

Accessible News Anywhere Highlights from NFBNY-NEWSLINE

In this Issue

| <u>Greetings</u> | Additional Funding | <u>New Team Member</u> | <u>Global Search</u> |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| New Content | A Travel Accessory | Take a Staycation | <u>Your Input</u> |

Greetings from President Robinson

On behalf of the New York Affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, and your Newsline team, please accept my sincerest appreciation for your support of Newsline.

Since our last newsletter a lot of new content and other exciting developments have taken place in the world of NFBNY-NEWSLINE. We hope that you enjoy the extra coverage contained in this issue.

Additional Funding for Newsline Again Being Proposed

Legislation that would provide annual funding for Newsline has

again been introduced in the State Legislature. The bills, A3144-A in the Assembly and S2924 in the Senate, would provide \$75,000.00 in annual funding for Newsline. The proposed legislation recognizes that: "Lack of direct and prompt access to information included in newspapers, magazines, newsletters, schedules, announcements; and other timesensitive materials, limits educational opportunities, and full participation in society by blind and disabled persons." (Assembly Memorandum in support of Legislation.)

The proposed legislation also recognizes that the low cost of interstate telecommunications makes distribution of accessible text-based information, such as Newsline, to people with disabilities, who could not otherwise access traditionally printed or inaccessible materials, both cost-effective and feasible.

We thank Assemblyman Pretlow and Senator Parker for once again sponsoring this proposal and the co-sponsors in the assembly and Senate who have joined them in this effort. If you enjoy Newsline and are so inclined, please let your State Assembly Member and State Senator know of your support for Newsline.

The Newsline Team Welcomes Our Newest Member

We are pleased to extend a very warm welcome to our newest Newsline Team Member, Maura Kutnyak-Smalley. She is inquisitive, creative, and currently a student at the University at Buffalo School of Law. She lives with her husband and three children in Buffalo, New York.

In her scarce free time, Maura practices the art of aerial dance and serves her blind brothers and sisters through work with the National Federation of the Blind of New York, currently as President of the Parents of Blind Children Division, Treasurer of the Rochester New York Chapter, and President of the Student Division. Maura states that "Access to information provides each of us the tools to form an understanding of our world. As a young blind student in the nineteen-eighties, my learning process was dominated by a struggle to gain equal access to information."

At age 30 Maura decided to return to college. Maura states that once back in school she "was stunned by how the information access landscape had changed. The digitization of scholarly journals, textbooks, and media sources is astronomical in scale. An inability to read print is no longer a barrier to benefiting from the thoughts of scholars, journalists, and writers. The increase to information made possible by services such as Newsline has provided people with print related disabilities vastly expanded opportunities. They can now more directly access the written materials needed to actively contribute to scholarship, journalism, and writing."

Using the Global Search Feature to Create and Save a Search Term on the Web

The Global Search feature allows you to search for a term across all publications and articles.

After you search for a term the first time, it will be added to your list of terms, so that you do not have to type it in again in the future.

After running the search, you can email yourself a copy of any article you wish to save.

- On your browser of choice, navigate to <u>nfbnewslineonline.org</u>
- 2. Log in using your subscriber ID and code
- 3. Navigate to <u>Web News on</u> <u>Demand</u>
- 4. Navigate to <u>Global Publication</u> <u>Search</u>
- 5. Navigate to the Edit field labeled "Search Text"
- 6. Enter your search term in the edit field

- Using the radio buttons select the issue and publication options to define the scope of your search
- 8. Save your search
- 9. Run your search while on the website, or
- 10. Return to the global publication search on the app
- 11. The new search term will appear as one of your searches
- 12. If you wish, run your search in the app

New Content Added to Newsline

Newsline is pleased to announce the addition of new content to the service. Mr. Scott White, Director of Sponsored Technologies for the National Federation of the Blind, reports that the following new publications have been added.

In the Breaking News category, Newsline now includes the following 3 publications:

Newsmax

Details: A conservative American news and opinion website.

Tech XPlore

Details: A division of the Science X network, which covers the latest engineering, electronics and technology advances.

