



LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

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SAVE THE DATE!

85th

Diamond Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, January 28, 2017

at the Historic Biltmore Hotel

For more information, [click here](#)

Marlins Ayudan Demonstrate the Spirit of the Miami Marlins

Miami Lighthouse expresses our deepest condolences, thoughts and prayers to Jose Fernandez's family and the Miami Marlins organization. During this time of grieving, we recognize Major League Baseball and the Miami Marlins' spirit "of love and faith."

We were recently visited by Thomas C. Brasuell, Vice President of Community Affairs for Major League Baseball, who came to tour one of our mobile eye care units and learn about our extensive eye care program for low income school children.



Left to right: Miami Marlins Special Projects Coordinator Zachary Trkla; Marlins Foundation Director Alan Alvarez; Miami Lighthouse President & CEO Virginia Jacko; Miami Marlins Vice President of Facilities Jeff King; Miami Marlins Executive Vice President of Operations and Events Claude Delorme; Major League Baseball Director of Community Affairs Melanie LeGrande; Major League Baseball Vice President of Community Affairs Thomas C. Brasuell; and Vice President and Marlins Foundation Executive Director Alfredo Mesa

The agenda included the possibility of a brand new mobile eye care unit that will serve as a fully equipped optometric office on wheels. In a typical school year, our mobile eye care units travel throughout Florida to provide almost 600 site visits primarily at inner-city schools. Each year, nearly 10,000 children's lives are transformed because of these eye exams and the prescription glasses we provide at no cost to them. We are grateful to the Marlins Ayudan volunteers who help us screen children at schools to determine those who need eye care.

Miami Herald Prints Important Op Ed Column Titled "Give Visually Impaired Better Internet Access"

The Miami Herald's September 13 edition included Virginia Jacko's Op-Ed article, "Give visually impaired better internet access."

This article's purposes included helping readers understand:

- Why companies and organizations should make their online services accessible to blind and visually impaired Internet users.
- How including keyboard-enabled interfaces can make more digital content accessible.
- Services that Miami Lighthouse can provide to private and public organizations to increase accessibility of their website content

The full article is [available here](#).

Bascom Palmer holds 9th Annual Reception at Miami Lighthouse.

Fifty faculty, residents and fellows, from Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, joined Miami Lighthouse instructors and low vision specialists for an informative evening that included a tour of the facility and the chance to be updated on our vision rehabilitation services and the latest assistive devices available from our Low Vision Center.

After a welcome presentation by Lighthouse Board Director Dr. Sander R. Dubovy, the group heard about "Continuing the dream of Dr. Bascom Palmer through collaboration." CEO Jacko thanked Bascom Palmer for their continued collaboration with Miami Lighthouse and spoke about our role in providing hope, confidence and independence to the blind and visually impaired community for the past 85 years.



Left to Right: Dr. Eduardo Alfonso, Chair, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute; Board Director Thomas Johnson, M.D.; President & CEO Virginia Jacko; and Board Director Sander Dubovy, M.D.

Join Billy The Marlin on White Cane Day!



Join us on October 14 at 9:00am for our annual White Cane Day celebration sponsored by Florida Blue, Walgreens, Lions for the Blind, Vanda Pharmaceuticals, and Spine Solutions. We urgently need volunteers to assist hundreds of blind and visually impaired walkers who will start from our SW Sixth Street entrance and walk to Walgreens on SW Eighth Street and back. The walk will be followed by lunch provided by Burger King, Store #12778, along with a presentation about affordable health care.

Miami Lighthouse's nationally recognized Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program enjoys an ongoing collaboration with the Miami Marlins Foundation, and with mascot Billy the Marlin leading the way at this year's White Cane Day, it is one not to miss!

For information to volunteer, call Marilu Bello at 786.362.7514.

Annual See the Light Luncheon at Riviera Country Club

Mark your calendar for our October 26th See the Light luncheon at Riviera Country Club, sponsored by Nostro Jones, P.A., GenSpring University Offices, and Serendipity-a-Tea. The luncheon will provide you with an opportunity to learn about our programs and hear about national issues pertaining to the blind and visually impaired from our keynote speaker Paul Schroeder, Vice President of the American Foundation for the Blind, Washington, D.C. Call Cameron Sisser at 786.362.7515 for more information.

Contributed by Joan Spector

2nd Annual Chicken Wing Eating Contest Raises Funds for Miami Lighthouse Music Program

The Chicken Championship Wing Eating Contest, hosted by the Young Professionals of the Lighthouse, was a smashing success! Held at Batch Gastropub in Brickell, 50 young professionals came together for a fun evening of networking, learning about Miami Lighthouse... and wings, all the while raising funds and awareness for the Miami Lighthouse Music Program. [More photos here](#).

Thank you to our Young Professionals of the Lighthouse co-chairs Will Beckham, Kent Benedict, and Pablo Gonzalez.

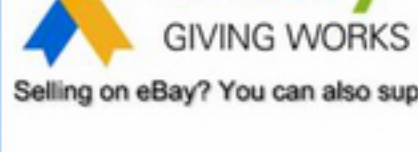


First place winner Thomas Schaefer (left) and second place winner Will Beckham (right) with their pom pom chicken trophies made by Miami Lighthouse Social Group Activities clients.

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If you're shopping at Amazon, simply shop through the AmazonSmile website and choose **Miami Lighthouse** as the charity to receive a donation every time you make purchase.

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If you're shopping on eBay, make **Miami Lighthouse** your "Favorite Non-profit" and choose to give a donation at checkout.

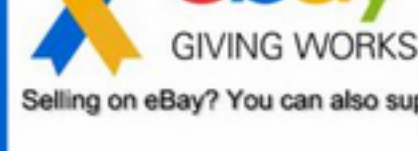
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If you're shopping on eBay, make **Miami Lighthouse** your "Favorite Non-profit" and choose to give a donation at checkout.

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