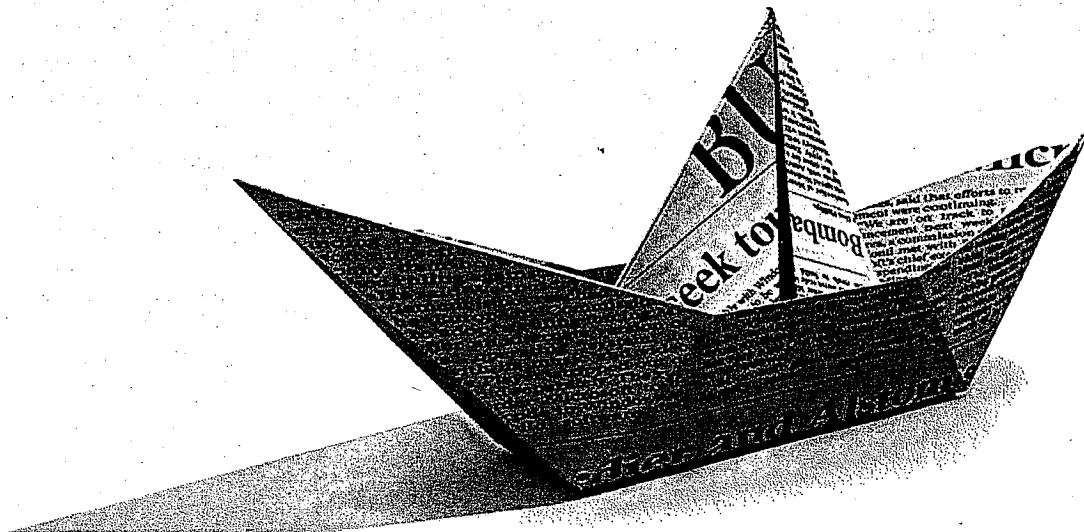




NFB

National Federation
of the Blind

NEWSLINE®
Of Oregon



NFB-NEWSLINE® is a service of



(Voice of the Nation's Blind

WHO CAN BENEFIT?

- Anyone who cannot read conventional newsprint can qualify for this free service.
- Blind individuals can now gain access to the information in newspapers and on television at the same time as their sighted colleagues, friends and family members.
- Blind professionals can now converse on relevant topics critical to their professions and social functions.
- Many seniors have lost enough vision that reading the daily newspapers is no longer possible. They will enjoy being able once again to participate actively in community affairs.
- Blind children are now able to research their own school assignments and do homework independently.
- Anyone with a physical disability who is unable to turn a page can qualify for NFB-NEWSLINE®.

NFB-NEWSLINE
1800 Johnson Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21230
(866) 504-7300
www.nfbnewslines.org

TESTIMONIALS FROM NFB-NEWSLINE® SUBSCRIBERS

"You've got all the newspapers that I would ever want to read!"

— Judge David Tatel, Virginia

"It's a wonderful service. I am delighted to be back in touch with the world."

— Ethel Kurland, 91 year old woman, Idaho

"NFB-NEWSLINE is fantastic. I get my papers via e-mail, usually before my neighbor. I love the hourly AP updates, and the TV Listings are a godsend."

— David DeNotaris, blind professional,
New Jersey

"Macular degeneration took the newspaper away from me, but NFB-NEWSLINE has brought it back."

— Sidney Katz, Florida

"I don't use NEWSLINE too much for school work" Erica Costa, a teenager in Massachusetts, freely admits. "I use it more for pleasure." As an avid Red Sox fan, she catches up with her team by reading about them in the *Boston Globe*.

"It is so important to find quality television programming for young children. Now I can choose appropriate TV shows for my children, just like a sighted parent would."

— Eric Duffy, a Columbus, Ohio native
and blind parent of two children.

"It's practical, it's easy, it's reliable. If you can use a telephone you can use NEWSLINE."

