

September 20, 2024

Dear Listeners,

Early voting begins today, Friday, September 20th in Virginia. Prepare for voting wherever you live with the AAPD State Guide [**here**](#AAPD).

This is also Hispanic Heritage month. Celebrate at [**Arlington County's Festival Latinoamericano**](#Latino) and at [**Montgomery County’s Hispanic Heritage Month Festival and Health Fair**](#Fair).

Cheers,

Sylvia

Here are the links to all the items below:

* [**Prepare to Vote with AAPD State Guide**](#AAPD)
* [**DC Circulator Service Termination Information**](#DC)
* [**ACBVA Mystic Access Meeting Follow-up**](#Mystic)
* [**Nominations for Fairfax Area Disability Inclusion and Equality Awards Due by October 18**](#Award)
* **[Theater Update](#Theater)**
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	+ **[Replay POB Events](#Replay)**
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	+ [**Virginia Board for the Blind and Vision Impaired**](#Board)
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	+ **[Cantaré, Mucha Música!](#Mucha)**
	+ [**Montgomery Hills Street Fest**](#Fest)
	+ [**Vienna VIP** **Kick Off In-Person** **Meeting**](#Vienna)
	+ **[Kensington Park No Pressure Audio Book Club - Virtual](#Audio)**
	+ **[Fairfax County Library All Access Book Club: The Thursday Murder Club by Richard Osman](#Book)**
	+ [**Montgomery County Hispanic Heritage Month Festival and Health Fair**](#Fair)
	+ **[Alexandria Low Vision Resource Group: Low Vision Technology Demo](#Demo)**
	+ [**American Council of the Blind of Virginia** (**ACBVA) Virtual Meeting: Judy Dixon Discusses AI**](#ACBVA)
	+ [**FCC Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting**](#FCC)

###

**PREPARE TO VOTE WITH AAPD STATE GUIDE**

Check out the [**2024 State Guides for Disabled Voters**](https://aapd.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=08dab5cd58ad9250c3f56519f&id=5ae237a7f0&e=d204b146b9) published by the American Association of People With Disabilities (AAPD) to learn how, where, and when to vote in your state. For additional information about what voting options are available to you, visit [**AccessibleVoting.Net**](https://aapd.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=08dab5cd58ad9250c3f56519f&id=1c78172ea8&e=d204b146b9) Use AAPD’s [**English**](https://aapd.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=08dab5cd58ad9250c3f56519f&id=e1cebbe03d&e=d204b146b9)and [**Spanish templates**](https://aapd.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=08dab5cd58ad9250c3f56519f&id=43e7639f65&e=d204b146b9) to Make your 2024 Plan to Vote.

###

**DC CIRCULATOR SERVICE TERMINATION INFORMATION**

On Monday, July 29, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) announced the start of the planned phase down of DC Circulator service beginning October 1, 2024, culminating with service ending December 31, 2024. The program downsize and shutdown are part of the District Fiscal Year 2025 Budget and Financial Plan.

As services wind down, DDOT is working with Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to determine service levels to help reduce the impact to the public. DC Circulator is operated by RATP-Dev USA and employees have been provided with written notification of the planned service closure.

More information with the affected routes is available at [**DC Circulator Service Termination Information - Washington D.C. Circulator**](https://dccirculator.com/service-termination/)**.**

###

**ACBVA MYSTIC ACCESS MEETING FOLLOW-UP**

From Paul D’Addario

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 new to technology, through all its features.

Their website is: [**https://mysticaccess.com/**](https://mysticaccess.com/)

The link to the recording of the meeting is at:

[**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0RJ7jOnp7DU**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0RJ7jOnp7DU)

For more information about the American Council of the Blind of Virginia (ACBVA), please email:

**Info.acbva@gmail.com**
and visit the ACBVA website at:
[**www.acbva.org**](http://www.acbva.org/)to learn more about ACBVA, and to find links to several resources and how to become a member.
###

**NOMINATIONS FOR FAIRFAX AREA DISABILITY INCLUSION AND EQUALITY AWARDS DUE BY OCTOBER 18**

Do you know an individual or organization that excels in providing equal rights and community inclusion for people with disabilities in the Fairfax area? If so, nominate them for the Fairfax Area Disability Services Board’s 2024 Martha Glennan Disability Inclusion and Equality Award.

Award winners are honored for demonstrating a commitment to promoting equal rights and community inclusion for people with disabilities and receive an award, presented at an annual awards ceremony on Monday, December 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Location: 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Conference rooms 200/206.

There are three possible award categories: Individual, Group and Self-advocate. The requirements are to have demonstrated a commitment to promoting equal rights and community inclusion for people with disabilities in Fairfax County, and the Cities of Fairfax, or Falls Church; and demonstration of how people with disabilities have significantly benefitted from their efforts.

