

October 26, 2024

Dear Listeners,

Of particular interest this week is the FCC request for comments on customer service accessibility [**here**](#FCC) and Uber’s new policies to boost accessibility, including its policy and training on service animals [**here**](#Uber).

Cheers,

Sylvia

Here are the links to all the items below:

* [**FCC Seeks Comment on Customer Service Experience, Including Accessibility**](#FCC)
* [**Find the Accessible Voting Options in Your State**](#Vote)
* [**Access by Maryland Voters with Disabilities**](#MDVote)
* [**AT for Free: Reuse Programs Across Maryland**](#AT)
* [**Uber Launches Improvements to Boost Accessibility**](#Uber)
* **[Theater Update](#Theater)**
* **[Calendar](#Calendar)**
	+ [**Link to ACB of Virginia’s October 14th Meeting Featuring Judy Dixon**](#Dixon)
	+ **[Replay POB Events](#Replay)**
	+ **[2024 Disability Career Fair](#Fair)**
	+ **[U.S. Access Board Meeting and Webcast](#Board)**
	+ **[State Convention of the National Federation of the Blind of Virginia](#NFBVA)**
	+ [**Android TalkBack Drop-In Clinic**](#Android)
	+ [**Reston VIP Meeting: “New National and Local Library Services for people who can no longer read print material”**](#Reston)
	+ [**Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired (DBVI) Public Comment Meeting**](#Comment)
	+ [**TUG Meeting: AT Gifts for the Holidays**](#TUG)
	+ [**American Council of the Blind of Virginia (ACBVA) Virtual Annual Meeting**](#ACBVA)
	+ [**POB READS Book Club (Virtual Event)**](#POB)
	+ [**JAWS Intermediate Drop-In Clinic**](#JAWS)
	+ [**iOS VoiceOver: Beginning Level Siri**](#Siri)
	+ [**iOS VoiceOver: Intro**](#Intro)
	+ [**iOS VoiceOver: Intermediate Drop-In Clinic**](#Clinic)
	+ [**DBVI State Rehabilitation Council**](#Council)
	+ [**Android TalkBack Drop-In Clinic**](#Clinic)
	+ [**Diabetic Eye Disease Awareness**](#Disease)
	+ **[America InSight: Verbal Description Tour](#InSight)**
	+ [**Ellington’s Nutcracker presented by the US Navy Band Commodores**](#Navy)
	+ [**Virtual Blind Health Expo 2024**](#Expo)

###

**FCC SEEKS COMMENT ON CUSTOMER SERVICE EXPERIENCE, INCLUDING ACCESSIBILITY**

Comments Due: November 22, 2024

Reply Comments Due: December 9, 2024

On October 23, 2024, the FCC released a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) seeking information about consumers’ experiences accessing customer service assistance in the communications industry. The NOI asks commenters to discuss ways to ensure that customer service for cable, satellite, voice, and internet providers is accessible, efficient, and informative.

The NOI specifically seeks comment on the current state of customer service accessibility for people with disabilities and requests suggestions for ways to improve the accessibility of customer service resources for that population.  Additionally, the NOI seeks information about the customer service experiences of non-native English speakers.

Link to the Customer Service Notice of Inquiry:

[**https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-review-customer-support-offered-consumers**](https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-review-customer-support-offered-consumers)

For additional information, contact Richard D. Smith, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Consumer Policy Division, at (717) 338-2797, or via e-mail at **Richard.Smith@fcc.gov**.

###

**FIND THE ACCESSIBLE VOTING OPTIONS IN YOUR STATE**

The AccessibleVoting site offers information about options such as early voting, vote-by-mail, and in-person voting on Election Day, as well as resources for people with disabilities, advocates, and election officials at [**https://accessiblevoting.net/**](https://accessiblevoting.net/)**.**

AccessibleVoting  is a project of  [**REV UP**](https://www.aapd.com/about-rev-up/),  [**Center for Civic Design**](https://civicdesign.org/),  and Microsoft [**Democracy Forward**](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/corporate-responsibility/democracy-forward?activetab=pivot1%3aprimaryr6) & [**Accessibility**.](https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/accessibility/approach) The [**Voter Access Guide for Election Officials**](https://accessiblevoting.net/voter-access-guide-for-election-officials) is from the National Coalition for Accessible Voting (NCAV).  [**Coforma**](https://coforma.io/)  built the site based on the design for HealthyVoting.

