

Welcome to our fourth edition of News You Can Use from The Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind

I'm Blake Lindsay, manager of communications. Thank you for your continued positive feedback on our new info outlet. Being a longtime broadcaster and author, I particularly appreciate this opportunity to share with you news that truly matters every month. Assistive technology and educational events are important in supporting all of us with visual impairment. We also gain inspiration through success stories with one another. Our newsletter will continue to identify these subjects, along with Dallas Lighthouse updates in our services and employment. Finally we will inform you about special activities which include you. Thank you for spreading **News You Can Use** to your families and friends.

Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind's 85th Anniversary Celebration with Ronnie Milsap!

Imagine a thrilling Thursday evening when you join us to celebrate our major milestone with a major entertainer. This tall man with tremendous talent has written, recorded, and performed hundreds of live concerts. His country and pop hits you know and love. Ronnie Milsap is performing live for us on November 3rd at the Winspear Opera house downtown Dallas located 2403 Flora Street Dallas, TX. Stay tuned to News You Can Use for all of the details, on this exciting 85th anniversary party.

A Young Lady with Low Vision and a Bright Future

Martha Guerra is a hard working high school summer intern with the Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind. She is a prized recipient of this year's DREAM program. The Dream Program is sponsored by DARS and is a beneficial platform allowing students to expand their responsibilities. This preparation paves the way for paid employment and provides major motivation for further education toward career goals. Earlier this school year, Martha was asked to write an essay relating her life aspirations. Her convincing essay inspired the counselors to reward Martha with a unique summer educational opportunity, a 5 week internship providing on the job training.

Martha is legally blind. We are fortunate to have some assistive technology trainers who are totally blind, as well as legally blind. Each instructor will take a turn in mentoring Martha on assistive technology devices and special training practices best serving those with low and no vision. Martha resides in El Paso and is currently living on the campus of Southern Methodist University (SMU) for 5 weeks. She uses public transportation to enable a flexible roundtrip commute. By working well with fixed bus and light rail routes, Martha is enhancing her overall educational experience. Martha is a 16 year old junior this year with dedication to both student council and JR ROTC Airforce. She learned the ROTC drills in three months. This has been a commitment in investing two hours twice a week after school the past two years.

Martha is also a JR ROTC recruiting officer, with expectations for recruiting 12 young ladies this

school year by visiting middle schools to talk about the significance of team work throughout her experiences. Martha will then be responsible for all 12 young ladies. She enjoys the competitions and responsibilities and her goal is to get a position to be an Armed Drill Commander. Reading is her preferred subject. She likes to play guitar and she enjoys entering statewide art competitions that take place in Dallas with other people who have low or no vision. Martha sketches her art with applications on her iPad and then paints the sketches onto a 16 by 20 inch canvas. Her objective is to make tactual art so that people who are blind can observe as well as those with sight. She is looking into furthering her education after high school, at Texas A&M near Corpus Christi. Martha wants to study law enforcement and culinary arts, with a career aspiration of becoming an information manager in the navy. We are appreciating having Martha here, and we wish her well in her bright future.

Get Connected with Local Sports for People who are blind

The Lone Star Roadrunners are getting ready to take up a team of 10 blind players and 9 sighted volunteers to the 2016 Beep Baseball World Series. This will be a weeklong tournament which happens annually. The tournament this year is being held in Aims, IA. The dates for the tournament are July 24-31. Practices are held at the Dunlop Sports Center Soccer Fields located at 1500 NW Green Oaks Blvd Arlington, TX. The team is comprised of people from all around the DFW metroplex. Practices are held on Sundays from 3-5pm. If you are interested in finding out more about the team feel free to contact either Coach Graham Mathenia or Captain Andrew Bernet. If you believe you would have problems finding transportation to practice, they set up car pools with our players and volunteers. Talk with us. We can work on getting you out to the fields. We look forward to having you come and check us out.

Andrew Bernet, Captain
lonestar@nbba.org
(817) 705-1520

Graham Mathenia, Coach
lonestar@nbba.org
(972) 953-8725

If goalball is more your style then you can join The Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth and Andrew Bernet for practice. Their practices will be held in downtown Fort Worth just minutes away from the Fort Worth ITC station. They'll be starting up again in August. Times and location will be released a few weeks before they begin. If you are interested in coming out to join them contact Andrew Bernet by email at abernet@lighthousefw.org. He will add your information to his goalball contacts list.

Dallas Lighthouse Improvements in Progress - Textile Apprenticeship Opportunity Awaits You

A New Apprenticeship opportunity is available in the Textile Department at the Dallas Lighthouse. We will train individuals for new jobs which are planned to start in the next few weeks. If you are flexible, have fine finger and hand dexterity, detail oriented, eager to learn new things, and want a valuable trade as your career this is a wonderful opportunity. No prior sewing experience is needed, but assessments will be required prior to being accepted into the program. We prefer individuals with a high school education or equivalent. Individuals who are blind or

visually impaired are encouraged to apply quickly. First classes will be in late August.

You request an application or set up an assessment by calling: Kathy Goodin-Mitchell at 214.420.6573 or send an email to kathy.goodin-mitchell@dallaslighthouse.org
Please don't delay. More than one opening is available, but going quickly.

