for Sight and with help from other staff members he was able to convert this fundraiser to a virtual event this year. This is a well-deserved award.**

 **BOARD MEMBER of the YEAR**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind Board member of the year for 2020 is Leah Thompson. Leah is the current Secretary for the Board and she does a great job with keeping the minutes from Board and Association meetings. These minutes are vital to the running of the agency. Leah definitely earned this award.**

**Toni I. Walls, COMS, CVRT**

**Executive Director**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind Services Division**

**Helping the Visually Impaired During COVID-19**

**Lane Ball**

**WOWK-TV**

**HUNTINGTON, WV (WOWK) – Several non-profit organizations have had to make changes to how they operate due to the pandemic. The people they serve are starting to take notice.**

 **Those who may not be able to see the negative impact can still feel it. The Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind is dedicated to servicing the visually impaired community by offering resources such as classes like braille literacy to assist in everyday living.**

 **Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind executive director Toni Walls says they have many classes designed to assist the visually impaired.**

**<inset>**

**“We bring them in and we identify what their purpose is for learning braille.” Toni Walls, Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind, Executive Director**

 **Most commonly used by those visually impaired, braille can be difficult at first. Helpful resources are available even during a worldwide pandemic, but that’s not to say there haven’t been challenges along the way.**

 **Many are celebrating National Braille Literacy Month, but getting access to learning this alternative reading system has been difficult during these tough times. Walls says they have already lost students from fear of contracting the virus.**

**<inset>**

**“I had an 80-some-year-old woman that was coming in on a weekly basis and we were doing some braille literacy. She decided that she needed to withdraw from the classes.”, Toni Walls, Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind Executive Director.**

**Those who are visually impaired use these skills on a daily basis. However, a virtual learning option for some wouldn’t be a good alternative.**

 **When learning braille, it requires quite a bit of hands-on work to fully understand. With restrictions preventing students from touching and feeling the words in-person, it poses a real challenge for both students and teachers.**

 **Walls says no matter what happens in the future, they will still continue their work and make people aware that they are “available to help.”**

**For more information on the Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind, visit cwab.org.**

 **Follow Lane Ball on Facebook and Twitter for the latest local and breaking news.**

 **For local and breaking news, weather alerts, video and more, download the FREE WOWK 13 News App from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store.**

**Article from:** [**https://www.wowktv.com/news/west-virginia/covid-19-presents-unique-challenges-for-local-students**](https://www.wowktv.com/news/west-virginia/covid-19-presents-unique-challenges-for-local-students)

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**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind’s Services Division offices will be closed Monday, February 15th, to observe President’s Day.**

**Office hours and schedules will resume on Tuesday, February 16th.**

**There is one graphic with this article. The graphic is of a red and white striped, “president’s”/”Uncle Sam”, hat over a dark blue background, with the words, “President’s Day” in an off-white color printed underneath.**

**Our newest fundraiser – a CWAB® hand-crafted basket filled with 31 classic Ty Beanie Babies®, and 25 miniatures!**

**Tickets are on sale now!**

**$1 buys one entry**

**$5 buys six entries**

**$10 buys 12 entries.**

**Good Luck!**

**There is a photo of the basket filled with the beanies and miniatures on this page. The agency loco also appears at the top of the page.**

**Official Cabell-Wayne Teamwear**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the**

**Blind Services Division is selling t-shirts. These t-shirts come in a choice of colors (Navy, Royal, Red, Kelly, Purple).**

**For short sleeves they will be $15 a piece. For long sleeves they will be $20 a piece. All orders should be given to Danielle or Toni.**

**Call the Services Division at 304-522=-6991 for more details!**

**There are two photos with this article. They are of Hailey Tabor wearing a tee shirt as mentioned. The caption reads: Transportation team member, Hailey Tabor, shows the front and back of the Royal Blue t-shirt”**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind Services Division relies on multiple fundraisers. Since the onset of COVID-19, our regular schedule of events has been adjusted, and re-adjusted. Despite these changes, there are still ways to assist with fundraising.**

**The following are some of those ways. For more information, please contact Toni Walls or Danielle High.**

**AmazonSmile® - go to smile.amazon.com to shop. On your first visit there you select the charity you wish to donate to.**

**Kroger Community Rewards - This is linked to your Kroger card. You must set up a digital account and link your card to an organization. Our NPO number is PK519**

**Rada Cutlery – Knives, utensils, quick mixes, gift sets and recipe and gift books. Call CWAB® for information on ordering.**

**There are three images with this article. They are logos of AmazonSmile®, Kroger®, and Rada Cutlery.**

**Guide Page By Email: Click, open, and read**

**For thirty years the GUIDE PAGE MAGAZINE has been made freely available in a variety of formats to suit the vision needs of Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind's consumers. Those formats have changed as technology has changed. We now offer large print, Braille, and audio CD. For our internet savvy consumers, audio, PDF, and text issues are available on cwab.org.**

**We produce over 600 copies of the GUIDE PAGE each month, with many formats requiring postage for delivery. The most cost effective issues we produce are email.**

**Email issues need no ink, paper, packaging, or postage. Recipients simply open their inbox and read or let their screen reader software read it for them.**

**By changing your current subscription to email only, you will greatly assist us in continuing to provide the GUIDE PAGE to you. For more information, please call 304-522-6991.**

**Guidelines For Rehab Services**

**As Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind begins to gradually offer services again, certain policies and practices regarding services offered have changed to allow us to safely serve our consumers.**

 **Zach Davis, VRT Assistant, will have limited in-office hours, and will be offering rehab and assistive services under special conditions. Those conditions are:**