Nominations are due BEFORE 5 p.m. on Friday, October 18, 2024. If you have questions, please email **DisabilityRights@FairfaxCounty.Gov****.**

Learn more at [**https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/disabilities/martha-glennan-disability-inclusion-and-equality-awards?utm\_medium=email&utm\_source=govd**](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/familyservices/disabilities/martha-glennan-disability-inclusion-and-equality-awards?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govd)**.**

###

**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

**Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground**

Olney Theatre Center – Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab 301-924-3400

Described Wednesday, October 9th at 7:30 pm

###

**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)**.**

###

**Afro-Cuban Rhythms with Raíces Negras**

Sunday, September 22nd from 1:00 to 2:00 pm and 3:00 to 4:00 pm

National Gallery of Art West Building, Mall Steps

6th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Rain site: East Building Auditorium

4th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Join modern Cuban charanga ensemble Raíces Negras in a program dedicated to the beloved Cuban music group Orquesta Aragón. To showcase this fusion of Afro-Cuban rhythms and European classical instruments, Raíces Negras features popular songs from the danzón and cha-cha-cha craze of the 1940s and 1950s, including hits like “Almendra” and “Pare Cochero” by songwriter Richard “La Flauta Mágica” Egües.

###

**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)

###at

**Virginia Board for the Blind and Vision Impaired**Tuesday, September 24th from11:00 am to 2:00 pm

All Virtual Special Meeting

Join virtual: [**Zoom Link**](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//dsa-virginia.zoomgov.com/j/1617191397%3Fpwd%3DSvPyQg3oqhbUVbHMlYwO4uJak2TSda.1%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dgovdelivery/1/010101920081e1ab-a76dd24d-96f2-4dd0-bd55-072eccbd1e75-000000/GeCDkfojV13nx-jJ4-fG7r1QzfVqjlfcEtMV_f3lIFI%3D370)

Meeting ID: 161-719-1397
Passcode: 355852

Or via Telephone -
(646) 828-7666

Meeting ID: 161-719-1397
Passcode: 355852

###

**Hadley Discussion Group: Artificial Intelligence (AI) Wearables**

Tuesday, September 24th at 2:00 pm

Artificial intelligence and smart glasses are the latest buzzwords, but how can they fit into your daily life? Join the discussion to explore how wearables with AI can give information about the world around you, plus get tips on what to watch out for when using these new tools.

Sign up to join at [**Tech It Out | Hadley Discussion Group for the Visually Impaired (hadleyhelps.org)**](https://hadleyhelps.org/discussion-groups/tech-it-out).

###

**Spotting Scams and Staying Safe**

Thursday, September 26th from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm

[**Glenarden**](https://www.pgcmls.info/event/11010295#branch) Library

8724 Glenarden Parkway, Glenarden, *Small Meeting Room*

Presented by AARP

Have you ever been approached with a fraudulent offer or been a victim of identity theft? These days, scammers are sophisticated. And separating the real from the phony can be tough—especially when emotions are running high. Join a free event to take a look into the latest scams, how to avoid them, and what to do if you’ve been targeted.

They will explore:

* Common scams, and how to spot and avoid them
* Tactics scammers use to target individuals
* What to do if you’re asked for personal information
* Resources to help protect yourself and your family

###

**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 are 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.

###

**Arlington Festival Latinoamericano**

Friday,September 27th from 5:00 to 9:00 pm

[**Arlington Mill Community Center**](https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/Parks-Recreation/Locations/Indoor-Facilities/Arlington-Mill-Community-Center)

909 S Dinwiddie Street, Arlington

Arlington County's Festival Latinoamericano is dedicated to celebrating the vibrant and diverse cultures that enrich the community. The mission is to showcase the rich tapestry of Latin American art, food, and culture in Arlington County, providing a platform for local artists, chefs, and performers to share their talents and traditions with the public. By supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs, they aim to foster economic growth and community spirit. This free event is designed to be inclusive and educational, offering attendees of all backgrounds a chance to experience Hispanic Heritage firsthand.

[**Register Now!**](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/festival-latinoamericano-tickets-995553857387) at [**Festival Latinoamericano Tickets, Fri, Sep 27, 2024 at 5:00 PM | Eventbrite**](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/festival-latinoamericano-tickets-995553857387)**.**

Festival Latinoamericano is FREE. Registration is not required, but heavily encouraged to allow an accurate count of anticipated attendance.

