

www.patf.us

888-744-1938 Voice/Toll Free/TTY | 484-674-0510 Fax

Email: patf@patf.us

Independence is priceless... we help make it affordable.

NEWS

Kurzweil-NFB Reader, continued from page 2...

device being outdated anytime soon. The manufacturer has developed a system that allows you to take advantage of updates by simply sending the manufacturer your data card. You'll then receive a new card with updates. Old data cards are evaluated to determine how the device is being used and how to make improvements.

The Kurzweil-NFB Reader comes with camera batteries, a charger, carrying case and earphones. The cost of the Reader is approximately \$3,500, and it can be financed with a PATF loan. To learn more about the Kurzweil-NFB Reader or find a vendor for the device, visit www.knfbreader.com or call 1-800-894-5374.

From Hearing Aids to Ramps to Accessible Vehicles... Assistive Technology Creates Independence.

PATF provides low-interest loans and information about other funding sources so you can buy the assistive technology you need to do the things you want to do.

New Venture Benefits Bargain Hunters and PATF Consumers

Everyone loves a bargain. But not everyone loves to hunt for bargains. Imagine one-stop shopping in which the bargain hunting has been done for you. Make that one-stop "accessible" shopping on the internet. Imagine also that a portion of those profits was donated to PATF. A pretty good deal all around. Well that sums up a new venture between PATF and The Stores at Royal Steele.



"I know firsthand the importance of the right services and adaptive equipment," says Quinn.

Rob J. Quinn, owner of www.royalesteele.com explains it this way, "The site aims to make shopping online even faster and easier for consumers, while helping them save money. The concept is summed up in the slogan: "We do the bargain hunting for you." Consumers get the benefit of secure shopping and bargains from sources such as Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Overstock by simply clicking on the link, then making their purchase. There's nothing more to do, and no extra cost. Royale Steele gets a commission and PATF receives a percentage of the profits based upon the volume of sales.

Why is www.royalsteele.com making such a generous offer to PATF? "I know firsthand the importance of the right services and adaptive equipment," says Quinn. "Although I have cerebral palsy, I graduated from Penncrest High School, earned a degree with honors from West Chester University, obtained my driver's license through Bryn Mawr Rehabilitation, and worked full-time for several years. That's why Continued on page 2..."

**Need to Finance a Home Modification or Other Assistive Technology?
PATF Loans are Hard to Beat!**

~ CURRENT INTEREST RATE 4.0 % ~

I'm so interested in dedicating my efforts with the website to supporting something that truly improves the lives of people with disabilities. PATF looks to assist anyone with a disability.

For more information visit www.royalesteele.com or contact Quinn directly at rquinn@royalesteele.com.

Kurzweil-NFB Portable Reader Gives Greater Independence for People Who are Blind

by Noreen Hetznecker, PATF Board Member

Late last summer a revolutionary new assistive technology went on sale for people who are blind. It's the Kurzweil National Federation of the Blind Reader (Kurzweil-NFB Reader). I purchased this device in July and I highly recommend it.

What makes the Kurzweil-NFB Reader so special is that it is a hand-held device, the first of its kind, which will read printed text in a clear voice to the user. You can choose from two different voices. The Kurzweil-NFB Reader contains a digital camera and a compact data assistant. This technology reads the text, and if desired, save it on the Reader, or it can be downloaded to a personal desktop computer.

I no longer have to wait for my husband to read magazine articles to me, or ask someone else to read my mail. And because it's small and lightweight, I can carry it in my purse. I find it's very handy for reading menus while dining out, or reading food label packages while shopping. But one of the most wonderful uses I've found is identifying things around the house. It used to be that once I put something down on the desk, I'd lose it. Now, if I put something down, I do a quick scan and I am able to find it.

As with any other piece of sophisticated technology, you'll need to take some time to learn how to use the various functions of the Kurzweil-NFB Reader. But the instructions are easy to follow. And if you're a novice like me when it comes to computers and other technology, you'll be especially delighted with the technical support available through the manufacturer. The support people are extremely patient and thorough, and remain on the phone until the issue is resolved.

Unlike computers and many other technological devices, you don't need to worry about this

Continued on page 4...



Little things can make a big difference

Mini-Loan and Hearing AT Help Close Communication Gap For PATF Borrower

PATF mini-loans help you buy the little things that make big differences.

\$100 to \$1,000 at 0% interest! Partial grants may be awarded in conjunction with mini-loans for those who meet household income guidelines (\$15,315 for a household of one; \$20,535 for a household of two). Call 888-744-1938 (TTY / Voice) for more information.

PATF Mini-Loan & Hearing AT Help Close Communication Gap

In 2005 Steven Singer experienced a sudden and profound hearing loss. "I could not call people, hear my door, wake up to an alarm, not to mention wake up if there was a fire", says Steven, who works from his home as a tailor. "I could only make appointments late in the day because I had no way of waking myself up. Basically, I was cut off from the world, on top of experiencing a whole new world without hearing."

Steven applied for a PATF Mini-Loan to purchase flashing / vibrating doorbell and smoke detector signalers, and a vibrating alarm clock. "The benefits of having these devices are that they've improved my quality of living, particularly, my ability to organize and communicate with all the service organizations I belong to. Another big advantage is that I now feel more secure. Even if my fire alarm never goes off, I have the knowledge that it would if the circumstances arose."

Steven also notes that having the visual as well as the vibrating features on the devices is also helpful to his hearing friends and visitors. They can see the lamp respond when the door signaler is activated, but does not ring. For similar reasons, he wears his hearing aids, even though they're ineffective. He calls it the "warning factor." "People know not to just start talking to me. They realize I have special needs. The devices have brought back a life similar to what I had before the loss. What more could I ask for?"

For more information about mini-loans, call PATF at 888-744-1938