Don’t Let Fading Sight Steal Your Dream

Many people have flirted with the idea of reentering the world of higher education as an adult learner. Maybe you are one of them who has considered completing an unfinished degree, going for a graduate degree or becoming part of a program of “life-long learning.” These plans may have encountered a curve ball in the form of vision loss or other impairment which has caused you to reconsider this possibility. The Macular Degeneration Network on Saturday, May 21 at 10:30 a.m. will demonstrate how declining sight or other impairment DOES NOT have to block your path!

Join Korey Singleton, Assistive Technology Innovation Manager at George Mason University and Kamran Rasul, Assistive Technology Specialist at American University when they open our minds to new possibilities and answer Your Dream
“Assistive technology professionals from two local universities tell you how to navigate learning with an impairment”

your questions about available assistive services designed for people with a disability to succeed in a university setting.

In today’s world of higher education, specialized assistance and technology is widely available. Assistive technology is also widely used in and out of the classroom and can include a wide range of devices, strategies, services and practices that are created and applied to improve your functional performance and/or life satisfaction.

IMPORTANT PARKING INFORMATION
Free parking has been made available for people attending the Macular Degeneration Network meetings in the new parking garage. The new parking garage is adjacent to the Medical Building, which beginning May 21, is the new meeting location.

If you choose to park in any of the other Sibley lots including the Renaissance Building or Lot 2 across from the garage, you will be charged the full parking fee.
Macular Degeneration Research Update  
*Wednesday, May 18*

National Eye Institute Research Scientist, Catherine Cukras, M.D., Ph.D., is the guest speaker at the Aging Eye Network on Wednesday, May 18 at Holiday Park Multiservice Senior Center at 1:15 p.m.

Age-related macular degeneration is a common eye condition among people age 50 and older. It is a leading cause of vision loss in older adults, and it gradually destroys the macula, the part of the eye that provides sharp central vision needed for seeing objects clearly. In some people, AMD advances slowly and in others, the disease advances faster. Despite limiting central vision, AMD does not cause complete blindness; rather you use your side (peripheral) vision. Diagnosing AMD is believed to be reaching epidemic proportions as baby boomers are aging.

Join Dr. Cukras for this sight-saving seminar and learn about current thinking on cutting-edge research and the National Eye Institute’s progress in finding a cure for this devastating disease. For more information, please see page 6.
Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington®

Low Vision Lunch & Learn

“Don’t Lose Sight to Glaucoma”
Conversation with Howard Weiss, M.D.
Washington Eye Physicians & Surgeons

Glaucoma is referred to as the “sneaky thief of sight” and is the second leading cause of adult irreversible vision loss in the United States. Vision loss occurs when the intraocular pressure is too high for the optic nerve to tolerate. To many people’s surprise, there are three to six million who have “above normal” intraocular pressure that could lead to glaucoma.

Tuesday, May 17
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Friendship Heights Village Center
4433 South Park Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Bring a bag lunch.
Free beverage and dessert provided.
Calendar of Events

For more information on these events, please call POB at (202) 234-1010

• Sunday, May 1, 2011
  Sight-Saving Seminar, “Understanding the Eye-Heart Connection,” 7 - 9 p.m.
  Michael Summerfield, M.D.
  Church of the Living God
  1417 Chillum Road
  Hyattsville, MD 20714

• Tuesday, May 10, 2011
  Low Vision Group, “Protect Your Sight From the Sun,” 11 a.m.
  Dianna “Dee Dee” Finisecy, Wagner Opticians
  Washington Hospital Center, National Eye Center
  110 Irving Street, NW
  Washington, DC 20010
  Free parking sticker. Call (202) 877-6081 to reserve complimentary lunch.

• Friday, May 13, 2011
  Low Vision Group, 2 p.m.
  Suleiman Alibhai, O.D., Low Vision Learning Center
  The Fairfax
  9140 Belvoir Woods Parkway
  Fort Belvoir, VA 22060
• Tuesday, May 17, 2011
Low Vision Lunch & Learn, “Glaucoma: What You Should Know,” 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
Howard Weiss, M.D., Washington Eye Physicians & Surgeons
Friendship Heights Village Center
4433 South Park Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Bring a bag lunch. Beverage and dessert are provided.

• Wednesday, May 18, 2011
Low Vision Group, 10 a.m.
Vinson Hall
6251 Old Dominion Drive
McLean, VA 22101

• Wednesday, May 18, 2011
Aging Eye Network, National Eye Institute (NEI / NIH) Reports
“Macular Degeneration Research Update,” 1:15 p.m.
Cathy Cukras, M.D., Ph.D.
Holiday Park Multiservice Senior Center
3950 Ferrara Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20906
EyeSite open from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. for free glaucoma screenings.

• Wednesday, May 25, 2011
“Picture This!,” 1 - 2:30 p.m.
National Gallery of Art, East Building
Meet at Information Desk
4th and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20565 / (202) 737-4215
NEW MACULAR DEGENERATION NETWORK MEETING LOCATION & PARKING

• Saturday, May 21, 2011
Macular Degeneration Network, “Don’t Let Fading Sight Steal Your Dream,” 10:30 a.m., First Connection Share Group, 10 a.m.
Assistive Technology Specialists Korey Singleton, George Mason University, and Kamran Rasul, American University Sibley Memorial Hospital Campus
Medical Building
5215 Loughboro Road, NW
Washington, DC 20016
To register or for information, please call (202) 364-7602.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR - SEPTEMBER 18: “Demystifying Sensory Loss,” Medical Building, Sibley Memorial Hospital Campus, 2 p.m.
Research suggests that memory and cognition can suffer from vision and hearing loss. Learn from an expert panel, including Wai Wong, M.D., Ph.D., National Eye Institute/NIH, about sensory loss, and how you can help identify your needs or how to assist someone whose senses have been affected.

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN SUMMER! THE NEXT “YOUR EYES TODAY” NEWSLETTER WILL BE MAILED IN AUGUST ANNOUNCING NEW TOPICS AND EXCITING EVENTS BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER 2011.

To receive E-mail reminders about upcoming events,
please send an E-mail to jheilman@youreyes.org.