



**Grace Pires, President**

PO Box 14404  
East Providence, RI 02914  
Tel 401 433 2606  
info@nfbri.org

## **National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island**

### **41<sup>st</sup> Annual State Convention**

#### **Embracing Possibilities**

**October 14 and 15, 2011**

Radisson Airport Hotel  
2081 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886  
(401)739-3000

For those who wish to stay overnight, room rates are \$99.00 plus 13% hotel tax. Please mention NFB of RI when making your reservation.

#### **Constitutional Officers**

President, Grace Pires  
Vice President, John Pimentel  
Treasurer, Anthea Cabral  
Secretary, Richard Costa

#### **Board of Directors**

Jennifer Aberdeen  
Rui Cabral  
Richard Gaffney  
Antonio Guimaraes  
Robert Pires

#### **NFB PLEDGE:**

I pledge to participate actively in the efforts of the National Federation of the Blind; to achieve equality, opportunity, and security for the blind; to support the policies and programs of the Federation; and to abide by its constitution.

## **Convention Agenda**

Join us for a weekend of learning, catching up with old friends and networking with new ones. We have an exciting and informative program in store for you.

### **Friday October 14, 2011**

Technology Seminar presented by Humanware

Come to this free seminar to learn about the latest blind and low vision products available through Humanware.

Please call the office at (401)433-2606 or email [info@nfbri.org](mailto:info@nfbri.org) by October 10 to RSVP as seating is limited.

12:30 PM – Registration.

1:00 PM – Daisy players.

2:00 PM – Notetakers and Braille displays.

3:00 PM – Video magnifiers.

4:00 PM – Questions and Hands on Trials.

### **Saturday October 15, 2011**

#### **Morning Session**

8:30 AM – Registration, and Continental Breakfast.

Come and meet this year's exhibitor, Steve Miglizzi from Neighborhood Diabetes, distributor of Prodigy Diabetes Products.

9:30 AM – Board Meeting.

10:00 AM – Call to Order and Opening Remarks, Grace Pires, president, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island.

10:10 AM – Nominating Committee Report, John Pimentel, Chair.

10:15 AM – Elections and Installation of Board Members.

10:25 AM – Presidential Address, Grace Pires, President, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island.

10:40 – Strengthening the Movement, Patti Gregory-Chang, President, National Federation of the Blind of Illinois, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind; Grace Pires President, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island.

11:00 AM – Update on Changes to the Digital Talking Books Program, Andrew Egan, Regional Librarian, Rhode Island Talking Books Plus.

11:30 AM – The Role of the Governor’s Commission on Disabilities in Rhode Island, Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary, Governor’s Commission on Disabilities.

12:00 PM – Buffet luncheon.

### **Afternoon Session**

1:00 PM – 2011 Youth Slam Experiences: Mentor and student, Antonio Guimaraes, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island Board member; Mary Abby Jusayan, tenth grader, Classical High School.

1:15 PM – Volunteer and Employment Opportunities for the Blind: Americorps program, Kathleen Samways, Disability Inclusion Consultant, Serve Rhode Island.

1:45 PM – National Report, Patti Gregory-Chang, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind.

2:15 PM – Randolph Shephard Program in Rhode Island, Laurie DiOrio, MA, Assistant Administrator, Rhode Island Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired; Richard Nordlund, Rhode Island State Licensed Vendor, Business owner, Global Coffee Plus, Providence RI.

2:40 PM – INSIGHT: Update on Services and Programs, Chris Butler, Executive Director.

3:00 PM – Why Am I a Federationist, Richard Gaffney, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island; Michelle Mitchell, Secretary, Mount Hope Chapter, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island.

3:15 PM – Blindness and Diabetes, John Pimentel, RN, CDOE, Vice President, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island.

3:45 PM – History of the White Cane Law in Rhode Island, Rui Cabral, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island.

3:55 PM – One Man’s Experience as a Blind Golfer, Michael McKone, CPA Michael McKone Consulting, Warwick, RI.

4:20 PM – Reports and Resolutions.

4:30 PM – Adjourn.

### **Evening Banquet**

5:30 PM – Invocation.

Master of Ceremonies: John Pimentel, Vice President, National Federation of the Blind of Rhode Island.

Keynote address, Patti Gregory-Chang, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind.

Awards and presentations.

8:30 PM – Adjourn.

The congressional delegation, Governor Chafee, and other dignitaries have been invited to attend.

Door prizes will be awarded throughout the convention and banquet. You must be present to win.

The Radisson is on a bus line and is accessible by the Ride Program. For RIDE reservations call: 461-9760 or 1-800-479-6902.

Deadline for reservations will be October 8, 2011. No money will be accepted at the door.

### **Acknowledgement**

We wish to extend our gratitude to FGX International, 500 George Washington Highway, Smithfield, RI 02917 for helping to sponsor this convention.

## CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Please complete this form and return it with your check or money order payable to NFB of RI and sent it to:

P.O. Box 14404, East Providence, RI 02914.

### Prices Per Person .

All day convention price is \$35.00, which (includes continental breakfast, buffet lunch, and sit-down dinner.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

		<u># attending</u>	
Registration, no meals:	\$5.00	X _____	= _____
Buffet lunch only:	\$18.00	X _____	= _____
Banquet Dinner only:	\$25.00	X _____	= _____
Both lunch and dinner:	\$35.00	X _____	= _____
		Total:	= _____

Please indicate your dinner choice(s) below:

Stuffed Breast of Chicken \_\_\_\_\_

Baked Scrod \_\_\_\_\_