

September 9, 2024

Dear Listeners

Summer may be over, but there are still outdoor concerts to enjoy, while other activities are starting to pick up again. This coming week is also Disability Voting Rights Week, hosted by the American Association of People with Disabilities' REV UP campaign. Details about the campaign are [**here**](#Voting). There’s also information about a voting rights panel discussion: Know Your Rights This Election Season[**here**](#Vote)**.**

Cheers,

Sylvia

Here are the links to all the items below:

* [**Goalball at the Olympics**](#Goalball)
* [**Disability Voting Rights Week – September 9-11**](#Voting)
* [**MDTAP Seeking AT Advisory Council Members**](#MDTAP)
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	+ [**Friendship Heights Vision Resource Group - Alternative Approaches and Resources for Low Vision**](#Resource)
	+ **[Registration Open for the AFBLC](#AFBLC)**
	+ **[Accessible Board Games Meet-up](#Games)**
	+ [**6th Annual Janet Morrison Memorial Low Vision Symposium and Device Expo (Virtual Event)**](#Expo)
	+ [**Cantaré, Mucha Música!**](#Mucha)
	+ [**Kensington Park No Pressure Audio Book Club - Virtual**](#Audio)

###

**GOALBALL AT THE OLYMPICS**

From Paul D’Addario

Goalball competition is again one of the sports at the Paralympics, held this year in Paris. It's a Paralympic sport that was invented for blind and vision-impaired athletes.

Below is a link to a story that aired on the NPR program " All Things Considered" on August 29th. After clicking on the link, you’ll be taken to a webpage. Click on the listen button to hear the 8-minute story.

[**https://www.wqln.org/2024-08-29/goalball-the-paralympic-sport-that-has-brought-meaning-independence-for-athletes**](https://www.wqln.org/2024-08-29/goalball-the-paralympic-sport-that-has-brought-meaning-independence-for-athletes)

###

**DISABILITY VOTING RIGHTS WEEK – SEPTEMBER 9-11**

Election Day is just around the corner -- did you know there are over **40 million eligible voters with disabilities**in the United States?

The disability community makes up a significant voting bloc, but inaccessible polling places, laws criminalizing voter assistance, limited access to accessible transportation, restrictive guardianship laws, and ableism across the political process prevent many people with disabilities from accessing their right to vote.

That's why every year, the American Association of People with Disabilities' REV UP campaign hosts [**Disability Voting Rights Week (DVRW)**](https://mailchi.mp/aapd.com/dvrw-2024).

DVRW is a national cross-disability, cross-movement week of action. Around the country, organizers will host voter registration drives, disability vote celebrations, candidate forums, and more.

Join a week of events, actions, and community building. Get engaged in Disability Voting Rights Week by:

1. Go to the [**Disability Voting Rights Week Mobilize Page**](https://www.mobilize.us/dvrw-2024/) and find a Disability Voting Rights Week event near you or join a virtual gathering. (Note: the page is currently being updated, so keep checking back for more events!) Hosting an event but don't see it listed on our page? **Add your event to the DVRW calendar!**
2. Follow along next week for daily action items in their email newsletter and social media.

To receive more information, click on [**Disability Voting Rights Week (google.com)**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScA7oZs56HOuDp4qNYGfH8tR4VPwY2qKRRPUxCrg1OEXzU0ug/viewform)**.**

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**MDTAP SEEKING AT ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The Maryland Department of Disabilities Technology Assistance Program (MDTAP) is seeking Advisory Council members with lived AT experience. This includes individuals with disabilities who use assistive technology or family members or guardians.