**Arrangements to pick up or drop off aids can be made.**

**Assessments will be made by phone, ZOOM, or FaceTime**

**All assistive aids will be mailed to requesting consumers.**

**All low-vision aids will also be mailed.**

**In person visits may be scheduled at this time with attention to best practices for safety regarding the threat of COVID-19.**

**To schedule an appointment for assessment, or to request assistive or vision aids, contact the Services Division at 304-522-6991.**

**There is one photo with this article. The picture is of a 7x lighten Magno® (brand name), hand magnifier.**

**Shopping Opportunity**

**Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind Services Division Transportation Department is offering individual shopping service. These shopping opportunities will be offered on a first come first serve basis, and scheduled dependent upon medical and work related transportation needs.**

**Consumers are encouraged to have a guide with them for these trips. Consumer and guide must wear a face mask and be screened for COVID-19 risk.**

**Locations for these opportunities will be Kroger® on 5th Avenue, Walmart on Rt. 60, the Huntington Mall, and Aldi's on Washington Avenue. These shopping opportunities will be limited to one stop. Consumer will be allowed up to 2 hours for shopping. You should call CWAB® Services Division prior to checking out to insure timeliness of ride home.**

**Limits to purchases are fully dependent on what you are able to carry into your home on your own. Drivers will assist in getting purchases to the door, but will not be able to carry items inside your home.**

**Call CWAB® Services Division at 304-522-6991, and ask for Toni, Jim, or Hailey for more information.**

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

**Getting Crafty At Home!**

**From Recreation Coordinator, Linda Worthy**

**We have several kits, but not enough of any one kit for a full class. Therefore, I am putting them up for grabs! I will list the kits and how many I have, and they will be given out on a first come/first serve basis. These kits are prepackaged, and come with instructions. The consumer who calls in first gets his or her choice. If I don’t have any of a particular kit left, they may choose a second choice and so on until all the kits are gone!**

 **This should be fun, and it will give me an opportunity to speak with each of you and find out how you like the crafts so far, any ideas you may want to offer, and a chance to get these kits used. Besides, I miss everyone and can’t wait to hear from you!!! You can either call the office: 304-522-6991, or email me at** **lindaworthy@cabellwayne.org****.**

**January 20th – Friendship Bracelets**

**February 3rd – “Love You To Pieces” Heart Wreath**

**February 17th – Miscellaneous Craft Kits**

**9 – Felt and Foam Snowman Snow Globe magnet (Only requirement is some gluing)**

**3 – Foam Penguins (free standing) (Again, the only skill required is piecing together and gluing)**

**2 - Felt Stitched Snowman ornaments (This kit requires hand sewing)**

**2 - Stitched Polar Bear ornaments (This kit requires hand sewing)**

**There are eight photos with this article. The first four are of the friendship bracelet, and the heart wreath. The caption reads, “Shown are the kits for the, “Friendship Bracelet”, and the “Love You To Pieces”, heart wreath. To receive either kit, contact Linda Worthy, at 304-522-5991.” The next four photos are of the pre-packaged kits. The caption reads, “Shown here are the, Felt and foam Snowman snow globe, Foam Penguins, Felt-stitched Snowman, and Stitched Snowman. Some kits require gluing, and some require sewing. These kits are in limited supply, so if you are interested, call soon! Linda Worthy can be reached at 304-522-6991.”**

**Planned Giving**

**So, what is planned giving?**

 **Planned giving is sometimes referred to as “gift planning”, or “legacy giving”. It is a way to support non-profits that enable philanthropic individuals to make larger gifts than they could make from ordinary income. Some planned gifts provide life-long income to donor. Other gift plans use estate and tax planning to provide for charity and heirs in ways that maximize the gift and/or minimize its impact on the donor’s estate.**

 **Thus, by definition, a planned gift is any major gift, made in lifetime or at death as part of a donor’s overall financial and/or estate planning.**

 **Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind has had the good fortune to receive several such gifts.**

 **These gifts will provide goods and services to the blind and visually impaired pf Cabell and Wayne Counties of West Virginia. They will also provide funding for operational expenses.**

 **Planned giving is the most practical way to ensure your personal and financial wishes are fulfilled after you are gone.**

 **Cabell-Wayne Association of the Blind is more than happy to discuss with you the many ways the agency could benefit from your wishes. Contact the Services Division office at 304-522-6991, and we will make an appointment to meet with you to discuss youir wishes.**

**CWAB® (registered trademark) Services**

**TRANSPORTATION – Getting around is a major roadblock to the blind and visually impaired. Consumers are offered free transportation to work, doctor’s appointments, shopping, and group activities. Limited vision no longer means limited transportation.**

**ORIENTATION & MOBILITY – O&M’s goal is to train consumers with techniques of safe, efficient travel both in the home and into the community. Skills are taught that are vital for independence, confidence and self-satisfaction. Instruction is built around the goals and needs of the student.**

**REHABILITATION – Learning new skills to improve daily living enhances quality of life for the visually impaired. Magnifiers and talking devices are available. Instruction in Braille, cooking, and even simple tasks like phone dialing can lead to a more independent life.**

**COMPUTER TRAINING - Training is the key to computer technology. Utilizing keystrokes and enhancement software, the student learns to complete a variety of tasks sighted computer users take for granted. Limited vision should not limit your technical training.**

**ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY - A CCTV can be used to magnify books, newspapers, and magazine print to the size of a regular television screen allowing individuals the ability to enjoy reading again. Adaptive technology can bring you back to the world, and the world to you.**

**RECREATION – Everyone knows the key to success is the ability to play well with others. CWAB®’s recreational program offers a variety of activities for any age consumer. Both indoor and outdoor events are scheduled on a regular basis.**

**For more information on services, volunteering, and planned giving, call 34-522-6991.**

 **This is the end of the GUIDE PAGE MAGAZINE web-text edition for February 2021.**

**-- end --**