###

**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 they 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.

###

**Montgomery Hills Street Fest**

Saturday, September 28th from 3:00 to 7:00 pm

Columbia Boulevard and Seminary Road, Silver Spring

Join neighbors, local restaurants, businesses, and community organizations to enjoy food, craft beer, games, and music at the [**Montgomery Hills Street Fest**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//friendsofmontgomeryhills.org/street-fest//1/010001920172a338-5da84ef5-8d00-4320-bf9e-41d9748390f9-000000/wLXZirvb5LlcjS1Q9of3rFwXTY_MuK5EtZqlnyOkwLY%3D370)**.**

There will also be advocating for the long-planned[**safety improvements to Georgia Avenue.**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//mdot-sha-md97-md390-to-md192-mo2242115-maryland.hub.arcgis.com//1/010001920172a338-5da84ef5-8d00-4320-bf9e-41d9748390f9-000000/R6vee_EXlDtiooODSsmSTWZ0QmEdG3f_k56RFEMD23k%3D370)

Learn more at

[**2024 Street Fest – Home (friendsofmontgomeryhills.org)**](https://friendsofmontgomeryhills.org/street-fest/)

###

**Vienna VIP** **Kick Off In-Person** **Meeting**

Monday, September 30th from 2:00 to 4:30 pm

New Location: Thomas Jefferson Library conference room

7415 Arlington Boulevard, Falls Church

From Rachel Schreiman - **Rachel.schreiman@gmail.com**

This will be a Meet & Greet with refreshments: a chance to get reacquainted and welcome new friends! They will share ideas for topics and speakers for this coming year, field questions and share resources and ideas.

The location has changed because the Patrick Henry Library in Vienna is doing a major tear down and rebuild over the next two to three years!

While RSVPs are not required, it will help to know if you are coming. So please email Ann Koch at **Akkoch710@gmail.com** to let them know you will attend.

###

**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.

Tell them 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.**

###

**Fairfax County Library All Access Book Club:** [**The Thursday Murder Club**](https://fcplcat.fairfaxcounty.gov/search/searchresults.aspx?ctx=1.1033.0.0.1&type=Browse&term=The%20Thursday%20Murder%20Club&by=TI&sort=RELEVANCE&limit=TOM=*&query=MTE=%27374036%27&page=0&searchid=0) **by Richard Osman**

Thursday, October 3rd at 11:00 am

The All Access Book Club meets on the first Thursday of each month at 11:00 a.m. via free conference call.

To join the event:

* Call **703-324-1800**or toll-free number **1-877-862-8112**
* At the prompt, enter the code **389887**

For more information, contact Access Services Library at 703-324-8380 or **email**.

###

**Montgomery County Hispanic Heritage Month Festival and Health Fair**

October 6th from 12:00 to 5:00 pm

Marian Fryer Plaza

2424 Reedie Drive, Wheaton

A celebration of health and heritage, with delicious Latin food and free health checkups. There will also be music, dance, and more. The festival is a celebration of the vibrant cultures and traditions that make the county diverse. It’s a day for the whole family to connect with the community and celebrate our vibrant culture.

Learn more at [**Hispanic Heritage Month Festival and Health Fair 2024 - The Latino Health Initiative (LHI) (lhiinfo.org)**](https://www.lhiinfo.org/hhm24/).

###

**Alexandria Low Vision Resource Group: Low Vision Technology Demo**

Friday, October 11th from 1:00 to 2:30 pm

[**Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library**](https://alexlibraryva.org/event/8886638#branch)

5005 Duke Street, Alexandria, Large Meeting Room

Join to experience a demonstration of low vision technology.

###

**American Council of the Blind of Virginia** (**ACBVA) Virtual Meeting: Judy Dixon Discusses AI**

Monday, October 14th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm

For many years, Judy Dixon worked at the National Library Service, and she has written a number of books about topics of interest to people who are blind or who have low vision. She will lead a presentation about how AI can benefit people who are blind and will discuss details of applications available on a Windows computer and an iPhone.

And she’ll discuss other items that are using AI, such as smart glasses.

There will be lots of opportunities for questions and discussion.

For more information about ACBVA, please email:
**Info.acbva@gmail.com**
and visit the ACBVA website at:
[**www.acbva.org**](http://www.acbva.org/)to learn  more about the organization, and to find links to several resources and how to become a member.

Please 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

###

**FCC Disability Advisory Committee (DAC) Meeting**

Friday, October 18th at 9:00 am

​Commission Meeting Room

FCC Headquarters, 45 L Street, NE

The meeting will be open to the public and webcast with open captioning at [**https://www.fcc.gov/live**](https://www.fcc.gov/live).

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need and tell them how to contact you if they need more information. Make your request as early as possible. Last-minute requests will be accepted but may be impossible to fill. Send an e-mail to: **FCC504@fcc.gov**or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530.

The agenda for this meeting will be posted on the event page at [**https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2024/10/disability-advisory-committee-meeting**](https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2024/10/disability-advisory-committee-meeting).

Link to Public Notice:
URL: [**https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-october-18-2024-dac-meeting**](https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-announces-october-18-2024-dac-meeting)

For more information about the DAC, visit [**www.fcc.gov/dac**](http://www.fcc.gov/dac).  For specific questions, please contact Molly Burgdorf, DAC Deputy Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 418-2173 or **DAC@fcc.gov**.

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