



December 2009

Brought to you by:

THE TOOLS FOR
INDEPENDENCE INITIATIVE
OF THE

**INDEPENDENT
LIVING
PARTNERSHIP**

On the web at:
www.LivingPartnership.org

If you order something shown in the TOOLS newsletter, please tell the vendor where you heard about their product.

Let us know if ordering through this source worked well for you. Thank you.

Published by:

The nonprofit Independent Living Partnership (ILP) - helping people to live independently in their homes. On the web at: www.livingpartnership.org

No Need to Worry About Slicing Your Fingers



When you are using the **Safe Slice**, your fingers are protected whenever you are chopping and dicing fruits and vegetables. Cleverly designed finger guards grip the food securely while shielding your hand from the knife's sharp edge. It is made of rubber and plastic to provide a soft, non-slip grip that the vendor says flexes naturally with finger movement.

And then it rinses clear! The Safe

Slice measures 3-1/2" long and is available for \$4.98 (or 2 for \$8.98) at Harriet Carter. Visit www.harrietcarter.com or call 1-800-377-7878. It is Item C9908.

Get A Needed Boost When Getting In and Out of Your Car

No more straining to support your weight on just one side when getting out of your car. The **E-Z Out Door Handle** fits into the U-shaped striker plate of your car's door frame, and let you hold on with both hands when

you are getting into or out of your car. And you can use it on either the driver or passenger side. The vendor says it will support up to 350 lbs., works on most cars and is portable (lady's purse size) so you can take it with you wherever you go. The E-Z Out costs \$34.95. Find it at The Alzheimer's Store at www.alzstore.com or by calling 1-800-752-3238. Item #0159.



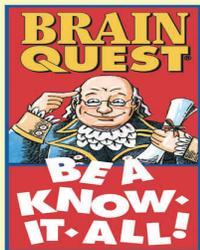
Tell Us What You Need....Or How You Improvised to Make Your Life Easier

E-Mail your ideas to us at: Editor@TOOLSforIndependence.org or send them to us at the address listed on page 4.

Relax and Align Your Feet While You Sleep

You can wear these soft, comfy foot alignment socks while you relax, sleep or watch TV. The Foot Alignment Socks gently hug your feet and separate, stretch and align your toes, providing relief from the pain of hammertoes, bunions, foot cramps and ball-of-foot prob-

lems. They are made of washable acrylic, polyester and elastane, and come in Regular (fits sizes 5 to 9) and Large (fits sizes 10 to 12). Both sizes are available for \$14.95 at Aids for Arthritis. Call 1-800-654-0707 or at www.aidsforarthritis.com. Item #9-01.



AMERICAN HISTORY
1000
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Pilgrims, Presidents & Pioneers
• Civil War to Space Exploration
• Milestones & America's Best

DECK ONE
LARGE TYPE / BRAILLE EDITION
APH Catalog Number 6-17001-00

Now the entire family can have fun playing these popular educational games. The **Brain Quest** series of games has been specially adapted for the blind or visually impaired. These are four large print/Braille editions of the Brain Quest series featuring science, American history, English and Geography quizzes. Each game contains 1,000 questions and answers for fun and brain fitness. They are \$80 each at American Printing House for the Blind. Visit www.aph.org or call 1-800-223-1829. Item numbers start at 6-17000-00 for the science quiz, 17001 for American history, 17002 for English and 17003 for geography.

Keep Your Brain Fit With These Large Print Or Braille Games

Tell The TV What Channel You Want To Watch

With the **Surfboard Accenda 3-Voice Interactive Talking Universal TV Remote**, you can surf the channels simply by telling the remote what channel you want to watch (you can also push the buttons). The vendor says that a patented smart technology feature eliminates the need to program the remote, since it does this automatically for your TV, VCR, DVD, cable or satellite dish. The remote also has built-in talking in-



structions for set-up and easy use instructions. It measures 7.5" long x 3" wide x 2" deep at the base, making it too big to lose behind the cushions but small enough to hold easily in your hand. It uses 4 AAA batteries (not included). It is available at Independent Living Aids for \$49.95 by calling 1-800-537-2118 or at www.independentliving.com. Item #434362. **NOTE:** A battery charger and rechargeable batteries are also available.