— Patrick Leahy, District of Columbia



UNABLE TO READ THE NEWSPAPER?

FREE Personalized
Newspaper & TV
Listings Service
over the Telephone



WE HAVE THE ANSWER!

Call (866) 504-7300
www.nfbnewslines.org

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR NEWSPAPERS

Best Source of in-depth National and International News and Analysis
And often the only source for Local and Community News and Events

Have you been forced to give up reading the newspaper due to blindness or a visual impairment?

Do you want access to the same information about news and current events at the same time as your sighted friends, family, and coworkers?

Does your career demand that you keep up with the latest developments in your field?

Are you a sports fan, political buff, or arts enthusiast who needs detailed coverage in a specific area?

Would you like to have our new personalized TV Listings Service?

NFB-NEWSLINE® is a free electronic service that gives any blind, visually impaired, or print disabled person access to newspapers, magazines, and TV Listings 24 hours a day, 7 days a week using a Touch-Tone telephone.

NFB-NEWSLINE® allows any blind or visually impaired person to listen to TODAY'S newspaper TODAY, over the telephone for FREE, and can access up to 2 weeks of TV Listings in advance.

You can choose the topic and articles of greatest interest to you, at the time and place of your choosing.

With over 250 newspapers and magazines, you can choose from the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Los Angeles Times*, *USA Today*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Washington Post*, and hundreds of local newspapers including some in Spanish.

The magazines include all three AARP publications, the *New Yorker*, *The Economist*, and *Diabetes Self-Management*. New to the service are **Associated Press** and **UPI** with national and state news updates every hour. You can also choose special local channels to obtain important information about services and items of specific interest to the blind.

You may choose to have your newspapers sent to your e-mail address or you may download them from **Bookshare.org**.

How can I sign up?

If you're a patron of a Talking Book library, call your library to sign up for NFB-NEWSLINE® over the phone. If not, then visit our Web site: **www.nfbnewsline.org** to fill out an application online or download one and mail it in; or call the National Federation of the Blind at 1 (866) 504-7300. Ask for a Demo Code to try it out.

NFB-NEWSLINE® is FREE—information and materials are available in Braille and audio formats.

April 10, 2013

To the House Committee

Regarding HB-3273

I speak strongly in favor of HB-3273 for the following reasons.

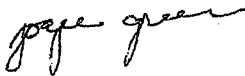
The NEWSLINE service by telephone has broadened my world considerably through the hundreds of newspapers and magazines that I can access through the service. Much about the world, our nation, and our locale was unknown to me prior to NEWSLINE in Oregon, because I had no access to these publications.

Now, I can bone up on political issues, and gather information about candidates and issues when elections are on the horizon.

I can find the latest in medical information about diseases, research, and cures. I can keep myself current on the latest thinking on the subject of food and nutrition.

My calendar often contains dates and times of concerts, festivals, lectures and conferences that satisfy me intellectually, entertain me socially, and help me keep connected in my community.

I implore you to approve HB-3273 which at minimal cost can offer all the above and more to all print disabled Oregonians. Thank you for the opportunity to express my views on HB-3273.



Joyce Green, Senior citizen

43 SE 60th Ave.

Portland, Oregon 97215

Reading, Reading, Actually Reading the News

by Nijat Worley

From the Editor: Nijat Worley is a recent college graduate who now works at the National Center for the Blind as the manager of marketing and outreach for sponsored technology. He was born in Azerbaijan, and his appreciation for a free press and the importance of journalism is instructive for those of us who take them for granted or malign them when they make us uncomfortable. Here is what Nijat has to say, not only about the virtues of a free press, but also about the service that helps him enjoy it:

Nijat with his morning coffee and NFB-NEWSLINE on his iPhone

I have always been somewhat different from my peers. I don't like loud parties; I don't like to go to bars to drink; and I avoid getting into dangerous and rash situations such as slacklining (walking on a rope similar to tightrope walking, except that there is less tension on the line, so the rope bounces and makes the task more difficult), skiing, snowboarding, or any other dangerous sport for that matter. This may be unusual to hear from a guy in his early twenties, but I am disappointed to say that these are some of the activities that people my age enjoy the most. I wish more of my peers would spend a Sunday afternoon like me, reading the news and becoming informed about the political and environmental happenings in the world.

