

# The Visionary

Spring 2006

A publication for friends of the Lighthouse of Broward County



**Our Mission:**

To enhance the independence, productivity and quality of life of blind or visually impaired children and adults

For more information about our services call (954) 463-4217

or visit:  
[www.lhob.org](http://www.lhob.org)

e-mail:  
[vision@lhob.org](mailto:vision@lhob.org)

## A Life in Balance



**Juli Manchester**

*Profile on Page 6*

Special thanks goes to Diane Bradford Photography ([www.dianebradford.com](http://www.dianebradford.com)) for the donation of this photograph. Diane shot this pose of Juli and Kenworth for an article that appeared in the April issue of Gold Coast Magazine.

Independence for the Visually Impaired. Our Focus Everyday!

**LHOB**

a special **thank you** • story on page 6

to Diane Bradford Photography

# message from the President of the Board

The Lighthouse of Broward is having a great 2006! We have had many successful events. I hope you have had a chance to attend at least one of them. Our first Art Auction was fantastic and raised over \$14,000. The Easter Egg-Stravaganza for our littlest clients was covered by all the local television and newspapers and even National Geographic Kids Magazine. The Sensory Garden was honored by the Broward County Commission. Our Volunteer and Alumni Luncheons were well attended and a lot of fun. All this, and the professional staff still found the time to educate the visually impaired in our community. How wonderful!

Many of you may have heard that the Lighthouse for the Blind of the Palm Beaches recently closed. To eliminate any confusion, we want everyone to know that the Lighthouse of Broward County (LHOB) remains strong and is moving forward to meet the needs of people who are blind or visually impaired in Broward County. The Lighthouse of Broward is a separate 501 (c) 3 agency from the Palm Beach Lighthouse. We share a similar mission to serve people who are blind or visually impaired, but we are an independent organization. Be assured we are doing what we can to reach out to our neighbors in Palm Beach and assist their clients.

The Lighthouse of Broward continues to expand to meet the growing needs of people with visual impairments throughout our county. These recent developments in Palm Beach demonstrate the challenges of running a non-profit agency that relies on the donations from individuals to fund the important work we do everyday. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to report a strong balance sheet.



Susan M. King, O.D.  
President

Please remember us in your will and trusts.

## THANKS TO ALL OUR ART AUCTION SPONSORS

Special Recognition  
SILVER \$2,500 Sponsors

First Data Merchant Services  
Memorial Healthcare System

## SAVE THE DATE

Second Annual  
Fine Art Auction  
Thursday February 1, 2007

## Fine Art Auction Fund Raiser Raises Over \$14,000 for Lighthouse of Broward



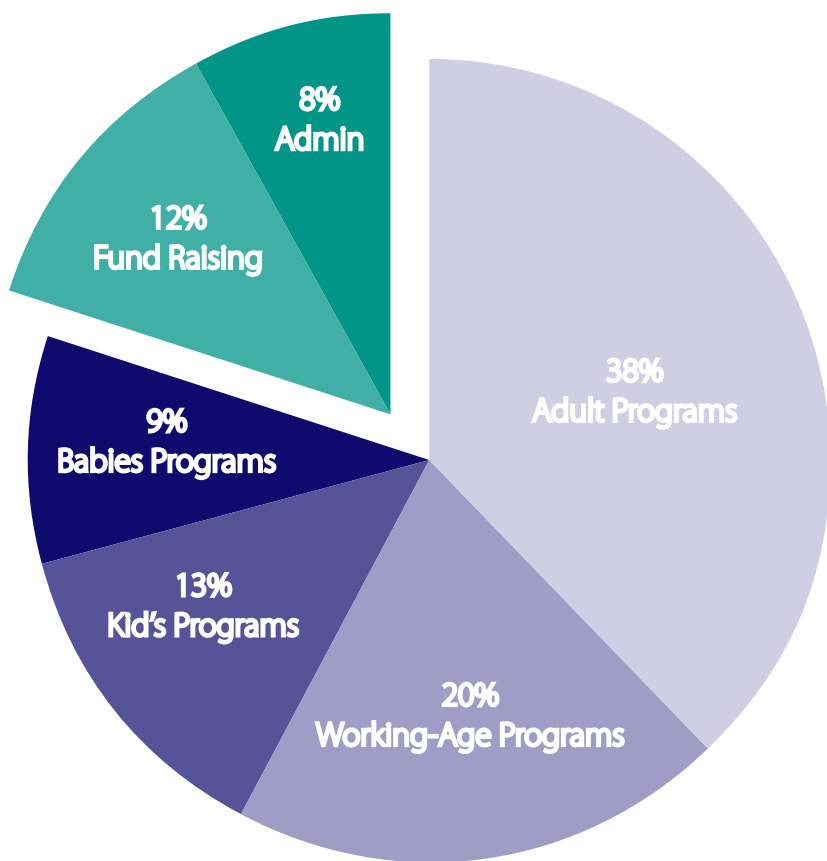
Left to Right: Carol McKeever, Director of Development; Dr. Elly du Pré, Executive Director; Janice Hamilton, Hamilton Fine Art; and Dr. Susan King, President of the Board mingle at the Art Auction.

