Prescott High School Senior Awarded the ViewFinder 2010 Academic Scholarship

Dylan Mileusnich, a recent graduate of Prescott High School has been awarded the 2010 ViewFinder Academic Scholarship. Dylan has never let his visual impairment interfere with his goals. He graduated high school after only three years with an earned 3.6 GPA. He will attend Yavapi Community College in the fall and major in business administration with an emphasis on sport management. His dream job is to be the general manager of a NBA professional basketball team.

Dylan not only works hard at school he was a member of his schools math club, a member of Future Business Leaders of America and Air Force Junior ROTC. Among his many awards are the Tuskegee Airman Award, the Scottish Right Academic Award and the Sons of the American Revolution Award. The ViewFinder Staff wish Dylan much success in his future endeavors.

Visual Hallucinations
Charles Bonnet Syndrome

Are your eyes playing tricks on you? Up to 35% of people with decreased vision due to eye diseases such as macular degeneration or diabetic retinopathy see things they know are not there, but look real anyway. They may see simple patterns, abstract designs, pin wheels or detailed pictures of people and buildings. These images will come and go and may last a few minutes to a few hours. If you experience this, do not worry. You are not losing your mind. The condition is called "phantom vision" or Charles Bonnet syndrome. It is similar to what happens to some people who have lost an arm or leg. Even though the limb is gone, these people still feel their toes or fingers or experience itching.
While most people have no control over when the hallucination will begin or end, the hallucinations most often occur when the person is in a room with dim illumination or when not visually active. Turning on a lamp, watching TV or engaging in another visual activity my temporally stop the hallucinations.

While there is no cure for the Charles Bonnet syndrome, the brain eventually adjusts to the persons vision loss. The hallucinations usually goes away after one or two years.

**New Book Stand with Light**

For many people who read with magnifiers or strong reading glasses, a book stand and a good light are a must. The new BookStand Lite by Ottlite takes care of both needs with one product.

This clever product offers the ultimate in utility and comfort. It is great for reading, holding cookbooks, computer work and and more. This book stand provides High Definition Natural Lighting to provide enhanced contrast while decreasing eye strain when reading. The book stand adjusts both vertically and horizontally to conform to your reading materials. The LED illumination lasts up to 40,000 hours and is powered by three AAA batteries. The BookStand Lite is available at all ViewFinder locations.

**Miscellaneous News**

- ViewFinder Teacher & Student Low Vision Aid Grants are distributed at the end of each quarter. Please request a grant at info@viewfinderlowvision.com
- ViewFinder College Scholarship application form is due by April 30, 2011. This scholarship is available to all college students. Please request an application at info@viewfinderlowvision.com.
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