Make Your Wheelchair Feel Like An Easy Chair



— With the ultra-comfortable **Wheelchair Comfort Cushion** in place. The cushion features soft yet supportive pure polyester fill that the vendor says holds its loft exceptionally well. The satiny vinyl-coated nylon upper surface is water resistant and the poly-cotton underside is spot-cleanable. And the channeled design helps prevent painful

pressure sores. The cushion can be secured to any standard wheelchair by adjustable hook-and-loop straps. And it can be used on any hard seat as well. The cushion measures about 17" x 17" x 3" and sells for \$19.00. Read about it at Make Life Easier by visiting www.make-life-easier.com or by calling 1-800-522-0227. Item #18378.

Check Out The TOOLS Resource Center —

Our new TOOLS Resource Center features links to organizations, other Web sites and groups that can provide you with useful information and help with your questions about assistive technology, caregiving and independent living. Our web site also hosts a blog written by TOOLS editor Michael Carbine with news, updates and notes of interest, and a collection of back issues of the *TOOLS for Independence* newsletter. You can also take a survey and tell us how we can make TOOLS more helpful and useful for you. Visit us at www.TOOLSforIndependence.org.

Winter Is Coming And With It Ice And Snow

But there is no need to worry about slipping on the ice with this handy attachment for your cane. The **Five Pronged Ice Grip Cane Attachment** installs at the bottom using two burley screws, and once attached, it puts five large, sharp prongs between the bottom of your cane and slippery surfaces. And when roads and sidewalks clear



up, simply flip it up and out of the way. The grip is made from strong chromed steel and comes with screws in two lengths to fit shafts of various diameters. Order two for use with crutches. The grips are \$7 each and available at Make Life Easier. Call 1-800-522-0227 or visit www.make-life-easier.com. Item #23716.

World's Smallest and Easiest Jar Opener

At least that is what the vendor claims! The **Gold Violin Jar Pop** may look like a bottle opener or a shoehorn, but it is actually a tool for opening jam, spaghetti sauce and the hundreds of other foods that come in hard-to-open jars. Gold Violin says that the Jar Pop has won several awards because of its durable, ergonomic shape. It is priced at \$5 and you can find it at Gold Violin, www.goldviolin.com or by calling 1-877-648-8400. Item #90445.





TOOLS for IndependenceTM

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TOOLS for IndependenceTM - a Trademark of the Independent Living Partnership

This newsletter is published by the INDEPENDENT LIVING PARTNERSHIP (ILP)

ILP works to ensure the independence and dignity of older adults and people with disabilities, their families and caregivers through education and access to empowering services and resources. This is accomplished through collaborative and cooperative partnering with public and private organizations, agencies and businesses. The goal is to help people lead more satisfying and rewarding lives, often in spite of significant health and mobility challenges.

No More Struggling to Fasten Your Necklaces or Bracelets

With the **Clever Clasp** attachment, all you do is hold both ends of the attachment close to each other and super-powerful magnetic forces firmly close the clasps. The magnetic converter easily attaches to the existing clasps on your bracelets and necklaces without the use of any tools, and a quick twist of the safety lock offers extra security. The Clever Clasp comes with a 3" extender to make your jewelry longer so you can compliment different looks. Priced at \$9.95 at Aids for Arthritis, Item #8-06, www.aidsforarthritis.com or call 1-800-654-0707.



TOOLS for IndependenceTM

Volume 1, Issue 9

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TOOLS for IndependenceTM is published monthly by the Independent Living Partnership, 6235 River Crest Drive, Suite C, Riverside, CA 92507-0758. The Partnership is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation organized for the purpose of improving or preserving the independence and dignity of older adults, people with disabilities, their caregivers and families. The education programs of the Partnership are supported by sponsorships, grants, and the charitable contributions of individuals and organizations.

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