# We Need Your \$upport Summer Appeal for Donations

YOUR GIFT CHANGES THE LIVES OF BLIND INDIVIDUALS AND THEIR FAMILIES FOREVER



## How Lighthouse Money is Spent



**donate online!**

Now it's easier to help the Lighthouse

Just go to [www.LHOB.org](http://www.LHOB.org)

Our Summer 2006 Goal

# \$50,000

Thank You for Your Support

"Charity should begin at home, but should not stay there."  
- Philip Brooks

# magical moments through their eyes



## First Annual Egg-Stravaganza "Beeping Egg" Hunt

Kids and their families enjoyed a very special children's Easter Egg Hunt with beeping eggs designed especially for blind and visually impaired children. With the help of many Lighthouse volunteers, the children received special easter baskets, had their faces painted, enjoyed the petting zoo and enjoyed pizza for lunch. Even the Easter Bunny dropped by to see the kids.

Special thanks to our Golden Egg Sponsor Josephine S. Leiser Foundation and to our "Good Egg" Beeping Egg Sponsors.



Many thanks to Volunteer Broward volunteers for helping with our Egg-Stravaganza. You were wonderful!

## Center for Emerging Art 2005 Artist Residency "Access to Light through Art" at Lighthouse of Broward



The Center for Emerging Art's Education Outreach Program, funded by the State of Florida, Division of Cultural Affairs, initiated a pilot program which provided a much needed service and opportunities for children at the Lighthouse of Broward. All of the children are blind or visually impaired.

The Artist-in-Residency with Center for Emerging Art's "Preserving the Legacy: Access to Light through Art" worked with the participating blind and visually impaired children to create their art work in clay, wood, stencil, and cut outs by using creative tools to put together a three dimensional aquarium collage.

Thank You to Resident Artists Ava L. Rado and Andrea Dougherty for this picture.

# Beacons of Light Summer Camp

for blind or visually impaired children ages 6-14  
 May 30-August 11, 2006



*Equine Therapy • Hapkido • Swimming Lessons • Art  
 Drama/Dance • Museums • Parks • Bowling • Movies*

*Beach • Reading • Math • Writing*

*and ... LOTS OF FUN!!!!*



For more information  
 about the Beacons of  
 Light Summer Camp,  
 please call  
 Valarie Moser at  
 (954) 463-4217

LHOB Welcomes



**CINDY WOLKE**

Valarie Moser, Manager of Children's Programs (left) welcomes  
 Cindy Wolke, new teacher for Bright Beginnings Program

"Defeat is simply a signal to press onward."  
 - Helen Keller

# profile

# Juli Manchester

By ELLEN CRANE SCHULMAN  
 (Cover) Photography by DIANE BRADFORD



Juli Manchester is taking time from her busy schedule as a yoga instructor and Pampered Chef kitchen consultant to help her sister paint the walls of a warehouse office. She takes her time, carefully guiding the roller up and down the expansive wall. She spends a little extra time working to keep her roller straight because Manchester is blind.

