

November 15, 2024

Dear Listeners,

We hope you are well and finding the many resources and opportunities in these Updates useful. Of particular interest this week is a PBS program in the NOVA series that explores cutting edge engineering research including “helping a blind man see without the use of his eyes” [**here**](#PBS).

Cheers,

Sylvia

Here are the links to all the items below:

* [**Prince George’s Public Preparedness Survey**](#Survey)
* [**Emergency Health Profile for Fairfax County Residents**](#Profile)
* [**Arlington County Wants to Hear About Your Ranked Choice Voting Experience**](#RCV)
* [**PBS Program - Building Stuff: Boost It!**](#PBS)
* [**Braille and Digital Talking Books Available from Xavier Society for the Blind.**](#Society)
* [**Theater Update**](#Theater)
* **[Calendar](#Calendar)**
  + **[Replay POB Events](#Replay)**
  + **[Talk Health with the University of Maryland School of Nursing Blood Pressure Clinic](#Health)**
  + **[Michael Hayes Performs! - In-person](#Hayes)**
  + **[Ellington’s Nutcracker presented by the US Navy Band Commodores](#Navy)**
  + **[Tech Talk Tuesdays: Windows PC Accessibility (Virtual Event)](#Tech)**
  + [**Hadley Resource Roundtable: Holiday Season Stress**](#Stress)
  + [**JAWS Keyboard Skills**](#Jaws)
  + **[Low Vision Virtual Town Hall: Baking and Cooking with Low Vision](#Hall)**
  + [**JAWS Intermediate Drop-In Clinic**](#Jaws2)
  + **[Mid-Atlantic ADA Center Webinar](#ADA)**
  + **[Vision Resource Group: Short Dark Days - More Light To See](#Vision)**
  + [**iOS VoiceOver: Intro**](#iOS)
  + [**iOS VoiceOver: Intermediate Drop-In Clinic**](#iOS2)
  + **[Social Security Administration: Retirement Information](#SSA)**
  + [**Understanding your Medicare Options - State Health Insurance Assistance Program**](#Medicare)
  + **[Cultural Crossroads: Dvorak in America](#Culture)**
  + [**Android TalkBack Drop-In Clinic**](#Android)
  + [**Kensington Park No Pressure Audio Book Club - Virtual**](#Audio)
  + [**Hadley Tech It Out: Tech Gifts**](#Gifts)
  + [**Hadley What's Cooking?** **Adapting Favorite Cooking Techniques**](#Cooking)
  + [**Virtual Blind Health Expo 2024Martha Glennan Disability Inclusion and Equality Awards**](#Expo)
  + [**U.S. Access Board Presents Preliminary Findings on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Disability Community and AI Practitioners**](#AI)

**###**

**PRINCE GEORGE’S PUBLIC PREPAREDNESS SURVEY**

The Prince George’s Office of Homeland Security invites residents to participate in the Public Preparedness Survey to help strengthen emergency preparedness across the County. By sharing your insights, you play a crucial role in assessing current readiness levels and improving community well-being. The survey results will guide the allocation of emergency preparedness resources, focusing on areas that enhance community resilience. Complete the survey at [**Public Preparedness Survey**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc2008UBy7OFAf6Lhn8Hu8cu1U0u2-rE3HqOZNt8niUSRujvQ/viewform).

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**EMERGENCY HEALTH PROFILE FOR FAIRFAX COUNTY RESIDENTS**

Create your free emergency health profile to provide real-time critical health and medical information to first responders during an emergency or crisis event.

Learn more at [**Emergency Health Profile | Public Safety Communications**](https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/911/emergency-health-profile?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)**.**

###

**ARLINGTON COUNTY WANTS TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR RANKED CHOICE VOTING EXPERIENCE**

The Arlington County Board piloted Ranked Choice Voting (RCV) in the 2023 County Board primary and is now piloting this voting method in this general election. They ask that you take 3 to 5 minutes to provide feedback on your experience or thoughts on using RCV in this general election. The feedback form will close on November 19, 2024.

Feedback will be reviewed and presented to the Board for consideration as it determines whether to use RCV in future County Board elections. Please note that contents of this feedback form are subject to release under FOIA.

