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Press Release:

**The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Eye Ball** is being held Saturday, March 4, 2017 at the Hilton Pensacola Beach Gulf Front. This special evening includes “Art in the Dark,” “Dancing in the Dark” and local celebrities performing in our *Dancing with Our Stars Show*, a delicious dinner, live and silent auctions, a chance to show off your own dancing prowess and lots of fun. All funds raised will help Independence for the Blind continue its mission of assisting blind and visually impaired individuals of all ages in this community.

The Star of the Independence for the Blind’s show will be Stephanie Davis who previously had normal vision, had an accident that severed her optic nerve causing her to become totally blind. She will be dancing under the tutelage of Victor Luna of the Fred Astaire Dance Studio. Stephanie’s dancing is beautiful and truly demonstrates the Resilience of the Human Spirit.

**Becoming blind as a young person or later in life can be devastating** and it can seem like the end of the world. But it is said, “When God closes a door, he opens a window”. For the Blind in this community, Independence for the Blind is that window. We help the blind and severely visually impaired cope with their blindness. We teach basic living skills and the use of various computer and other adaptive technologies that can broaden their world immensely and may also help them qualify for future or continuing employment. Independence for the Blind is the only organization in the 10 counties of West Florida that provides these types of services. You can learn more about these programs by visiting [www.ibwest.org](http://www.ibwest.org).