

# TOOLS for Independence™

MAKING YOUR LIFE AT HOME EASIER AND SAFER



May 2015

*Brought to you by the:*

**Aging and  
Disability Resource  
Connection  
of Orange County**



[www.adrcoc.org](http://www.adrcoc.org)

*Published by:*

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

## **Help Finding Assistive Technology—**

Ability Tools offers free information and referrals for assistive technology supplies, daily-living devices, community resources, funding and service providers throughout California. Call 1-800-390-2699, TTY: 1-800-900-0706 or visit <http://abilitytools.org/>

## **Open Screen Or Storm Doors More Easily**

Does Arthritis or some other ailment make it difficult to deal with that annoying door latch? The **E-Z Open Door Latch** could be your answer. It works on most common screen and storm door handles. The vendor says that the **E-Z Door Latch** is 5 to 10 times bigger than your current push latch, and a larger target means



it is easier to see. And more handle

means more leverage, less effort, and easier to open. No tools required, and it installs in seconds. The black molded polymer push disk slides over your existing door latch. To check out this assistive technology item search using the words “E-Z door screen handle latch”. This item is available online from suppliers that sell AT products for \$15.95 - \$18.95.



## **Close Zipper-Lock Bags Easily...**

...with the **Zipper Bag Sealer**. According to the vendor, it's ideal for one-hand use. Simply slide the zipper seal through the groove to close the zipper and seal the bag. The device mounts with a self-adhesive backing. Search the words “zipper bag sealer rehabmart” to find this handy little helper. The price for this item from various online vendors is \$10.98.



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<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/33-0464739>

## May Is:

- ▶ National Older American Month
- ▶ National Foster Care Month

## Special Days in May 2015

- ▶ Mother's Day, May 10th
- ▶ Memorial Day, May 25th

Mike Wallace  
 May 9, 1918 – April 7, 2012

Myron Leon "Mike Wallace" was an American journalist, game show host, actor and media personality. He interviewed a wide range of prominent newsmakers during his sixty-year career. He was one of the original correspondents for CBS 60 Minutes, which debuted in 1968.

*"I'm nearing the end of the road and still learning".*

*Mike Wallace*

## VENDOR RESOURCE LIST

- Active Forever: [www.activeforever.com](http://www.activeforever.com)  
 1-800-377-8033
- Amazon: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)
- Arthritis Supplies: [www.ArthritisSupplies.com](http://www.ArthritisSupplies.com)  
 1-800-750-0376
- Bright Life Directs: [www.brightlifedirect.com](http://www.brightlifedirect.com)  
 1-8977-545-8585
- Diabetic Shoe Hub: [www.diabeticshoeshub.com](http://www.diabeticshoeshub.com)  
 1-623-455-6258
- Dynamic-Living: [www.dynamic-living.com](http://www.dynamic-living.com)  
 1-888-940-0605
- Elder Depot: [www.elderdepot.com](http://www.elderdepot.com)  
 1-800-910-7790
- Gold Violin: [www.goldviolin.com](http://www.goldviolin.com)  
 1-877-648-8400
- LS & S: [www.Lssproducts.com](http://www.Lssproducts.com)  
 1-800-468-4789
- Maxi Aids: [www.maxiaids.com](http://www.maxiaids.com)  
 1-800-522-6294
- Medical Goods: [www.medicalgoods.com](http://www.medicalgoods.com)  
 1-888-557-0256
- Sight Connection: [www.sightconnection.com](http://www.sightconnection.com)  
 1-800-458-4888
- Simple Comforts: [www.simplecomforts.com](http://www.simplecomforts.com)  
 1-800-361-1440
- Solutions: [www.solutions.com](http://www.solutions.com)  
 1-877-718-7901
- Support Plus: [www.supportplus.com](http://www.supportplus.com)  
 1-800-229-2910
- Target.com: [www.target.com](http://www.target.com)
- The Alzheimer's Store: [www.alzstore.com](http://www.alzstore.com)  
 1-800-752-3238
- The CareGiver Partnership:  
[www.caregiverpartnership.com](http://www.caregiverpartnership.com)  
 1-800-985-1353
- Walgreens: [www.walgreens.com](http://www.walgreens.com)
- Walmart: [www.walmart.com](http://www.walmart.com)