###

**ACCESS BY MARYLAND VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES**

Maryland is committed to making voting accessible to all voters. All of the early voting centers in Maryland are accessible to voters with disabilities.

[**How Maryland Votes the ExpressVote (PDF)**](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/documents/HowMDVotes_BMD.pdf)

**In-Person Voting**

You can vote in person during early voting at any early voting center in the county in which you reside. On election day, you must vote at [**your assigned polling place**](https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch).

**By mail-in ballot**

Request a mail-in ballot. Your ballot can be mailed or printed from SBE's website. If you have a disability and cannot mark your ballot independently, we offer an online tool to help you mark your ballot. With this tool, most voters with disabilities can make selections without help. If you would like to use this online tool, request a mail-in ballot and check the box saying that you want to print your ballot from SBE's website.

See the [**Mail-In Voting**](https://elections.maryland.gov/voting/absentee.html)page for more information.

**Important Note**: A recent change in the law requires the State Board of Elections and each local board of elections to refer to absentee ballots as mail-in ballots and absentee voting as mail-in voting. Please note that this change in terminology does NOT change the process of mail-in voting.

**Is accessible voting available?**

Yes, a ballot marking device that is accessible to most voters is available at all voting locations in early voting centers and polling places. Using a headset and keypad, blind voters and voters with low vision are able to vote by listening to the ballot selections and by using the keypad. You may also choose to use the high contrast and large print functions of the voting unit. Other assistive devices (for example, sip and puff) can be plugged into the device.

If you want to use the audio ballot, ask an election judge. Election judges will answer questions and help you, if needed.

**Is there a way I mark my mail-in ballot without help?**

Yes. Go to [**our online mail-in ballot request page**](https://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/onlinemailinrequest/InstructionsStep1) to request a ballot. When completing the application to request a ballot, select the option to receive access to your ballot through email. We will send you an email when your ballot is ready. The email will include a link with instructions to access our online ballot delivery system.

When you access the system, you can mark your ballot online using the accessible online ballot marking tool and then print your ballot, or you can download and print your ballot and mark your selections by hand. If you use this tool, you make your choices on your computer and print your ballot. Your printed ballot will have your choices marked. With this tool, most voters with disabilities can make selections without help.

Your voted ballot must be printed and returned to your local election office by mail, by ballot drop box, or in person. If you return your voted ballot by email or fax, it will not count.

**Can someone help me vote?**

Yes. You can bring someone to help you vote as long as that person is not:

* Your employer or an agent of your employer
* An officer or agent of your union
* A challenger or watcher

Or, you may choose to have two election judges help you.

The person helping you must sign the Voter Assistance Form and cannot suggest how you should vote.

**Who can I contact if I have an accessibility question or concern?**

You can find your local board of elections contact information [**here**](https://elections.maryland.gov/about/county_boards.html). You can also **email us** with attention to Election Management and Reform at the State Board of Elections.

###

**AT FOR FREE: REUSE PROGRAMS ACROSS MARYLAND**

​A video with information about the Maryland High Tech AT Reuse Program, the online equipment exchange site, and many other resources across the state to access free and low-cost AT and durable medical equipment is available at [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z\_sxMqvbbRo**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z_sxMqvbbRo).  The video is hosted by Shawn Bateman, AT Reuse Coordinator with MDTAP.

###

**UBER LAUNCHES IMPROVEMENTS TO BOOST ACCESSIBILITY**

Forwarded by Stan Gowin and Kathryn Hodgdon

(Karl Mondon/Bay Area News Group/TNS)

Uber is rolling out new features to assist riders with disabilities and is adding training for drivers to help better accommodate them.

The ride-sharing company said this month that it will offer riders who are deaf or hard of hearing as well as those who are blind or who have low vision the option to self-identify on the app and set communication preferences.

Riders will be able to choose if they wish to be contacted by chat, phone or both. In cases where riders select chat, for example, drivers will not be given the ability to call them, Uber said.