Native News Online

Details: This is an Indigenousfocused news publication owned by Indian Country Media LLC.

In the category of International publications, we have 2 additions.

Royal Gazette

Details: Out of Bermuda, it is the only daily newspaper published in Bermuda.

Kathmandu Post

Details: Published in Nepal, it is one of the largest English-language newspapers in the country.

In State newspapers, we added 14 newspapers to various states. They are as follows:

Alabama

Tuscaloosa News

Details: Covers Tuscaloosa and the surrounding areas in west central Alabama.

California

Ventura County Star

Details: Covers the areas of Oxnard, Thousand Oaks, Ventura and Simi Valley.

Florida

Ocala Star Banner

Details: Serving Marion County and the surrounding communities.

Illinois

The Pantagraph

Details: Serving the Bloomington-Normal region

Indiana

Henderson Gleaner

Details: Serving the Henderson region of the state.

Louisiana

Beauregard Daily News

Details: Serving the city of DeRidder and Beauregard Parish.

Massachusetts

Standard-Times

Details: Serving the south coast of Massachusetts.

Eagle Tribune

Details: Serving Merrimack Valley, Essex County and southern New Hampshire.

Michigan

Battle Creek Enquirer

Details: Covers news in that area of Michigan.

New Jersey

Vineland Daily Journal

Details: Covers South Jersey, including Cumberland, Atlantic, and Gloucester counties.

New Mexico

Deming Headlight

Details: Deming area of the state.

Navajo Times

Details: Serving the Navajo Nation within the state and surrounding areas.

Minnesota/North Dakota

Forum of Fargo-Moorhead

Details: Covers the Moorhead region of Minnesota as well as the Fargo region of North Dakota.

Washington

Kitsap Sun

Details: Published in and covers Bremerton.

To access these publications on the telephone, press 5 off the main menu, followed by the option for the state or region you wish. If you are a resident of one of the states where these publications originate, you may press option 3 and navigate to the publication. To access the magazine content, select option 7.

If using Web News on Demand, navigate to the relevant category that you want to explore. For iOS users, navigate to the Information Sources page and select the desired category. We hope you enjoy these new additions to the service.

NFB-NEWSLINE: A Must-Have Travel Accessory

Mr. Scott White has provided another article highlighting the benefits of using NFB-NEWSLINE to help you get the most out of traveling.

Traveling can be more entertaining when NFB-NEWSLINE comes along. Whether you're planning a business trip, family vacation, or a staycation for one, be ready for adventure with these tips:

Emergency weather alerts and seven-day forecasts localized to your GPS location on the NFB-NEWSLINE mobile app.

Access local newspapers on your iPhone mobile app for upcoming

events and learn what's happening in the area.

In Conde Nast Traveler, get travel reviews, guides, and read about your next cruise in "The Gold List."

Feeling like you would rather travel with your favorite four-legged friend? Read Dogster and have some "Fun with Fido: Get Away on a Canine Caribbean Adventure."

Escape Your Surroundings and Take a Staycation

Download the current and previous issue of Discovery magazine on your Victor Reader Stream to spark everyday curiosity of the world around us.

Block out the sound of all of life's distractions with a review of noise-canceling earbuds in PC magazine.

In the January issue of National Geographic Kids, you can take a trip with the whole family to learn how rabbits uncover ancient treasures in "Amazing Animals."

Your Input is Valued and Always Welcomed

If you have a question, or a specific topic that you would like us to cover in a future newsletter, please let us know. Our revised contact information appears below.

Also, we are scheduling online and a limited number of in-person presentations. If you are interested in scheduling a presentation please let us know.

Director

Luis Mendez 518-512-9710 newsline@nfbny.org

Outreach Coordinator

Maura Kutnyak-Smalley 585-857-9520 newslineoutreach@nfbny.org

Administrative Support

Claudia Bienenfeld 917-426-1509 office@nfbny.org

Technical Coordinator

Arthur Jacobs 607-414-3656 <u>newslinetech@nfbny.org</u>

Affiliate President

Mike Robinson 716-222-3632 president@nfbny.org