Full details are at [**2024 County Board General Election RCV Feedback - PublicInput**](https://publicinput.com/x08056#tab-57327).

###

**PBS PROGRAM - BUILDING STUFF: BOOST IT!**

Forwarded by MWE Volunteer Evelyn Jemionek

Around the world, engineers are finding ingenious ways to amplify our abilities and senses – allowing us to access and shape the world way beyond our natural gifts. From helping a blind man see without the use of his eyes to building a sling so powerful it can shoot rockets into space, see why engineering just might be the closest thing to a superpower we humans have. The program and the transcript are at:

[**Building Stuff: Boost It! | NOVA | PBS**](https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/video/building-stuff-boost-it/)

###

**BRAILLE AND DIGITAL TALKING BOOKS AVAILABLE FROM XAVIER SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND**

The Xavier Society for the Blind provides free spiritual and inspirational audio materials to blind and visually impaired people. For more information and to request titles you can visit their website at [**www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org**](http://www.xaviersocietyfortheblind.org) or call 800-637-9193 or 212-473-7800. You can also e-mail them at [**info@xaviersocietyfortheblind.org**](mailto:info@xaviersocietyfortheblind.org).

###

**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.

**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

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**Death on the Nile**

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

Described Saturday, December 7th at 2:00 pm

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**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)

###

**Talk Health with the University of Maryland School of Nursing**

**Blood Pressure Clinic**

Friday, November 15th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

[**Greenbelt**](https://www.pgcmls.info/event/11663029#branch) Library Auditorium

11 Crescent Road, Greenbelt

Take charge of your health at free blood pressure screening sessions. Led by University of Maryland School of Nursing students, get your blood pressure checked, and bring your medications for a personalized review. Empower yourself with valuable insights to manage your health better. Open to all.

###

**Michael Hayes Performs! - In-person**

Saturday, November 16th from 2:00 to 3:00 pm

[**Davis Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/12139676#branch)

6400 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda

Michael Hayes, who recently retired from a 35-year opera/musical theater career, will bring his Broadway and opera experience to a performance at Davis Library. It is open to people of all ages. No registration required.

Questions about this program? Contact Davis at 240-777-0922.

###

**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)

###

**Tech Talk Tuesdays: Windows PC Accessibility (Virtual Event)   
Tuesday, November 19th from 1:00 to 2:00 pm**

**Speaker: Luke Scriven, M.S., CATIS, Assistive Technology Specialist, Vision Forward Association**Join a discussion on Windows accessibility with an expert with over a decade of experience working with the visually impaired. Bring your questions!  
To RSVP, call **(301) 951-4444.**

**###**

**Hadley Resource Roundtable: Holiday Season Stress**

Tuesday, November 19th at 2:00 pm

The holiday season can be a time to celebrate traditions and spend time with loved ones, but it can also be a stressful time for people with vision loss. Join to chat and discuss ways to help make the holidays more enjoyable and less stressful.

Sign up to join at [**Resource Roundtable | Hadley Discussion Group for the Visually Impaired**](https://hadleyhelps.org/discussion-groups/resource-roundtable)**.**

###

**JAWS Keyboard Skills**

**Wednesday, November 20th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11670120#branch)

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

Learn the basics of the keyboard with JAWS

Are you totally new to using a computer with the JAWS screen reader? Learn the basics of the keyboard, the keyboard landmarks, where the keys are, and what keystrokes are most used with the JAWS screen reader. Also learn to use the Typeability talking typing tutorial! To register please call 202-727-2142 or email DCPLaccess@dc.gov.

###

**Low Vision Virtual Town Hall: Baking and Cooking with Low Vision  
Wednesday, November 20th from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm  
Speaker: Debra Erickson, MS, Executive Chef and Founder, The Blind Kitchen**  
Join to learn about practical adaptive cooking tips, tricks, and tools for blind and visually impaired cooks, which can assist them with a safe, confident, and independent cooking experience in their kitchens.  
Call **(301) 951-4444** to register.

###

**JAWS Intermediate Drop-In Clinic**

**Wednesday, November 20th from 1:30 to 2:30 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11670273#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.

