



# EYE CARE TODAY

*Advances in eye care. Connections to experts.*

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 36TH ANNUAL EEF SEMINAR



Thank you to the over 120 Optometrists, 18 vendors and numerous esteemed speakers who participated in this year's event. Our team plans all year to coordinate a high-quality event focused on leading edge education from top experts in Optometry/Ophthalmology. In addition to learning, we look

forward to those moments of connection and friendship that we've developed throughout the years. Gathering for a good meal, having some downtime at a casual social event and fun door prize giveaways are all key elements we look forward to planning for you. Congratulations to Dr. Stephen Bordlee, this year's Grand Prize winner for a complimentary registration and hotel accommodations for next year's Seminar. Thank you to those of you who remitted surveys to UAB. We carefully review all feedback to incorporate into next year's event.

For more information, visit [www.eyeducationfoundation.net](http://www.eyeducationfoundation.net).



Follow us on Facebook @EyeEducationFoundation for updates throughout the year.



# SAVE THE DATE

## FOR NEXT YEAR, FEB. 6-8, 2026

## PRACTICE NEWS

### OFFERING NEW OPTIONS FOR YOUR GLAUCOMA PATIENTS TO REDUCE OR ELIMINATE NEED FOR DAILY DROPS

New treatment options are now available to your Glaucoma patients. If you're managing a Glaucoma patient who struggles to comply with their prescribed eyedrop regimen or has a sensitivity to preservatives in eyedrops, we can help. We offer two new outpatient surgery options. One option is a dissolvable implant that provides effective treatment for several months, and another

option is a small refillable implant that provides effective treatment for 1 year. We are committed to being at the forefront of new treatments to provide your patients with a better quality of life and better vision. Feel free to contact any of our providers for more information or a 2nd opinion.

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## THE ULTIMATE TRUST: EYE SURGERY BETWEEN BROTHERS

Dr. Marius Heersink, laser-vision correction specialist, recently underwent LASIK himself. His brother, Dr. Sebastian Heersink, performed the procedure using **Alcon's** CONTOURA<sup>®</sup> Vision—our advanced, topography-guided LASIK technology designed for precise, personalized results. The same cutting-edge technology is available to our patients at the Dothan office. Thank you for recommending patients who inquire about LASIK to us for an evaluation. Our goal is to get these same excellent vision results for all patients.



Click here for a short video of Dr. Marius Heersink before and after his LASIK procedure.  
<https://youtube.com/shorts/mMuwSPDFdI8?feature=share>

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# ECS-DESTIN HONORED WITH BEST IN DESTIN AWARD FOR 7TH YEAR IN A ROW!

Eye Center South's Destin location was recently honored with the "Best of Destin" award for "Best Eye Care Clinic" for the seventh consecutive year by VIP Destin Magazine. The award was received on March 15 at a Black-Tie Gala at the Sandestin Hilton. We are proud to receive the community's continued endorsement as a top choice for specialty eye care services.



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## WILL WE SEE YOU AT WFOA SIP AND CE?



Please visit our booth at the annual WFOA Sip & CE at the annual WFOA Sip & CE at the Baytowne Conference Center at Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, April 4 - 6. Dr. Henkel and members of our

Destin staff look forward to attending and connecting with attending ODs.

## EFFECTIVE TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR DEMODEX BLEPHARITIS

Demodex blepharitis is a common yet often overlooked condition that can lead to persistent eyelid inflammation, irritation, and dry eye symptoms. Until recently, treatment options were limited, Xdemvy (lotilaner ophthalmic solution 0.25%) offers FDA-approved approach to addressing the root cause of the disease and is specifically designed to eradicate Demodex mites. We have found that prescribing this treatment prior to a referral for a cataract evaluation provides earlier access to surgery for patient and better outcomes. In addition, a 5-minute Blephex treatment in our office can jumpstart an effective Blepharitis regimen prior to cataract surgery.



**BEFORE**



**AFTER**

**IMAGE CREDIT**  
Paul Karpecki, OD



DB is highly prevalent, but underdiagnosed<sup>1,4</sup>

~**56%** (n=245/440) of patients with **cataracts have DB**<sup>1,\*</sup>

~**57%** (n=121/211) of patients with **MGD also have DB**<sup>1,\*</sup>

**60%** (n=135/225) of patients **treated for dry eye also have DB**<sup>1,\*</sup>

~**93%** (n=26/28) of patients with **soft contact lens intolerance were found to have Demodex**<sup>6,†</sup>



# GIFT OF SIGHT

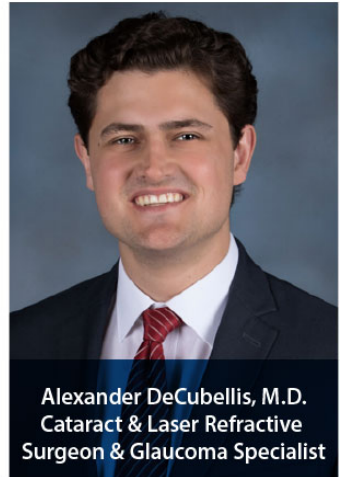
APPLICATIONS WILL OPEN IN JUNE



# PHYSICIAN & STAFF NEWS

## DR. ALEX DECUBELLIS TO JOIN TEAM IN DESTIN & PANAMA CITY

We are excited to announce Dr. Alexander DeCubellis will join our Destin team this summer in early August. He will practice primarily in Destin, and travel to our Panama City office intermittently. His specialties include comprehensive ophthalmology, cataract surgery, refractive surgery, and minimally invasive glaucoma surgery. For our Destin and Panama City colleagues, please stay tuned for an invite to a welcome dinner, and/or request to visit your office for a personal introduction.



Alexander DeCubellis, M.D. graduated summa cum laude from the University of Alabama with a Bachelor of Science degree. He was awarded a Presidential Scholarship for academic achievement and was also inducted into America's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, Phi Beta Kappa. Able to speak Spanish, Dr. DeCubellis enjoyed teaching English to Spanish-speaking adults at a local community college and traveled to Nicaragua for a medical mission trip while in college.

Dr. DeCubellis went on to earn his Doctor of Medicine degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine where he was selected by his classmates and professors to join the Gold Humanism Honor Society in recognition of his commitment to compassionate patient care. He served as the director of the Ophthalmology Interest Group and provided free vision screenings for children at elementary schools while in medical school.

Dr. DeCubellis completed his ophthalmology residency at Nassau University Medical Center in New York where he served as Chief Resident. He also completed part of his surgical training at Columbia University in Manhattan.

In his free time, Dr. DeCubellis enjoys spending time with his wife, daughter, and extended family, playing and watching sports, and being involved in his local church. He strives to treat every patient the same way he would want his own family members treated and is passionate about helping his patients achieve better vision. He is proud to serve patients on the Emerald Coast with excellent eye care.

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## DR. SEN AND DR. BRYANT WIN HONORS

A big round of applause for Dr. Harsha Sen, Vitreoretinal Surgeon, and Dr. Richard Bryant, Facial Cosmetic & Orbital Reconstructive Surgeon, on being named Castle Connolly 2025 Top Doctors! This honor is reserved for only 7% of physicians in the U.S., recognizing their dedication to patient care and their peers' trust in their expertise.



Eye Center South

# CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR TOP DOCTORS



**Harsha Sen, M.D.**  
Retina Specialist  
*Top Doctor Since 2017*



**Richard Bryant, M.D.**  
Oculoplastic Specialist  
*Top Doctor Since 2014*



TOP DOCTORS  
THE OFFICIAL SOURCE FOR OVER 30 YEARS

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