**Products mentioned in this newsletter are available at some of the vendors mentioned above and may be available for different prices from different vendors. We encourage you to check with various vendors, merchants and Web search before making your final choice. Mention of specific products is not an endorsement of these products. Product vendors provide no compensation or other benefit to Tools.**

## Assistive Devices For Your Vehicle

### Easy Reach Seat Belt Handle

With the **Easy Reach Seat Belt Handle**, your seat belt is easier to access for fastening! The light-weight **Easy Reach Seat Belt Handle** is made of a ethylene methyl acrylate resin. It is a total of 9¼" long, easily snaps onto your safety belt and helps when decreased shoulder movement is a problem.



It "glows" in the dark for easy night time use. It is available from many stores. Cost is \$9.95 at [arthritissupplies.com](http://arthritissupplies.com) or call: 1-877-750-0376.

### Swivel Seat Cushion

If you have difficulty getting in and out of your car, a **Swivel Seat Cushion** might work for you. A variety of manufacturers offer similar car seat cushions for less than \$20. Currently Allegro Medical.com is selling one for 15.99. For more information, you can call 1-800-861-3211.



*"Empowering people to remain independent."  
Independent Living Partnership*

### Panoramic Rearview Mirror

A larger rearview mirror will help to eliminate blind spots. It easily installs over your existing mirror. Different models are available. The typical model for a car is 13 inches wide-larger mirrors are also available for trucks and larger vehicles. On the internet a 13 inch mirror can be purchased for \$22.95 plus tax and shipping



from: [www.drivingcomfort.com](http://www.drivingcomfort.com). The vendor says the mirror can increase rear ward vision by 300% and has an anti-glare coating to make night driving safer too. You can call them at: 800-675-5411.

[Toolsforindependence.org](http://Toolsforindependence.org) is dedicated to making living at home easier and safer for you, your loved ones and those you may be caring for. Please visit us on the web!

*Mention of specific products is not an endorsement of these products. Vendors provide no compensation or other benefit to Tools or to the Independent Living Partnership.*



## Make Getting Up From Your Lounge Chair Easier

Regain your independence with this sturdy, stable **Ez Up Chair Riser**. This specifically designed riser allows you to get in and out of any chair with perfect ease and comfort. The **Ez Up Chair Riser** is made of sturdy



steel tubing and features comfort grip handles and adjustable arms so you can use it in your favorite chair. It measures 32 1/2" long x 24" wide x 23 1/2" tall. We found this assistive technology device online

for \$49.99. Search the words "Ez up chair riser" to find a vendor of your choice.

## No More Chasing Food Around Your Plate

Turning almost any ordinary plate into a scoop dish, **Food Bumpers** help prevent spills and enable one-handed feeding. Now stroke victims and those with

limited dexterity can turn their existing dishes into scoop dishes rather than buying new dishes.

The **Food Bumpers** are easy to install and, once installed, provide a durable wall against which food can be pushed



onto a fork or spoon. Simply clip them onto a circular plate between 9 and 11 inches in diameter. The tabs hold the bumper securely in place just above the rim of the plate, creating the desired barrier for your food. Made of lightweight plastic, these bumpers are dishwasher safe, and are available in white or translucent. We found this item online for \$3.95. Use your favorite "search engine" with the words "food bumpers" to find a vendor near you.



The Aging and Disability Connection of Orange County (ADRC) is a new program sponsored by local organizations to provide specialized information, assistance and access to community resources for seniors and persons with disabilities of all ages. Direct questions or comments about this newsletter to: Claudia Hernandez, 714-347-5763, [chernandez@caloptima.org](mailto:chernandez@caloptima.org)

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