###

**Mid-Atlantic ADA Center Webinar**

Wednesday, November 20th from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

Marilyn Morrison, Director of the Maryland Work Incentives, will outline the differences between SSI and SSDI, explain the working rules, and discuss available work incentives that enable individuals to work while maintaining their benefits.

To register please visit the [**November 2024 Webinar registration page**](https://7azbrycab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0017ozorucg-ZEuu23tHV9IKyJCC-JOnaMfPwvXA8uwoIAaNEm9UNQhZTgoNfvh43qxR16pCVxhHEtSy40-0tsGo8cC_D96s4SYotbuL9HP_QLNy3ew0Q5Lcdx6ZPwJAIlJoET5C5j64nyajuMzZRbrsScXtdZIygZWRlb_G0fH6wrikAsXZtq_2MCynSQbsR-tBRbEHzVqMGRS4ZpkoUWOOheJQyDoJvwuvfHK0J2Yc3hm2n-RSjVQvHdjfHXc5prfe_SWf7WPIL7g7gjhwZMuIBogjQRL3OOgJPV-4KDD8_iP1bulyBsT37IdHFWojcSiv64BinIo2uhRmoR20M3RQw==&c=CNNWs7ZtLsFcQpFrlGvS44i1kFawq3oRPMkaVTpRPtCmuqAU9kJabA==&ch=cotpR8AU946I81D7U_TGi3H93-CbMf2dnMA06aRUJwdqiYFMOnCg7w==)**.**

Questions? Contact the [**Mid-Atlantic ADA Center**](mailto:adatraining@transcen.org)!

###

**Vision Resource Group: Short Dark Days - More Light To See  
Thursday, November 21st from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Friendship Heights Village Center**4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, MD

Proper lighting is one of the most effective tools in our toolkit for optimizing vision, especially with winter approaching. But what types of lighting should you consider? Join a discussion to explore various lighting options to enhance your sight.  
To RSVP, call **(301) 656-2797**.  
###

**iOS VoiceOver: Intro**

**Thursday, November 21st from 1:00 to 2:00 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11723297#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**](mailto:DCPLaccess@dc.gov).

###

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

**Thursday, November 21st from 2:15 to 3:15 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11723308#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**](mailto:DCPLaccess@dc.gov).

###

**Social Security Administration: Retirement Information**

Thursday, November 21st from 5:30 to 6:30 pm

Prince George’s County Memorial Library [**Virtual Branch**](https://www.pgcmls.info/event/11983798#branch)

Learn more about retirement eligibility requirements, family benefits, options, and the application process.

Presentation by Diana Varela, Public Affairs Specialist for the Social Security Administration followed by Q&A. This event will not be recorded.

Register at **https://calvertlibrary.libnet.info/event/11968569**.

###

**Understanding your Medicare Options - State Health Insurance Assistance Program**

**Thursday, November 21st from 6:00 to 8:00 pm**

[**Chevy Chase Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/11784705#branch)

8005 Connecticut Avenue, Chevy Chase

The Montgomery County State Health Insurance Assistance Program will provide an overview of Medicare benefits, eligibility, enrollment, costs, & coverage.

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

After a brief overview of Medicare benefits, they talk about Medicare savings programs available to beneficiaries with limited income and resources, how to protect yourself from Medicare fraud and abuse, the services SHIP offers to Montgomery County residents, and answer participants' questions.

###

**Cultural Crossroads: Dvorak in America**

Sunday, November 24th from 3:00 to 4:15 pm

National Gallery of Art, West Building, West Garden Court

6th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Registration required at [**Cultural Crossroads: Dvořák in America — National Gallery of Art**](https://tickets.nga.gov/events/0191a368-fe98-b8ba-855c-1c3528efb1a0)**.**

Listen to how Native American melodies and uplifting African American spirituals influenced the music of beloved Czech composer Antonín Dvořák with *Cultural Crossroads: Dvořák in America*. With its stellar cast of musicians, this ensemble entertains, educates, and inspires through a program drawn from the curiosity of a Czech composer a century ago.

###

**Android TalkBack Drop-In Clinic**

**Friday, November 22nd from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm**

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/11670964#branch)

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

Learn to use the TalkBack screen reader for Android.