For more information on joining the TAP Advisory Council, email**mdtap.general@maryland.gov****.**

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| **VENDORS AT LOW VISION RESOURCE CENTER****The POB Low Vision Resource Center in Alexandria** has invited the following vendors to demonstrate their valuable tools and technologies on Mondays between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.**Ability2Access**Ability2Access can demonstrate the Patriot ViewPoint, Envision Glasses, Vision Buddy, and various digital magnifiers. They also have optical coherence tomography (OCR) scanners that can read documents for you.**Atlantic Low Vision (ALV)**ALV offers CCTVs and OCR readers, including Enhanced Vision, Acrobat HD, Amigo, Merlin, and Pebble HD. They also offer in-home training for all of their devices.**Integration Technologies Group (ITG)**ITG has digital magnifiers – handheld and desktop (CCTV), OrCam, and braille tools. If there is a specific device you want to demonstrate, call and ask for it!**NuEyes**NuEyes produces head-worn devices (wearables) that allow for enhanced magnification that is portable and hands-free. These tools can be helpful for people who have low vision.You're invited to meet with these vendors! Call **(301) 951-4444** to make an appointment. (POB does not endorse any product or service. POB provides these opportunities as a community resource.)  |

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**###**

**THEATER UPDATE**

The following performances will be described by a MWE volunteer. Note that recorded program notes will be available at the theater just prior to the actual performance and on Dial-In before and after the performance at Publication 8, Category 12, Branch 11.

**Sojourners**

Round House Theatre Bethesda - 240-644-1100

Described Saturday, September 21st matinee

**Jaja’s African Hair Braiding**

Arena Stage Kreeger at the Mead Center - 202-488-3300

Described Saturday, September 28th at 2:00 pm

**Comedy of Errors**

Shakespeare: Klein Theatre: 202-547-1122

Described Saturday, September 28th matinee

###

**CALENDAR**

**Replay POB Events**

**Listen and watch replays of recent webinars and other POB events at**[**www.youreyes.org/replays**](https://youreyes.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=939b8acf4b5eb247b7120bcd9&id=21719989f4&e=59825d4dc8)**.**

###

**POB READS Book Club (Virtual Event)**
**Friday, September 6th at 11:00 am**September's book is **The Cemetery of Untold Stories by Julia Alvarez**, exploring memory, storytelling, and silenced voices.
**Sign up at** [**pobreads.org**](https://youreyes.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=939b8acf4b5eb247b7120bcd9&id=d644476ab2&e=59825d4dc8).
###

**The Montgomery County Aging and Disability Resource Unit**

Friday, September 6th from 2:00 to 3:00pm

[**Maggie Nightingale Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/11387459#branch)

19633 Fisher Avenue, Poolesville

The Aging and Disability Resource Unit provides personalized hands on assistance, referrals to services and specific information to older adults, people with disabilities and caregivers.  A representative will be at the Maggie Nightingale Library to answer questions related to housing, transportation, staying healthy, and much much more.  Learn about the rich variety of resources available to Montgomery County, MD residents.   No registration necessary.  A representative will be in the library to answer your questions.

###

**Reston VIP Virtual Support Group Meeting: Personal Emergency Preparedness**

Friday, September 6th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Presented by Moriah Kitaeff, Access and Functional Needs Planning Specialist, Fairfax County, Department of Emergency Management and Security (DEMS)

Moriah Kitaeff holds a master’s degree in Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness from Virginia Commonwealth University.  She has personal experience with a disability and she deeply understands that one-size-fits-all approaches to emergency preparedness are insufficient.

Her presentation will cover essential actions to take before, during, and after various emergencies, including:

* natural disasters,
* human-caused incidents, and
* everyday crises.

Q&A will be integrated throughout the presentation to ensure that all questions are addressed as they come up.