“If a rider chooses to share this information, their driver will be notified of how the rider self-identifies and their communication preferences after they accept a trip request and at pickup,” Chris Yoon, product manager for equity at Uber, said in announcing the updates. “With these new features, our hope is to create a more efficient way of communicating needs and preferences for both riders and drivers from pickup to drop off.”

Meanwhile, Uber said that it will send all of its drivers an educational video this month about service animals that was created in partnership with blind and service animal advocacy organizations and training centers.

“The video includes information about the vital role of service animals, tips for transporting them and a reminder that it is against Uber’s policy and illegal to deny someone a ride because of their service animal,” Yoon said.

Uber also said that it is piloting a self-identification option for riders with service animals. During the pilot phase, a small group of volunteers in the U.S. and Canada will be able to choose to automatically let drivers know in advance that they are accompanied by a service animal.

Information gleaned from the test group will inform future work to improve the Uber experience for riders with service animals, the company said.

###

**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 10, Branch 11.

**Babbit**

Shakespeare: Harman Hall: 202-547-1122

Described Saturday, October 26th matinee

**Disney’s Frozen**

Olney Theatre Center – Roberts Mainstage 301-924-3400

Described Wednesday, November 6th at 7:00 pm

**The Other Americans**

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

Described Saturday, November 9th at 2:00 pm

**Six**

National Theater – 1-800-514-3849

Described Saturday, November 16th at 2:00 pm and Sunday, December 1st at 7:30 pm

**A Hanukkah Carol or Gelt Trip! The Musical**

Round House Theatre Bethesda - 240-644-1100

Described Saturday, November 30th at 2:00 pm

**Data**

Arena Stage Kogod Cradle at the Mead Center - 202-488-3300

Described Saturday, November 30th at 2:00 pm

###

**CALENDAR**

**Link to ACB of Virginia’s October 14th Meeting Featuring Judy Dixon**

Thanks to Sree Roy for your time and expertise editing and generating the recording and to Paul D’Addario for forwarding on the following link to the ACB VA October 14th program with Judy Dixon.

[**https://youtu.be/YTxdxCPaFBM**](https://youtu.be/YTxdxCPaFBM)

###

**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)**.**

###

**2024 Disability Career Fair**

Wednesday, October 30th at 10:00 am

MLK Library, 901 G Street NW

The 2024 Disability Career Fair is designed to help DC residents with disabilities find meaningful employment, underscoring the District’s dedication to inclusivity and equality in the workforce.

**RSVP**: [**tinyurl.com/abilityworks24**](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/http%3A//tinyurl.com/abilityworks24/1/010101927d7d3f50-af8b58d4-44ab-4427-b697-47e0309316f9-000000/Xm9s1rN3McEX_myH5Xn24ibMUeidvA5ePGVq2-Sjaxw%3D374)

**###**

**U.S. Access Board Meeting and Webcast**

Wednesday, October 30th from 1:30 to 3:00 pm

The agenda for the meeting includes brief reports from standing and ad hoc Board committees, federal agency updates, and a report by Executive Director Sachin Pavithran.

Members of the public may attend the meeting through the [**Zoom.gov platform**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.zoomgov.com/j/1616536186/1/010001926cf043a7-8d607f40-5b73-4fa8-a60f-3b8a90fbddbb-000000/1uSA1MRcIjp3DwvPDbMFdpBBZRk2tuaiAnfVJ_oi7dA%3D374)or by phone (listen-only mode). Please note that participation over Zoom will require the use of the passcode provided below..

Zoom: [**https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1616536186**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.zoomgov.com/j/1616536186/2/010001926cf043a7-8d607f40-5b73-4fa8-a60f-3b8a90fbddbb-000000/wF8mnZor2AD5t9VKcZw_ejElBYNkgD3HGiPeY57mr4o%3D374)Meeting ID: 161 653 6186

Passcode: 128200
Dial in: (646) 828-7666
Contact: **events@access-board.gov**

Learn more at [**U.S. Access Board Meeting and Webcast (October 30) (access-board.gov**)](https://www.access-board.gov/news/2024/09/25/u-s-access-board-meeting-and-webcast-october-30/).