An Exciting App for the Blind from Wayne Merritt, Technology Teacher, Criss Cole Rehabilitation Center in Austin

This app is not new, but some exciting things are happening with it. The app is free and called Disney Movies Anywhere. In short, one can use this on their device to listen to described movies on TV, DVD, or even—here's the exciting part—in the theater! Once this app is downloaded and an account created, there are 5 tabs across the bottom: Featured, Movies, My Collection, Discover and More. In the center of the screen on the featured tab is a button labeled, Go to movies with audio description. Once you double tap that, there is a list of all of the movies that have audio description. At the very top of the list is Finding Dory, which opened last month. "Dory" is the first theater release movie with audio description. I went to see this movie over the weekend at a theater which did not offer any described showings. I found the movie in the audio described list, and there were two buttons under the movie's heading: Sync and Play Audio, and Download Audio. Once I hit the Sync and Play Audio button, the movie loaded then the app asked to use my microphone in order to hear the movie, and then the description started playing in my earbuds. This is truly exciting and hopefully more theater release movies will be supported. This app can be used to get descriptions for Disney, Pixar, Marvel and Star Wars movies, which covers a lot of movies.

I have heard from others that this app can be used to get descriptions from movies on TV or DVD. In the case of the TV movie, one would need to hit the Sync and Play Audio button after each commercial. You can also link this app to your iTunes or other accounts, so that when you rent/buy a movie through those accounts you can get audio description with this app. This is a review for this app, and a podcast of someone going over how to use the app. Note that the podcast was made before "Finding Dory" was released. Also note that the developer has made some accessibility enhancements in the app, so what you hear in the podcast may have changed. The app is very easy to use and navigate.

[if !supportLists]· [endif]<http://www.applevis.com/apps/ios/entertainment/disney-movies-anywhere-watch-your-disney-disney-pixar-marvel-and-star-wars>

PricewaterhouseCoppers (PwC) will be providing another Financial Earn Your Futures Training on Friday July the 29th.

June's PwC "Saving & Budgeting" seminar was a huge success. We look forward to another opportunity to gain expert advice on critical financial subjects. Stay tuned for details under a separate email regarding the upcoming program.

Bowling Fun

The Dallas Lighthouse will be sponsoring a bowling event for our blind and visually impaired friends on Friday, July 22, from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM at Bowl and Barrel in “The Shops at Park Lane.”

The address is 8084 Park Lane #145, Dallas, TX 75231. We have approximately 25 spots available for bowling. Please contact Noeline.Kwasha@dallaslighthouse.org and book a spot. We also need 8 sighted bowling volunteers. Please hurry and let Noel know you are attending!

Useful Technology

Now you can control your fan, heater, coffee maker, and more directly from your iPhone and Siri. Switch is the new connected wall plug from iDevices. Turn items on and off with a Siri command, or from the app. Plus, you can now monitor energy usage with the accessible iDevices app and cut down on your electric bill. You can do even more with the forthcoming Home app for iOS 10. It's a new kind of HomeKit product that we think you'll love.

[Get the Switch Connected Plug Now for \\$49.99](#)

New Vocalizer and Eloquence Voices for NVDA

Now you can use the voices you love with NVDA, the free and popular screen reader from NVAccess. The new Code Factory add-on consists of the popular Eloquence and Vocalizer Text-To-Speech synthesizer to be used with NVDA. Plus, we have a 7 day demo for you to try it out.

[Check out the Code Factory NVDA Add-on for \\$69 or Get a 7-day Demo](#)

Lowest Price Ever on the Blaze EZ Multiplayer from Hims

A T Guys is an authorized dealer for the Blaze portable multiplayers from Hims. Not only do these units play books in just about any format imaginable, it also includes OCR for reading print and wireless capabilities. Through June 30, get the Blaze EZ for our lowest price ever at \$495, a \$100 savings.

[Learn more about the Blaze Ez Multiplayer from Hims](#)

An Invitation worth Your Consideration from Rhanda Hasley

Join Texas Church Conference for the Blind (TCCB) 2016 Retreat, August 26, through August 28. This event will be at Mt. Lebanon Camp located 1701 Texas Plume Road Cedar Hill, TX, 75104. Payment of \$99 affords your lodging, and six meals. One on Friday, three Saturday and two Sunday. You will be provided a motel-style room with two beds. In most cases you will have a roommate. If you and another person wish to room together, please indicate their name on your application. The lodging rooms are located near the building where the retreat attendees will be dining and having sessions.

All checks or money orders should be made out to TCCB for \$99. Or \$104 if you choose to include annual dues. In the memo area of the check or money order, indicate the name of the attendee. Send payments to TCCB, c/o Glenda L. Goodwin-Treasurer, 1500 N. Garrett Ave., Apt. 323, Dallas, TX 75206. Payments must be received or postmarked by August 1, 2016. If

payments are late, but postmarked by August 8, please include a \$10 late fee. Any payments postmarked after August 8, will not be accepted. TCCB President Rehnee Aikens can be reached for a review on what you can look forward to, or an application requests. Phone: 713-526-4814 Email : Rehnee1785@gmail.com. Please bring quarters if you want to use the drink and snack machines in the conference sessions building. We look forward to your attendance.

