



Classified.....	4C 6C	Hannan.....	2B
Calendar.....	2D	Health.....	1C-3C
Cooper.....	4A	Hallandale Page.....	6D
Food.....	3D 5D	Hollywood Page.....	2A

South Florida Sun TIMES

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2011 • 26 PAGES • VOLUME 10 • ISSUE 24

AVENTURA • BAL HARBOUR • DANIA BEACH • HALLANDALE BEACH • HOLLYWOOD • NORTH MIAMI BEACH • PEMBROKE PINES • PEMBROKE PARK • SURFSIDE • SUNNY ISLES BEACH

READING THE GREEN

By Lynne Peterson

Norma Azzolini is an avid golfer and is on the green four or five times a week. However, tracking that small white ball in the sky and finding where it landed was becoming almost as difficult as hitting a hole in one.

Norma has worn contacts for seventeen years to correct her high hyperopia (far sighted) vision, and she was really tired of her daily contact lens routine. "It got to the point that while playing golf I would have to ask my friends, 'Did anyone see where my golf ball landed?'"

As a snowbird, Norma travels with her husband to Florida from Guttenberg, New Jersey, to where the family operates their successful Pinnacle Supermarket. During an appointment for a regular eye examination at the Braverman Eye Center in Hallandale Beach, Norma picked up a brochure in the lobby on eye surgery, and it described how the latest innovation in correcting vision was All Laser Z-Lasik. Out of curiosity, Norma asked Dr. Braverman about this procedure and spoke to him about her frustrations with dealing with contact lenses and having to use drops for her dry eyes.

After a thorough eye examination and evaluation, Dr. Braverman explained how this particular Z-Lasik surgery would correct Norma's high hyperopia but would not correct her near vision. Dr. Braverman also determined that Norma had the beginnings of cataracts in both eyes, and that also was affecting her golf game.

With the two problems – farsightedness and early cataracts – Dr. Braverman suggested a Near Clear Lensectomy instead of Z-Lasik. In Norma's particular case Near Clear Lensectomy was a better solution, he told her.

After careful consideration, Norma decided to have the eye surgery. During the surgery, Dr. Braverman removed her mildly clouded lens (early cataract) and replaced it with a high-tech ReZoom lens, the same lens that professional golfer Gary Player has in his eyes.

Norma said the Braverman Eye Center staff was wonderful, "Regina, the surgery coordinator, explained



I went to the surgical center on Tuesday, and by Friday I was on the golf course again. I can now see so clearly! I would highly recommend Dr. Braverman to anyone."

the procedure explicitly. I spent several hours at the office where they gave me various eye drops and conducted tests, and I never felt rushed."

She also was pleasantly surprised about the surgery itself, "I was somewhat nervous during the surgery, especially thinking about the doctor replacing my eye lens. However, the procedure was flawless. I went to the surgical center on Tuesday, and by Friday I was on the golf course again. I feel as if someone turned the lights on. I can now see so clearly! I would highly recommend Dr. Braverman to anyone."

Although her health insurance did not cover the eye surgery because, like a face lift, it was considered cosmetic, Norma thought it was a good investment in herself, "My eyes are very important to me. As it turned out, it was the best money I ever spent. I would give up diamonds or a trip to Italy to do it all over again."

ALL LASER Z-LASIK

The Braverman Eye Center is the first South Florida eye center to use the high tech Ziemer LDV Femtosecond Surgical Laser for refractive surgery. Now, Stanley Braverman MD FACS is offering "all laser" Z-LASIK in addition to a full array of other refractive procedures.

Lasik surgery is performed on a patient's cornea, which provides most of the focusing power when light enters the eye. Topical anesthetic drops are applied to the eye. Dr. Braverman uses a second generation femtosecond laser, the Ziemer LDV, to create a thin layer of corneal tissue that can be folded back (a corneal flap). Then, a second laser (an Allegretto EYE Q

400 excimer laser) is used to reshape the underlying cornea, painlessly, and without any thermal damage or scarring. After the excimer laser treatment, the corneal flap is repositioned and bonds back into place naturally. The corneal reshaping improves the focusing power of the cornea. If a patient's eye is otherwise normal (no cataract or other eye disease) there is over an 80% chance of obtaining 20/20 or better uncorrected vision, and a 100% chance of obtaining 20/30 uncorrected vision on the first treatment. Post operatively, vision is better immediately,

WHAT ARE CATARACTS

A cataract is formed when the natural lens of the eye, responsible for focusing light and producing sharp images, becomes cloudy and hardens, resulting in a loss of visual function. The lens of the eye is clear at birth but is one of the first parts of the body to show the effects of aging. A cataract is painless and usually develops gradually over several months or years. The onset of a cataract in one or both eyes may cause decreased night vision, impaired depth perception, and increased color distortion.