###

**State Convention of the National Federation of the Blind of Virginia** Thursday, October 31st through Sunday, November 3rd

Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel

425 Water St, Portsmouth, VA 23704

This action-packed weekend offers something for everyone, with opportunities to connect, learn, and have fun. Here are just a few highlights: - Adaptive Sports & Wellness Activities: From blind tennis to chair aerobics, there is something to get everyone moving, no matter your age or skill level. - Interactive Technology & Resource Fair: Explore hands-on demonstrations of the latest accessible tech, from AI tools enhancing workplace productivity to gadgets simplifying daily living, plus low-vision cell phones, audible health monitors, and more. - Professional Development & Career Support: Get real-time feedback on your resume, participate in mock interviews, and gain insights from professionals across industries. Whether you are starting your career or looking for a new opportunity, they have you covered. - Family-Friendly Fun: Kids can dive into accessible video games, create braille art, or swap books at the Book Exchange while parents connect with each other and hear from experienced blind role models.

They have also negotiated affordable hotel and meal rates!

To find all details including the agenda and other necessary information, go to [**https://nfbv.org/convention**](https://nfbv.org/convention).

###

**Android TalkBack Drop-In Clinic**

**Friday, November 1st from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11670961#branch)

901 G Street, NW, 205-B Accessibility Program Room

Learn to use the TalkBack screen reader for Android.

They will practice the gestures and other basic skills and try to trouble shoot your individual issues as much as possible, to learn to use Android phones without sight. To register please call 202-727-2142 or email **DCPLaccess@dc.gov****.**

###

**Reston VIP Meeting: “New National and Local Library Services for people who can no longer read print material”**

Friday November 1st from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm In-Person
Reston Regional Library, Meeting Room #2

11925 Bowman Towns Dr., Reston

Meet Jennifer Tchida, Branch Manager, Access Services Library, Fairfax County, Virginia and learn about the newest services available through the Library of Congress NLS

( [**https://www.loc.gov/nls/**](https://www.loc.gov/nls/) ) and Fairfax County, Access Services Library ( [**https://research.fairfaxcounty.gov/aging-and-disability/overview**](https://research.fairfaxcounty.gov/aging-and-disability/overview) ).

“Talking Books” will be available soon through smart speakers in addition to standard Talking Book Machine cassettes or downloaded through BARD to your Computer, Tablet, or Smart Phone. Jennifer will also remind everyone of the many library services and resources available to Fairfax County residents and how to access them even if you cannot get to the library.

Questions, comments, suggestions, or concerns about VIP? Please phone, text, or email:
Sandy Neuzil - 703-989-1821 or sandy.neuzil@gmail.com

Stan Gowin - 703-470-6633 or sgowin@verizon.net

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

###

**VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT FOR THE BLIND AND VISION IMPAIRED (DBVI) PUBLIC COMMENT MEETING**

November 1ST at 5:00 pm

in conjunction with the National Federation of the Blind State Convention

Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel
425 Water St, Portsmouth, VA 23704-3801

DBVI wants to hear from you!

Public meetings are held to give stakeholders an opportunity to make comments about DBVI programs and services. DBVI especially wants to get input regarding agency strategic planning, development of agency policies and procedures, and implementing services and supports to potentially eligible and eligible individuals who are blind, vision impaired, or deafblind. DBVI is particularly interested in comments regarding the following programs, services, and divisions:

Independent Living/Rehabilitation Teaching

Education Services

Low Vision Services

Deafblind Services

Virginia Rehabilitation Center for the Blind and Vision Impaired Programs

Rehabilitation Technology Services

Vocational Rehabilitation and Workforce Services

Library and Resource Center Services

Virginia Industries for the Blind

Virginia Enterprises for the Blind

Services to Students and Youth including year-round programming and special Academies

Individuals requiring interpreters or other special accommodations should contact Deborah Collard (800-622-2155) at least two weeks prior to the meeting to request the preferred accommodation.

###

**TUG Meeting: AT Gifts for the Holidays**

Saturday, November 2nd from 10:00 to 11:30 am

The Technology User Group is pleased to present its annual salute to gadgets, gizmos and whatchamacallits that you may want to receive (or give) as gifts for the holidays!  This year’s collection will be intriguing, detailed, and affordable.  Assorted vendors will also be touting their products and letting everyone know what is new in the assistive technology arena.

Who should attend this meeting?

Individuals who want to learn more about the latest in interesting tech gadgets.