She has retinitis pigmentosa, an inherited disease that affects the retina and causes a gradual loss of vision. Her limited vision is like looking through binoculars. As one of her doctors explained to her, her eyes are like a \$10,000 camera with bad film.

Six years ago, she could see well enough to attend school and work in a full time corporate job. Manchester, now 38, only learned about her disease when she was in her mid-20s.

A young woman with a determined spirit, Manchester graduated from high school and entered Boston University to study business administration. She then moved to Fort Lauderdale to be near her mother and started working for a temporary staffing firm, coordinating all of the employees assigned to Blockbuster Inc. She worked her way up and spent seven years working for various Huizenga companies.

As her vision began to worsen, she was told by a doctor that she needed to change her occupation. He was concerned she would be unable to keep up with the computer and paper work.

Then one Saturday, at age 32, Manchester woke up from a nap to a changed life. "I woke up and looked toward

my closet, but all I saw was black and flecks of dust," she said. "I tried to lie back down and close my eyes again, thinking I was still tired, but nothing changed."

She was taken to Bascom Palmer Eye Institute for tests but had to begin facing her new reality. After being forced to give up a career she loved, Manchester realized she had to get on with her life and decided to go back to work. She contacted the Division of Blind Services and began rehabilitation training with the Lighthouse of Broward. She learned cane skills, how to use special magnification and speech-output computer software, and how to make changes in her kitchen to assure safe cooking. She also received orientation training that prepared her to get a guide dog.

Shortly thereafter, Manchester received her guide dog, Kenworth, from Guide Dogs for the Blind, and began her new independent life. She became a yoga student and eventually an instructor.

Despite this new career path, she wanted more and began focusing on her life-long passion for cooking. This desire led to Manchester becoming a representative for The Pampered Chef. As she pursues her cooking and yoga endeavors, Manchester looks forward to the day when more people understand and respect individuals with visual impairments.

A participant in sensitivity training for Broward County's public transportation workers, Manchester speaks openly about her personal experiences in hopes of helping others. Her desire is to break down the stereotypes about the blind in an effort to inspire individuals facing visual challenges and spread a positive awareness to everyone.

# Lighthouse becomes Spa for the Day for Dog Guides

By DOLORES HANLEY-MCDIARMID, COMS  
*Certified Orientation & Mobility Specialist*



Stress... It's a part of life, even for the dedicated and hard working dog guides who enable individuals who are blind and visually impaired to navigate more safely and independently in the community. In an effort to provide stress management for local dog guides, the Lighthouse of Broward planned a hands-on workshop to show dog guide users how to massage their faithful guide and companion and explain the benefits of a daily massage.

On Saturday January 21, 2006 Cyndi Harkins, who has a degree in Canine Rehabilitation and Massage Therapy for animals spent the morning with eight blind and visually impaired people and their dog guides, explaining and demonstrating the proper way to massage a dog. Ms.

Harkins explained that regular massages for older dogs helps with arthritic pain and also helps keep younger dogs in better shape. Setting time aside to give one's dog a massage also provides an opportunity to strengthen the bond between the person and their dog guide.

Ms. Harkins enjoyed her first experience working with individuals who are blind and visually impaired. "It was educational for me, as well. I rarely encounter a person who is sight impaired. What wonderful people, true animal owners that can really appreciate all that their dog does for them."

If anyone is interested in participating in a future hands-on seminar on how to massage their dog guide, please contact Dolores Hanley-McDiarmid at (954) 463-4217, ext 13.



## Lighthouse is Right House

Lloyd Derizzo and Matthew Lovette, Lighthouse clients, entertain with keyboard and vocals at the Lighthouse "Fun Lunch" lunch in the garden.