Cataracts are the leading cause of vision loss among adults age 55 and older. In fact, poor vision from cataracts affects 60 percent of all adults over age 60. However, cataracts also can result from injury, heredity, or medications, so they can affect people of all ages.

Understanding that no two conditions or patients are the same, Dr. Braverman analyzes the patient's symptoms, performs a comprehensive eye exam, and may test for

glare disability and contrast sensitivity before making a diagnosis. The final decision to proceed with the surgery belongs to the patient.

Your eye doctor or Dr. Braverman may prescribe glasses, medication or surgery depending on your symptoms, complaints and age. Usually surgery will not be recommended until glasses no longer work to make you visually happy. In the case of lensectomy surgery, the patient cosmetically wants to get rid of their glasses.

NEAR CLEAR LENSECTOMY SURGERY: WHAT TO EXPECT

Near Clear Lensectomy surgery is the removal of your natural lens, which is usually dissolved using high frequency ultrasound through a small (less than 3 millimeter) opening. An artificial lens is then placed inside the eye where the natural lens used to be. If the lens was significantly clouded, it would be called cataract surgery.

Near Clear Lensectomy surgery continues to improve. Recent developments include no-stitch surgery, topical anesthesia, surgical correction of astigmatism, and new up-

graded lens designs. Eye drops are given to the patient to aid in the healing of the eye, which takes a few months, but the patient is able to return to normal activity almost immediately after surgery and usually sees well within just days.

If the eye is otherwise healthy, Near Clear Lensectomy surgery is successful in more than 99% of patients and they enjoy improved vision after the procedure.

THE RIGHT LENS FOR YOUR LIFESTYLE

Cataract and lens implant surgery today is highly successful and very precise. While most people are candidates for an advanced lens like the ReZoom Multifocal Lens, Dr. Braverman may recommend another type of lens implant based upon your eye health or lifestyle. Many different types of upgraded designer lens implants are now available that can dramatically affect your visual lifestyle after cataract surgery.

The ReZoom Multifocal Lens is uniquely designed with advanced optical zones that provide good vision across the range of distances and light conditions. This designer lens allows you to see near, far and in between in both bright light and low light conditions. For many people with cataracts and presbyopia, the ReZoom Multifocal lens is like turning back the clock to vision they had in their 20s and 30s!

ABOUT DR. STANLEY BRAVERMAN

Dr. Stanley Braverman is a Voluntary Assistant Clinical Professor at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and an Adjunct Associate Clinical Professor at Nova Southeastern School of Optometry. In addition to treating patients, Dr. Braverman, a board-

certified ophthalmologist, is a medical researcher, the inventor of several eye surgical instruments and author of many articles for medical journals. He has lectured at professional meetings about Lasik, upgraded lens implants and advanced cataract surgery both nationally and internationally.

An initial cataract or Lasik consultation can be scheduled by calling the Braverman Eye Center at **(954) 458-2112 or (305) 374-8694.**

For additional information please contact Regina Vasquez, Surgery Coordinator, or Rosemary Hartford, Lasik Surgical Coordinator. You can also visit the website www.bravermaneye-center.com where you can watch videos of cataract and Z-Lasik surgery and learn more about all of the latest advances in Lasik and cataract surgery.

In addition to Dr. Stanley Braverman, a Cataract and Refractive Laser Vision surgeon, your other sub-specialty eye care needs can also be evaluated and treated. On staff at the Braverman Eye Center are Rashid Taher MD FACS and Tirso Lara MD FACS, Vitreo-retinal surgeons; David Tenzel MD FACS, Ophthalmic Plastic, Reconstructive and Cosmetic Surgeon; Kevin Stewart MD FACS, Complex Glaucoma Specialist; Jesse Pelletier MD, FACS, Corneal Surgeon; and, Eric Ciliberti MD, Neuro-Ophthalmologist. All sub-specialist surgeons at the Braverman Eye Center are Board Certified Ophthalmologists.

The Braverman Eye Center is located at 1935 East Hallandale Beach Boulevard, Hallandale Beach, FL 33009. (954) 458-2112 or (305) 374-8694.



The Braverman Eye Center is located at 1935 East Hallandale Beach Boulevard, Hallandale Beach, FL. 33009.