People who are looking for gift ideas for themselves or significant others.

Anyone seeking affordable, useable, and valued products.

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| This program will be recorded.

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| **Call in Number**:1-301-715-8592Meeting ID: 656 203 7293​#**One tap mobile**[**+13017158592,,6562037293#**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/tel%3A%2B13017158592%2C%2C6562037293%23/1/01000192af73a5c9-6819a212-9910-455d-a092-2c92e829cb64-000000/IHgTBzUfgUbv2iDs3GgTmsAzo1f96Obo9u7NfvYkXo0%3D375) |

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| **Webcast**:[**https://marylandlibraries.zoom.us/j/6562037293?omn=94648805523**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//marylandlibraries.zoom.us/j/6562037293%3Fomn%3D94648805523%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dgovdelivery/1/01000192af73a5c9-6819a212-9910-455d-a092-2c92e829cb64-000000/KGx5xQJ2r3Qx9hCSJwPG1170B5QWsyE9DeXDRDjI7T8%3D375) |

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###

**American Council of the Blind of Virginia (ACBVA) Virtual Annual Meeting**

November 2nd from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm

Get ready for a lively and interactive day via Zoom.

Current subscribers to the ACBVA listserve will receive Zoom information for this Annual Meeting automatically.

If you are not currently subscribed and want to receive information, join the email list by sending a blank email to

**Acbva+subscribe@groups.io**

You will then receive an email message asking you to confirm your subscription.

Alternatively, if you prefer not to subscribe to their list at this time and want to attend the meeting, please drop a note with your name, phone number, and email to **info.acbva@gmail.com**and you will receive sign in credentials prior to the meeting.

(Please do this early.  Requests that come in less than an hour before the meeting begins may not be answered.)

Here are the highlights of the meeting:

10:00: **Business meeting**

12:30: **Reflections by an author with low vision** -

Our own Judith Goode Kirby will be sharing her experiences involved in writing her book, Blurred Vision. This book is a ten—year compilation of poems, meditations, and personally taken photographs and describes her life as a person who has experienced progressive vision loss due to Stargardt’s macular degeneration. Her website is:

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

1:15: **Update from the Virginia Department for the Blind and Vision Impaired**

2:00: Did You Know…? **A panel of statewide and regional entities**, what they have to offer, how they include people who are blind or low vision, and how we can help them outreach to people we know and ensure they will be accessibly welcomed when they approach these entities

Door prizes will be announced throughout the day; you must be present to win!

##

**POB READS Book Club (Virtual Event)**
**Wednesday, November 6th at 11:00 am**November's book is The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War by Erik Larson. This book delves into the lives of individuals grappling with ambition, sorrow, and bravery as the Civil War begins.
To sign up, visit [**www.pobreads.org**](http://www.pobreads.org) or call **(301) 951-4444**.

###

**JAWS Intermediate Drop-In Clinic**

**Wednesday, November 6th from 1:30 to 2:30 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11670271#branch)

901 G Street, NW, 205-J Computer Lab (12 Person Capacity)

Bring in your questions to this drop-in clinic and they will try to help.

Are you pretty experienced with JAWS screenreader software but need help completing projects like applying for jobs? Bring in your questions and they will try to help! To register, please contact DCPLaccess@dc.gov or 202-727-2142.

###

**iOS VoiceOver: Beginning Level Siri**

**Thursday, November 7th from 12:00 to 12:45 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11723284#branch)

901 G Street, NW, 205-B Accessibility Program Room

This is an iPhone class for total beginners who want to use the iPhone without sight. They will practice all of the things you can do with your phone using the Voice Assistant Siri.

Are you totally new to the iPhone and have never asked your phone to do anything out loud? Siri is the Voice Assistant on the iPhone that can allow you to do things like check the weather, send a text message and make a phone call without ever touching the screen. To register please call 202-727-2142 or email **DCPLaccess@dc.gov**.

###

**iOS VoiceOver: Intro**

**Thursday, November 7th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11723295#branch)

901 G Street, NW, 205-B Accessibility Program Room

Learn to use iOS VoiceOver at the Introductory level.