## Alumni Association

Join TODAY!  
Open to all Lighthouse graduates.  
Call to find out more  
(954) 463-4217

## Life-time Learners

Life Time Learners meet at the Lighthouse September through May on the second Friday of the month from 9 am - Noon to listen to a presentation by a guest speaker and socialize. All graduates of the Lighthouse are eligible to join the group. For more information call the Lighthouse at (954) 463-4217

# highlight volunteer

## LHOBT Volunteer of the Year



Barbara Krantz, Volunteer Coordinator (right) presents plaque to Volunteer of the Year Virginia Molnar (left)

In 2003 Virginia Molnar came to the Lighthouse of Broward with macular degeneration. After completing classes that gave her the skills to work with her visual impairment, she began to volunteer at the Lighthouse. Three years later she volunteers in almost every department. On Fridays, Virginia is an

explorer buddy giving tours of the Lighthouse to potential clients. Other days she helps in the kitchen and in the Development Department getting mailings out.

Virginia is an inspiration to the staff, clients and other volunteers at the Lighthouse. She truly deserves the honor of "Volunteer of the Year."

## LHOBT explorer buddies

If you know someone who is blind or visually impaired, tell them about the *LHOBT Explorer Buddies Program*. Explorer Buddies are Lighthouse graduates who volunteer to give a personal tour of the Lighthouse and explain programs to individuals who need the services of the Lighthouse. Call to schedule an appointment. You'll be glad you did.

Call Eunice Jackman at  
(954) 463-4217, ext 23

Our hearts and thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers. We couldn't do what we do without you!!!



# Volunteer in Visual Assistance Program

Our Volunteer in Visual Assistance Program is definitely kicking into high gear this year. Very exciting programs run by the volunteers include a monthly Book Club, Arts & Crafts, and a Trivia Group.

Let's not forget the great volunteers who assist in our classrooms on a daily basis, as well as around the building every day helping the staff at the Lighthouse. We have been fortunate to partner with volunteer Broward who has been setting up some of our local middle schools and high schools to spend a day here at the

Lighthouse volunteering to do all sorts of jobs around the building. While they are doing this, they are getting a great "head start" on the meaning of "giving back to your community."

If you are interested in joining our TEAM, please call the Lighthouse and ask for Barbara Krantz at (954) 463-4217, ext 41.



## Volunteers are "Life Savers"

LHOBB

"There's something wonderfully rewarding in being part of an effort that does make a difference."  
- Brian O'Connell

## Honors A Living Tribute

*These are gifts made to a special person in celebration/honor of a special occasion. Acknowledgement is sent to the person honored and donor receives a letter of appreciation.*

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- Gregory Beinfest
- Jim Dismas
- Francine Gruden
- Harold Henschien
- Jean Howe
- Susan King
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- Addie Robert
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*These are gifts made in loving memory of someone special. Acknowledgement is sent to the family of the person memorialized and donor receives a letter of appreciation.*

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- Frida Reitz

The gifts we receive are immeasurable in their importance to the Lighthouse of Broward. Each gift helps us deliver our promise to promote the independence of adults and children who are blind or visually impaired. That is our focus every day.

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."

- Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Harry Rust  
Evelyn Schacht  
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Mildred Slepia  
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Robert Earl Young

## Bequests A Special Legacy

*A treasured gift and legacy is left by those who remember the Lighthouse in their estate plans. These special people are recognized permanently as part of our Lighthouse Legacy Society. Listed below are those who made gifts to the Lighthouse in this period.*

Estate of Lily Brentano  
Estate of Virginia D. D'Amours  
Estate of Lois L. Deicke  
Estate of Hazel Fitzpatrick  
Estate of Lillian Lyons  
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*Thank you to all the wonderful donors who help keep our services going and growing.*

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“People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”  
- Bonnie Jean Wasmund

**Gift of \$60,000**

Mr. and Mrs. David Colker

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