VIP enquiries?  Contact:

Sandy Neuzil at 703-989-1821  **sandy.neuzil@gmail.com**

Stan Gowin at 703-470-6633  **sgowin@verizon.net**

Kathryn Hodgdon at 703-608-5817  **ahodgdon@aol.com**

Join Zoom Meeting
[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7039891821?pwd=V3JjdnR6M1A5Tmh5bW5yU2k5amo4UT09&omn=8718065648**2](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7039891821?pwd=V3JjdnR6M1A5Tmh5bW5yU2k5amo4UT09&omn=87180656482)

Meeting ID: 703 989 1821
Passcode: 456456

One tap mobile
+13126266799,,7039891821# US (Chicago)
+16465588656,,7039891821# US (New York)

Dial by your location
• +1 646 931 3860 US
• +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
• +1 305 224 1968 US
• +1 309 205 3325 US
Meeting ID: 703 989 1821
Passcode: 456456
Find your local number**:**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcd7KmjJN**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcd7KmjJN)

###

**Low Vision Now Zoom Meeting**

Saturday, September 7th beginning between 12:45 and 12:55 and lasting approximate 1 hour and 45 minutes

From Glenda Such and Sheryl Miglio and forwarded by Sandy Neuzil

Learn why a complete assessment by a Low Vision Optometrist is so important to help you assess your vision capabilities and resource needs.  What is different compared to a regular vision assessment and the training of the specialist assessing your low vision.

The guest speaker will be Doctor Erin Kenny, Chief of the Feinbloom Vision Rehabilitation Center. Doctor Kenny will discuss:

* How does the training of a low vision optometric specialist differ from the training of a general optometrist?
* How does a low vision evaluation differ from a general optometric visit?
* Why someone with low vision should have a complete low vision evaluation by a low vision specialist?
* How to prepare for the best outcome from a low vision evaluation.
* What to expect during a low vision evaluation.
* What types of devices and/or recommendations might be made as a result of a low vision evaluation?
* How to find a low vision optometric specialist.
* What Feinbloom is, what they do, and who they service.

After the speaker is done and questions and answers have finished, people who are new and/or anyone who has had a vision change, will have an opportunity to talk.

Meetings are open to anyone who has an interest in issues relating to low vision.

To join using the Internet on any device, please use the following link:

[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4404653663?pwd=TDdVVG8yVDIvd0JwLzl2d0lGOUxsZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4404653663?pwd=TDdVVG8yVDIvd0JwLzl2d0lGOUxsZz09)

Meeting ID: 440 465 3663

Passcode: 2121

If using a smart phone to dial in, just tap on one of the numbers below and it will do the rest:

+19292056099,,4404653663#

+13126266799,,4404653663#

If dialing in by land line, please use the following number. Remember the passcode is 2121:

**+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)**

**Meeting ID: 440 465 3663**

Also, please see the Low Vision Now website at:[**https://www.lowvisionnow.org**](https://www.lowvisionnow.org/)**.**

###

**Rosslyn Jazz Fest**

September 7th from 1:00 to 7:00 pm

Gateway Park, 1300 Langston Blvd, Arlington

Join the Rosslyn BID and Arlington Arts at the 32nd Rosslyn Jazz Fest for an afternoon of music, community, food trucks, yard games, and more.

The annual festival is free, and registration is encouraged but not required.

Full details and registration are at[**Rosslyn Jazz Fest 2024 | Rosslyn, VA (rosslynva.org)**](https://www.rosslynva.org/do/rosslyn-jazz-fest-2024)**.**

###

**Todd Marcus Qunitet**

Saturday, September 7th from 11:00 to 11:30 am and 1:00 to 1:30 pm

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

National Gallery of Art [**82nd Concert Series**](https://www.nga.gov/calendar/concerts/82nd-concert-series.html)

East Building Atrium, 4th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Enjoy the music of Baltimore’s Todd Marcus and friends during this First Saturday Festival. Marcus is one of the few jazz artists worldwide to feature the bass clarinet as the lead in his small and large ensembles. Known for his direct approach to performance, his compositions swing with fiery intensity and are balanced with refined introspection. Self-taught in jazz, his music draws from elements of his community work, and often incorporates the Middle Eastern influences of his Egyptian-American heritage.