Excellent Info from a Pro Jessica Bimmermann for those considering a Dog Guide

Jessica works as a Guide Dog Mobility Instructor (GDMI) for the internationally accredited organization Guide Dogs of Texas. This organization is based in Texas, and they only issue dogs to Texas residents. They do in home trainings their clients do not need to travel out of state as the dogs are delivered to them, and so this means no need to orientate to a new environment or take lengthy time off of work. They do have a longer waiting list than some of the bigger organizations, but they do find that their applicants are willing to wait for the dogs that they train. If you have questions about their program you can check out their website at www.guidedogsoftexas.org , and if you cannot find the answer there you can reach out to Jessica anytime. She is based in the Houston area, and there to help. The Hadley Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired offers a great course on Guide Dogs, and the NFB put out a list on the following website <https://nfb.org/resource-list-guide-dog-schools> which categorizes them by state.

Each organization will offer different services, so I encourage anyone that is interested in attaining a guide dog to do research and select the organization that is right for you. Feel free to reach out to Jessica Bimmermann for answers, at jessica@guidedogsoftexas.org

You are cordially invited to the Grand Opening of 4 LOW VISION

Please join us for refreshments and snacks on Friday, July 15th from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm as we celebrate the grand opening of a new store featuring items for those with vision loss.

The store is located at American Foundation for the Blind Center on Vision Loss

11030 Ables Lane Dallas, TX 75229

Call the store: (469) 522-1803

E-mail the store: 4lowvisionstore@gmail.com

It's Bingo Night This Friday – 7pm

Join your familiar friends and make some new ones at Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind on Bingo night Friday, July 15th. Food, prizes, and best of all fellowship. Keep in mind Bingo is on the third Friday evening of the month from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. We'll look forward to hearing and seeing you soon.

Calling All Advocates for Described TV and Web Accessibility!

This year marks the 26th anniversary of the signing of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Each year, advocates look for ways in which to properly commemorate the ADA and to celebrate the promise of equal access that it represents. This year, we have a unique opportunity to raise our voices on behalf of equal access, and you are invited to be a part of this nationwide effort.

Described TV

In an exciting development, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is proposing to expand the number of hours of described television that will be required of the nation's top networks. It is critical that the FCC hear from as many of us as possible with our expressions of support for their proposal and to help build a strong record showing how important, useful and enjoyable described TV is for our community. Both AFB and ACB will be preparing formal comments to respond to this proposal, but we cannot do this work alone. Our community needs to make it crystal clear to the FCC and to the broadcast and cable/satellite industries as well, that we are committed to seeing described TV become the rule and not the exception.

Web Accessibility

On a much less happy front, the Obama Administration has determined yet again to delay movement on the issuance of regulations clarifying the application of the ADA to online-only places of public accommodation. Most recently, the Administration scuttled a set of proposed federal regulations developed by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) which, once finalized would have provided even greater clarity about the web accessibility obligations of state and local governments. Now to try and pick up the pieces, the DOJ is asking advocates yet again to weigh in and share our views on the importance of web access to governmental programs and services.

How You Can Help

This Wednesday afternoon, July 13 beginning at 3pm Eastern, you are invited to join a national teleconference jointly hosted by AFB and ACB to learn how you can, with a simple email let policy makers know exactly how you feel about these two vital issues. While there are important legal and other substantive questions that both AFB and ACB will be providing written comment on for both the FCC and the DOJ, we cannot do this work alone. A strong showing by our community will be decisive in making any progress toward expanded described TV and web accessibility.

Dial: 1-866-901-2585 Participant Code: 42757945

Inspirational Quotes on Work

- 1. I know you've heard it a thousand times before. But it's true - hard work pays off. If you want to be good, you have to practice, practice, practice. If you don't love something, then don't do it. *Ray Bradbury***
- 2. It seems the harder I work, the more luck I have. *Thomas Jefferson***
- 3. Don't wish it were easier. Wish you were better. *Jim Rohn***
- 4. Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work. *Thomas Edison***

5. Work is love made visible. *Kahlil Gibran*
6. Nothing is really work unless you would rather be doing something else. *James M Barrie*
7. Genius is 1 percent inspiration and 99 percent perspiration. Accordingly a genius is often merely a talented person who has done all of his or her homework. *Thomas Edison*
8. The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary. *Vincent Lombardi*
9. Striving for success without hard work is like trying to harvest where you haven't planted. *David Bly*
10. My grandfather once told me that there were two kinds of people: those who do the work and those who take the credit. He told me to try to be in the first group; there was much less competition. *Indira Gandhi*

Your Input...

Do you have an upcoming event you want our readers to know? Email or call me with the info. We'll spread the news.

How about a personal story or assistive technology article to share? Please email or call me to establish a quick interview time.

Make your comments and suggestions by emailing info@dallaslighthouse.org

Call me, at (214) 420-9419.

Stay tuned for more **news you can use**, for the blind, visually impaired, and beyond.

Blake Lindsay

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