Before you make comments about ivory towers, please let me explain. I have always been a bit different from my peers. While most of the kids my age sat in the other room and played video games, I would sit with the adults as they drank coffee and discussed politics, international relations, and the rules of war and peace. I don't know why, but I have always enjoyed philosophy, politics, history, and social studies. These interested me the most, and they still sustain me in my free time, which is why I love reading news and current events. This is why NFB-NEWSLINE® has come to play such a big role in my life.

I have been an NFB-NEWSLINE subscriber for over ten years now, and I use it religiously every day to read my favorite publications because I enjoy knowing about politics and events taking place all over the world. Did you know that there was an attempted coup by the military in Eritrea yesterday? How many of you even know where Eritrea is? No, it is not a de facto independent region on the eastern tip of Canada. Well, you get my point. NFB-NEWSLINE makes it very easy for me to have up-to-the-minute access every day without even thinking about it. Unlike my older colleagues who once complained that the lack of access to quality news was a significant problem in their lives, I simply take it for granted that I should be able to wake up in the morning and listen to the New York Times while I am exercising, eating breakfast, or riding the bus to work.

Some might say, "You don't have to use NFB-NEWSLINE to get news and information. There are many other methods for accessing them through television, radio, the Internet, and thousands of applications and programs on mobile devices. NFB-NEWSLINE is not

my pillow. Sometimes the way one reads and the environment in which he reads can make all the difference in whether the experience is arduous or pleasurable.

NFB-NEWSLINE gives me the freedom to choose from hundreds of publications and to move effortlessly among their sections. It gives me important information on images and the captions for those images; it allows me to read every detail of an article from the funny spelling of a word to the playful placement of a punctuation mark for emphasis; nothing escapes me when I am reading newspapers on NFB-NEWSLINE. Therein lies the true value of NFB-NEWSLINE. It allows me, a blind person, fully and independently to access enormous amounts of information at the simple touch of a few buttons on a home phone or a few taps on a touchscreen at my leisure. I don't have to be in a specific location; I don't have to read the news according to somebody else's time; I can easily and fully independently read all my favorite print publications from the comfort of my armchair, the waiting room of my doctor's office, or the noisy cabin of a Boeing 747 cruising at an altitude of 35,000 feet.

Thanks to the work of the National Federation of the Blind and the work we do in this organization to improve the lives of the blind in America, I am able to participate actively in the public discourse in this country. The NFB has promoted the rights of the blind in America for seven decades now, and bringing access to printed media is just one small part of that effort that has drastically changed the lives of blind people like me. Can I live without NFB-NEWSLINE? Of course I could, but my life would not be as enriched and as fulfilling without this excellent service bringing me so much information every day. NFB-NEWSLINE allows me to gain knowledge and have intelligent conversations with the people that I interact with on a daily basis. That is why I am so thankful for it and cherish it.

Oh, and just so you know, Eritrea is a small country about the size of Pennsylvania in eastern Africa bordering the Red Sea, between Djibouti and Sudan. It has a population of six million and no political freedoms whatsoever: hence the lack of a free press. So the next time you want to talk about international affairs or have an intellectual political discussion, feel free to call on me. Thanks to NFB-NEWSLINE, I can be certain that I will be ready to go toe to toe with you. Just do me a favor; don't try to entice me to go water skiing or mountain climbing. I'd rather spend my Sunday afternoon reading editorials and writing responses. Although I have to say that going skydiving does sound like fun.

For more information; go to <
www.nfbnewsline.org>.