###

**Beep Baseball Learn to Play Clinic**

Saturday, September 7th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

George Mason University Recreational Field #4

4611 Rapidan River Road, Fairfax

From Velma Berkey and forwarded by Sandy Neuzil

Hosted by George Mason Recreation, in collaboration with the Metro Washington Association of Blind Athletes, Northern Virginia Community College, George Mason Disability Services, the Philadelphia Fire, and Bayou City Heat. The event is open to all participants over the age of 15. It offers a unique opportunity to learn and play beep baseball, an adaptive version of America's favorite pastime. The day includes a morning clinic, a provided lunch, and an afternoon scrimmage. Come ready to engage in physical activity on the field, and don't forget your athletic gear and baseball glove if you have one. They have a limited number of slots to ensure everyone gets ample time to play.

Event Schedule:

10 AM - 12 PM: Clinic

12 PM - 1 PM: Lunch

1 PM - 3 PM: Fun Scrimmage

Registration Period:**June 10 - August 30**

Register at: [**https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=VXKFnlffR0ygwAVGRgOAyxqMNspqpMROtYQUb-OYWChUNUc1RE9GRDZYTjZVT1ZLTTgyNVdZVFgwUy4u**](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=VXKFnlffR0ygwAVGRgOAyxqMNspqpMROtYQUb-OYWChUNUc1RE9GRDZYTjZVT1ZLTTgyNVdZVFgwUy4u)**.**

Note:**This event will be free!**

For more information, visit [**recreation.gmu.edu**](http://recreation.gmu.edu/) or contact Paul Bazzano at**pbazzano@gmu.edu****.**

###

**Mediterranean Blues! - In-person Greek Music with the duo Melos**

Sunday, September 8th from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

[**Wheaton Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/10858088#branch)

in the Social Hall, 2nd Floor, 11701 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton

Spyros Koliavasilis and Niko Mitreone will perform Rebetiko music, sometimes referred to as "Greek Blues," capturing feelings of oppression, despair, hope, and love of marginalized communities.

*Rebetiko*is now a Greek national treasure - recognized and protected by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage to Humanity. It is a passionate music that unifies strangers, people of different religions and countries, all together looking for a better life at the crossroads of the world.

Questions about this program? Contact the Library at 240-777-0678. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Library Montgomery County, [**https://www.folmc.org/**](https://www.folmc.org/)

###

**iBUG Café: Intro to Voiceover on the iPhone**

September 8th from 5:00 to 6:30 pm

From Sree Roy and forwarded by Kathryn Hodgdon

iBUG Café is offering a free demo for anyone who is interested in learning basic voiceover on the iPhone. They will cover such things as the exterior layout of the phone, finger gestures, setting up Siri and other settings.

Join Sree Roy and Pete Lane on this very in-depth look into the introduction to voiceover. This demo is geared to anyone who is new to using voiceover or if you just want to refresh your skills.

To join the Zoom conference click the following link:

[**https://zoom.us/j/7428486329?pwd=M003RmZaa3pTbWRlZ00xbSs4YTlmUT09**](https://zoom.us/j/7428486329?pwd=M003RmZaa3pTbWRlZ00xbSs4YTlmUT09)

Or type in the Meeting ID and Password below:

Meeting ID: 742 848 6329,

Password: 369978

To dial from a phone, call:

+1 3462487799 US

###

**ACBVA Meeting: Mystic Access**

Monday, September 9th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm

The slogan for Mystic Access is “Gain confidence using technology.”

Their goal is to empower blind and low vision users to gain more confidence using assistive technology through tutorials, podcasts, and events.

Their tutorials are extremely thorough and designed to walk someone who is afraid of using technology through all the ways to use it.

If you have time before the meeting, you might want to listen to part of one of their free tutorials or purchase one that would benefit you. Their website is:

[**https://mysticaccess.com/**](https://mysticaccess.com/)

For more information about ACBVA, please email:
**Info.acbva@gmail.com****.**
and visit the ACBVA website at:
[**www.acbva.org**](http://www.acbva.org/)**.**

Contact Paul D'Addario at 703-532-9138 or RoseAnn Ashby at 703-403-0226 with questions.