VoiceOver is the screen reader that will read what is otherwise displayed visually on the iPhone screen that will allow you to use the iPhone without sight. Do you want to start with VoiceOver gestures and get a real overview of iOS and Voiceover? Learn to navigate the phone with VoiceOver, use the rotor, use the SeeingAI and BeMyEyes apps to scan and read printed material and have a sighted volunteer access your phone camera and describe your surroundings, and other tasks. To register please call 202-727-2142 or email DCPLaccess@dc.gov.

###

**iOS VoiceOver: Intermediate Drop-In Clinic**

**Thursday, November 7th from 2:15 to 3:15 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11723306#branch)

901 G Street, NW, 205-B Accessibility Program Room

Learn to use iOS VoiceOver at an intermediate level with as close as possible to one-on-one assistance. In a drop-in clinic setting, take a deep dive into some of the more advanced levels of iOS with VoiceOver, and get as close to one-on-one help as is possible depending on the number of students. To register please call 202-727-2142 or email **DCPLaccess@dc.gov**.

###

**DBVI STATE REHABILITATION COUNCIL**November 8th from 9:30 am to 1:00 pm
397 Azalea Avenue, Richmond, VA 23227

Attendance in-person or virtual.

Join virtual: [**Zoom link**](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//dsa-virginia.zoomgov.com/j/1600919879%3Fpwd%3DUuoxVmski9ysxAAFNqqPQ0MJAm96y0.1%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dgovdelivery/1/01010192bb4107d5-c31c0afd-907d-4a99-bce5-8a52695d992b-000000/OgLBfqUjGZhNyRCf8h8-_xr-Z4EZi03pwhBwyDJCOLo%3D376)
Password: 464336
Or Telephone: Dial:(646) 828 - 7666 (US Toll)
   Meeting ID: 160 091 9879
   Password: 464336

PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE RECEIVED AT 10:10 A.M.

###

**Android TalkBack Drop-In Clinic**

**Friday, November 8th from 10:30 am to 12:00pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11670962#branch)

901 G Street, NW, 205-B Accessibility Program Room

Learn to use the TalkBack screen reader for Android.

They will practice the gestures and other basic skills and try to trouble shoot your individual issues as much as possible, to learn to use Android phones without sight. To register please call 202-727-2142 or email DCPLaccess@dc.gov.

###

**Diabetic Eye Disease Awareness**

Tuesday, November 12th from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Virtual Zoom Meeting of The Washington National Eye Center At MedStar Washington Hospital Center Low Vision Support Group

Guest Speaker: Hailey Robles-Holmes, MD Ophthalmology Resident

You can join this virtual meeting via computer or phone or both—email Penny at penelpe.a.helfgott@medstar.net to receive an electronic link to the program. If you have any questions, please call Penny Helfgott at 202-877-5329 and leave a message or call the POB number below.

Co-sponsored with: THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS SOCIETY OF METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, DC For further information, please call 202-234-1010.

###

**America InSight: Verbal Description Tour**

Thursday, November 14th at 5:30 pm

Smithsonian American Art Museum

Free

Registration required at [**Overview ⋮ America InSight: Verbal Description Tours  ⋮ Blackthorn Events**](https://events.blackthorn.io/en/5f4ZMUx7/america-insight-verbal-description-tours-4a2bVRv3KX/overview)

Join a docent-led 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.

These tours are held bi-monthly and can also be scheduled upon request. For more information, email **SAAMAcess@si.edu** or call 202-633-8550.

**###**

**Ellington’s Nutcracker presented by the US Navy Band Commodores**

Sunday, November 17th at 3:00 pm

National Gallery of Art West Building, West Garden Court

6th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Register at [**https://tickets.nga.gov/events/01919fcb-c7eb-f62e-5d08-e1a9ad2790cb**](https://tickets.nga.gov/events/01919fcb-c7eb-f62e-5d08-e1a9ad2790cb)

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

###

**Virtual Blind Health Expo 2024**
Friday, December 6th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

The 3rd annual Blind Health Expo is the world’s largest virtual expo of healthcare information, products, and services for individuals, organizations, and companies in the health, blindness, and disability communities.

FREE to attend

Hundreds of exhibitors!

[**Click Here to Register to Attend**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedZ-pjdWivnuuOpXx0uuNaIRiH0nNSPg-s-Vf6HI9jjiW4jg/viewform?usp=sharing)

###