

Keeping you
"in THE"
know.



10/14/22

October 15 is White Cane Awareness Day:

What is White Cane Awareness Day and why is it important?

"White Cane Safety Day" was created in 1964 to raise awareness for the white cane. At the time, the white cane was primarily thought of as a "safety" tool that allowed individuals to identify someone who was blind or low vision, essentially for the benefit of those who were sighted.

While the white cane does provide safety to its users, it is important to know that it is more than an identification device. The white cane is an essential tool used for navigation, allowing individuals to move freely and independently in the world.

It is often described as an extension of the users' hands, allowing them to mark paths, avoid obstacles and navigate steps, curbs, doorways and much more.

Because of this, on October 15 every year, Cleveland Sight Center chooses to celebrate White Cane Awareness Day - shifting the essence of the day away from safety and honoring the independence and equality the white cane provides to those who use it.

Recall the many conversations and meetings about the importance of the white cane at the state level, as CSC successfully advocated for it to be covered by Medicaid insurance, as well as the article featured in Crain's Cleveland Business regarding this agency accomplishment. To read that article, visit the CSC website [here](#).

Strengthening Partnerships and Educating the Community:

-This week Tom Sawyer (Outreach Specialist) represented CSC at a Caregiver Forum held in Painesville where he talked with professional and family caregivers as well as potential CSC clients about tips, techniques and tools to help people live well with their vision issues. Tom also presented a "Tips Talk" at the Middleburg Heights Community Center that included an agency overview of programs and services in addition to the Independent Living Older Blind programs for individuals and groups funded through Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities.

-Cleveland Sight Center partners with The Artists Archives of the Western Reserve for their newest exhibit titled "W/O Limits: Art, Chronic Illness, & Disability" curated by Megan Alves and Mindy Tousley. One of the pieces being featured is by artist and friend of CSC Chapelle Letman, Jr., who's "Vertical Predator" sculpture is being loaned to the exhibit from its permanent home at Highbrook Lodge. Several of Letman's sculptures will also be on display. The exhibition will feature braille tags, large text hand-outs and a selection of touchable sculptures for visitors to explore. Descriptive tours are available by appointment for those with visual impairments. Information about the gallery and hours is as follows:

The Artists Archives of the Western Reserve
1834 E. 123rd Street, Cleveland OH 44106
Gallery Hours: Wed - Fri 10:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m., Sat 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For more information, visit <https://www.artistsarchives.org/event/w-o-limits/>, email Megan Alves, programs@artistsarchives.org or call 216-721-9020

-The National Federation of the Blind of Ohio Employment Committee invites all to celebrate Disability Employment Awareness Month through their 2022 theme "Disability: Part of the Equity Equation" seminar being held virtually on Wednesday, October 19 at 7:00 p.m. Featured speakers include Allison Meloy, MS, CRC, Program Administrator, Opportunity for Ohioans with Disabilities, Bureau of Services for the Visually Impaired and Alicia Howerton, Strategic Partnerships Manager, Cleveland Sight Center. For more information about the program and how to attend, contact Alicia (x4587 or ahowerton@clevelandsightcenter.org).

What's Happening at Cleveland Sight Center:

-Preschool open enrollment is ongoing. For more information, contact Susie Meles (x8747).

-Leisure and Lifestyle Services (LLS) continues to host and engage clients through recreation and socialization programs on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays!

Contact Gabriella Drago for more information and please note: due to limited capacity, individuals interested in attending programming must call or email Gabriella (Leisure and Lifestyle Specialist) at 216-658-4598 or gdrago@clevelandsightcenter.org.

Items of Note:

-What's new in JAWS, ZoomText and Fusion 2023 Public Beta? [Click here](#) to find out!

-Check out the new features associated with Apple's iOS16. [Click here](#) for details.

-Android is introducing new features to improve accessibility, personalization, and productivity across various devices. To read more, [click here](#).

Did You Know:

-Did you know cats can jump a height that is seven times its tail length? This is approximately eight feet high and is possible due to the powerful back leg muscles of the cat.