**Join Zoom Meeting**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86481244260?pwd=ekgxYldXMnlqYk16MFlua0lIQnozZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86481244260?pwd=ekgxYldXMnlqYk16MFlua0lIQnozZz09)
Meeting ID: 864 8124 4260
Passcode: 111222

**One tap mobile**
+13017158592,,86481244260#,,,,\*111222# US (Washington DC)

**Dial by your location**
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
Meeting ID: 864 8124 4260
Passcode: 111222

###

**Davis No Pressure Book Discussion - Virtual**

**Tuesday, September 10th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm**

[**Virtual Branch**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/11107401#branch)

Join the book discussion to discuss what you've been reading and to meet fellow book lovers! You can talk about any book, so there is no pressure.

Register at [**Davis No Pressure Book Discussion - Virtual - Montgomery County Public Libraries (libnet.info)**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/11107401#branch). **The Zoom link will be sent to registrants the day before the discussion.**

###

**Stargardt's Network - Emergency Preparedness (Virtual Event)
Tuesday, September 10th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm**Join to discuss emergency preparedness in our homes and how to be ready for the unexpected.
**Hosted by Prevention of Blindness Society.**
To register, call **(301) 951-4444** at least 24 hours before the event.
###

**Understanding your Medicare Options**

Tuesday, September 10th from 6:00 to 8:00pm

[**Quince Orchard Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/11189704#branch)

15831 Quince Orchard Road, Gaithersburg

Provided by the Montgomery County State Health Insurance Assistance Program.

The Montgomery County State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) will provide an overview of Medicare benefits, eligibility, enrollment, costs, & coverage, as well as info on Medicare savings programs, Medicare fraud, protection & local services.

**Questions about this program?** Contact the Quince Orchard Library at 240-777-0200.

###

**Bluegrass Jam**

Tuesday, September 10th from 6:00 to 8:00pm

[**Damascus Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/11220328#branch)

9701 Main Street, Damascus

Bring your acoustic instrument and share your love of playing bluegrass music.

Questions about this program? Contact the branch 240-773-9444.

Looking for more fun things to do at MCPL?

###

**Voting Rights Panel Discussion: Know Your Rights This Election Season**

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| Wednesday, Sep 11th at 2:00 pm Hosted by The IMAGE Center of Maryland as part of their IMAGE Wellness Series.Register at [**Meeting Registration - Zoom**](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwtduyvqDsjGdynGfXKZN2wL641WOZoV4uu#/registration)This event will feature insights from two leading experts on voting rights and access for people with disabilities: Jeff Kaloc, Governmental Affairs Specialist at the National Federation of the Blind, and Braden Stinar, attorney and voting rights specialist at Disability Rights Maryland Moderated by Chris Nusbaum, Bridges Project Coordinator and Social Support Specialist at The IMAGE Center, this panel will explore the critical importance of understanding your rights as a voter, especially in the upcoming election season. |

###

**Blind Industries and Services of Maryland (BISM)**
**Wednesday, September 11th from 2 to 3:00 pm**

**Leisure World Clubhouse II Edmondson Room**3300 N Leisure World Blvd., Silver Spring

**Hosted by the Leisure World Lions Group**Join BISM's Senior Services team to learn tips for living independently with low vision and blindness.
To RSVP, call Larry at **(908) 770-9111.**
###

**Virtual America InSight Verbal Description Tour**

Thursday, September 12th at 5:30 pm

Join the Smithsonian American Art Museum for a docent-led virtual tour designed for participants who are blind or have low vision. Discover highlights from the collection through rich verbal descriptions that invoke a multisensory experience.

Register at [**Overview ⋮ Virtual America InSight: Verbal Description Tours ⋮ Blackthorn Events**](https://events.blackthorn.io/en/5f4ZMUx7/virtual-america-insight-verbal-description-tours-4a2bVRuomv/cart-v2)**.**

###

**Tech Talk Tuesdays - How to Speak and Listen to Your Windows Computer (Virtual Event)**
**Tuesday, September 17th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm
Speaker: Ayana Rollins, Support Engineer, Microsoft**Learn from the experts how to dictate our emails and Microsoft Word documents and listen to them using our Windows computers. Bring your questions!