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**](mailto:DCPLaccess@dc.gov).

###

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

**Monday, November 25th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm**

[**Virtual Branch**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/10781899#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 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**

**If you have trouble getting in, please call Kensington Park Library at 240-773-9515.**

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

###

**Hadley Tech It Out: Tech Gifts**

Tuesday, November 26th at 2:00 pm

There’s always room for a new gadget to make your life a little easier, or perhaps a little more fun. Just in time for the holidays. Join to discuss the best tech-related options to add to your wish list.

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

**###**

**Hadley What's Cooking?** **Adapting Favorite Cooking Techniques**

Wednesday, November 27th at 5:00 pm

Are you the kind of cook who is always looking for a better way to make your favorite foods, such as flipping a pancake or cutting and chopping foods? Join us to share ways you have learned to adapt cooking techniques to fit your vision needs in the kitchen.

Sign up to join at [**What's Cooking? | Hadley Discussion Group for the Visually Impaired**](https://hadleyhelps.org/discussion-groups/whats-cooking).

###

**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 blindness, and disability communities.

FREE to attend

Hundreds of exhibitors! health

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

###

**Martha Glennan Disability Inclusion and Equality Awards**

Monday, December 9th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Fairfax County Government Pennino Bldg., Rooms 200/206, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax

The Fairfax Area – Disability Services Board's Martha Glennan Disability Inclusion and Equality Awards are presented annually to recognize people, businesses, nonprofits, government agencies, and others that excel in demonstrating a commitment to promoting equal rights and community inclusion for people with disabilities.

This year they will recognize Patricia Beech and Brain Injury Services, for their commitment to the full inclusion of people with disabilities in all aspects of community life.

For reasonable accommodations or questions contact Ann Kim at [**Ann.Kim@FairfaxCounty.Gov**](mailto:Ann.Kim@FairfaxCounty.Gov) or by calling 703-324-7486

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**U.S. ACCESS BOARD PRESENTS PRELIMINARY FINDINGS ON ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) FOR DISABILITY COMMUNITY AND AI PRACTITIONERS**

December 12th from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

As part of the Developing Artificial Intelligence (AI) Equity, Access & Inclusion for All Series, the Access Board will [**present its preliminary** **findings**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fwww.access-board.gov%2Fnews%2F2024%2F11%2F07%2Fu-s-access-board-presents-preliminary-findings-on-artificial-intelligence-ai-for-disability-community-and-ai-practitioners%2F/1/010001932c2a3468-0dc4c9ba-7d11-4653-8845-b5b4aab38d62-000000/mh1xFR6oUKvFAifbG8Zp3e4khBEQfN6Z-xph6Oakg6w=379) on the risks and benefits of AI for people with disabilities. The findings are based on the outcomes of three recent AI hearings held in August 2024, independent research and engagements, as well as comments received from the public. The presentation will take place virtually.

* **Zoom Link:** [**https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1601731944**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fwww.zoomgov.com%2Fj%2F1601731944/1/010001932c2a3468-0dc4c9ba-7d11-4653-8845-b5b4aab38d62-000000/38RFQG8bzTZ0X2Fq2JQUhgirXE8H8FLEedgri2Ao0D8=379)
* Meeting ID: 160 173 1944
* Passcode: 524293

Learn more about this series and the partnership with the [**American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fwww.aapd.com%2F/1/010001932c2a3468-0dc4c9ba-7d11-4653-8845-b5b4aab38d62-000000/ygQdZ4gefNTSsGZ_6bGRXmzs8sroOWUuksIVwhhsasw=379)and **the**[**Center for Democracy & Technology (**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https:%2F%2Fcdt.org%2F/1/010001932c2a3468-0dc4c9ba-7d11-4653-8845-b5b4aab38d62-000000/SlMGfkzsGQUQT5Z-PZOP8HnZD9qmR7E5Ramn7kexxqI=379)CDT) at [**U.S. Access Board Presents Preliminary Findings on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Disability Community and AI Practitioners**](https://www.access-board.gov/news/2024/11/07/u-s-access-board-presents-preliminary-findings-on-artificial-intelligence-ai-for-disability-community-and-ai-practitioners/).

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