To register, call **(301) 951-4444** at least 24 hours before the event.

###

**Low Vision Town Hall - Accessible Voting (Virtual Event)**
**Wednesday, September 18th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm
Speaker: Claire Stanley, J.D., Director of Advocacy and Governmental Affairs, American Council of the Blind**Learn about accessible in-person and absentee voting in our area. Call **(301) 951-4444** to register.

###

**Friendship Heights Vision Resource Group - Alternative Approaches and Resources for Low Vision**
**Thursday, September 19th from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm
Friendship Heights Village Center**
4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD
Join to find alternative ways to deal with your vision issue or to help POB with your expertise in navigating the daily challenges of vision impairment.
To RSVP, call **(301) 656-2797.**
###

**Registration Open for the 2024 AFBLC**

The 2024 American Foundation for the Blind Leadership Conference (AFBLC) will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Minneapolis, Minnesota, from September 23rd - 25th!

Learn more at [**2024 AFB Leadership Conference | American Foundation for the Blind**](https://afb.org/about-afb/events/2024afblc)

###

**Accessible Board Games Meet-up**

Thursday, September 26th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library

901 G Street, NW, Center for Accessibility, 2nd Floor

Accessible Board Game Afternoons occur on the 4th Thursday of every month and is for all Adults!

Enjoy playing games such as Scrabble, Monopoly, Uno, Chess, and more!

Boards and cards are tactile and include braille labelling. Everyone is welcome to join.

###

**6th Annual Janet Morrison Memorial Low Vision Symposium and Device Expo (Virtual Event)**
**Saturday, September 28th from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm**

Tune in to a virtual conference and hear from different low-vision aid and device vendors who will demonstrate their products and applications. Each person's vision is different, so this is a great chance to learn about the various aids that may be useful for you! POB's Low Vision Resource Center will also attend to demonstrate what we can do to help. This program is presented in partnership with Washington National Eye Center.
To RSVP, call Tara at **(202) 234-1010, ext. 233**, or email [**taziz@youreyes.org**](https://youreyes.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=939b8acf4b5eb247b7120bcd9&id=c5c2551a1d&e=59825d4dc8).
###

**Cantaré, Mucha Música!**

**Saturday, September 28th from 2:30 to 3:30 pm**

[**Damascus Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/11009021#branch)

9701 Main Street, Damascus

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, join an exciting musical performance by dynamic duo Cantaré! All ages, no registration required.

Cantaré introduces audiences to the beautiful songs and rhythms of Latin America in an exciting interactive performance. Drawing from the musical heritage of the Caribbean, Central and South America, Cantaré performs songs in Spanish and Portuguese, while sharing the music’s cultural and historical background.

You'll learn about the history of Latin America and the different cultures that shaped their music – Native American, European and African - while becoming familiar with the languages, rhythms and musical instruments from the different countries.

**Questions about this program?**Contact the Damascus branch at 240-773-9444.

###

**Kensington Park No Pressure Audio Book Club - Virtual**

**Monday, September 30 from 6:30 to 7:30pm**

[**Virtual Branch**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/10781897#branch)

Audiobook lovers, drop in for an informal and wide-ranging discussion without the pressure of reading an assigned title. All readers are welcome whether you read with ears or eyes.

Audiobook lovers, drop in for an informal and wide-ranging discussion without the pressure of reading an assigned title. All readers are welcome whether you read with your ears or eyes.  Tell us about a book title that you really enjoyed.

Join Zoom [**https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85480395484**](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85480395484)

**Or Dial In**: 301 715 8592; **Meeting ID: 854 8039 5484**

**For security reasons, this program session may be locked 10 minutes after it begins. Please log in promptly.**

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