



December 1, 2017 

Bluegrass Council of the Blind, Inc.  
1093 South Broadway, Suite 1214  
Lexington, KY 40504  
[info@bcbky.org](mailto:info@bcbky.org) 859-259-1834

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**MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND DIRTY SANTA GIFT EXCHANGE**



Get ready for a Holiday meal with pork ribs and delicious sides! BCB will be hosting its annual Holiday Party on Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from noon until 3 PM. BCB will be providing the pork ribs, sides and drinks. Members may bring a dessert to share if they wish, but it is not required. Come prepared to have a good time and celebrate with your BCB family! Back by popular demand will be the rousing game of Dirty Santa. If you

wish to receive a gift in the Dirty Santa game, please participate by bringing a wrapped gift (value \$10) for someone else to open. Just remember that whatever gift you open may be “stolen” by another player. That’s why it’s called “Dirty Santa!” We will also have volunteers on hand to administer end of the year surveys at this event and we appreciate your participation as it helps us with grant requests and reports. **Be sure to RSVP for this event by Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> or earlier. Keep in mind, only guests that BRING a gift will be able to participate in the Dirty Santa game.**

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**BCB IS STILL COLLECTING PLASTIC LIDS FOR RECYCLING**

BCB is assisting the Lexington Lions Club with collecting plastic lids to recycle and turn into park benches to be placed in Masterson Station Park, where the Lions Club hosts the Bluegrass Fair each year. Any amount that you can donate would be greatly appreciated. This keeps the plastic out of our landfills and creates a lifelong bench for people to enjoy. Lids that are accepted include: medicine bottle caps, milk jug caps, detergent caps, hair spray caps, toothpaste tube caps, drink bottle caps, condiment flip-top caps, peanut butter lids, yogurt container lids, etc. Please deliver the lids for donation loose in bags and not attached to the containers they came off of. If you have any questions about what lids are acceptable, please give us a call at (859) 259-1834.

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**BCB WINTER WEATHER PLAN – BCB follows Fayette County School delays and closings in the winter. In the case of bad weather or public holidays, it is best for you to call the office, (859) 259-1834, the morning of an event to be sure we are open before you venture out. PLEASE STAY SAFE!!!**

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## ORCAM DEMONSTRATION – DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>



Hear any text appearing on any surface, recognize the faces of people in your life, identify products and much more! For people who are blind or visually impaired, the OrCam MyEye provides independence! Join us at BCB on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 1-2 PM for a presentation and demonstration by Sheri Pruitt. She'll be showing off all the new features that were recently added! Call the BCB office at (859) 259-1834 to RSVP.

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## CARROLL CENTER SEEKS PARTICIPANTS FOR A PAID PHONE SURVEY

Carroll Center seeks participants for a compensated phone survey with Dartmouth College to be held between November 30 and December 14.

### About the study

Between November 30 and December 14, researchers from Dartmouth College will be conducting a phone survey. We are seeking interested participants who have impaired vision.

### Who we need

Participants must be at least 18 years of age and be available for a 45-minute phone call between the dates of November 30 and December 14. We are looking for individuals with any level of visual impairment, ranging from low vision to legal blindness, but not totally blind.

### Compensation

Each participant will be reimbursed for their time with an Amazon gift card provided after the survey completion, either via email or physical mail. All participants will be provided with an electronic study information form prior to participating. Please contact the email address below with questions about compensation amount and/or study eligibility.

### How to respond

If you are interested or would like more details about the study, please send an email to [dartmouth.cvg@gmail.com](mailto:dartmouth.cvg@gmail.com) with the following information:

- Your name
- Your phone number
- Your age
- Your gender
- The source of your visual impairment and level of visual ability
- A set of possible times between November 30 and December 14 when we could call you on the phone and conduct the survey.

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**REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR 2018**  
***Letter from the Peer Support Program Coordinator***

Dear BCB Members and Friends,

Members are crucial to the development and leadership of our organization. Our members provide guidance and direction for BCB staff and programs. For as little as \$10 per year, you can become a part of the community that is changing lives of the blind and visually impaired. Membership with BCB also includes membership with the American Council of the Blind (ACB). Together, you will be connected with thousands of individuals who provide support and share information about issues related to vision loss. If you can and want to contribute more to the membership fund, please accept our heartfelt thanks. Your dollars will be put to the best possible use helping assist blind and visually impaired people lead safe, healthy and independent lives!

**If you are renewing your membership, you can use the envelope provided in this mailing to send in your check.** Please call the office to update us on any changes in your personal information. If you are new to BCB, call our office today at (859) 259-1834 to request a membership application by mail or visit our website at [bcbky.org](http://bcbky.org) to download and print an application from home. Thank you for being a vital part of our community!

With gratitude,

Susan Ament  
BCB Peer Support Program Coordinator

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**5 COOL THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH THE AMAZON ECHO**

1. Alexa, did the University of Kentucky win? You can ask Alexa to look up any info you're curious about, like sports schedules and scores; who won the Golden Globe for best actor; or what year Cleopatra was born. She can even answer math problems!
2. Alexa, set timer for 10 minutes. Whether you're setting an alarm for the cookies in the oven or the kids' daily reading, it's really easy to just call out for Alexa to do it for you.
3. Alexa, start 7-minute workout. The results offer simple exercises like jumping jacks and sit ups.
4. Alexa, what are your deals? Get special deals from Amazon, just for Alexa users. Just be sure that if you turned Voice Purchasing off, you've got it turned back on if you want to shop.
5. Alexa, play Jeopardy. Trivia buffs will love the Jeopardy style questions that Alexa asks each day. Just don't forget to answer in the form of a question!

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## **SUPPORT THE 2017 ACB RADIO HOLIDAY AUCTION!**

***Information from the ACB website at <http://acb.org/holiday-auction>***

Get ready to bid! Get ready to buy! Get ready to support the 2017 ACB Radio Holiday Auction, coming to you live on Sunday, December 3, from 7:00 PM to midnight Eastern Time (4:00 PM to 9:00 PM Pacific), or until all items are sold.

Originating from the iHeartMedia studios in Louisville, Kentucky, the auction will be live-streamed on five ACB RADIO channels and on ACB Radio's Audio Now telephone service. Listen on your computer at [www.acbradio.org](http://www.acbradio.org), through the ACB Link iPhone app, on TuneIn Radio on your iPhone or Amazon Alexa device, or on your telephone by calling 605-475-8130. All proceeds benefit ACB Radio.

To place a bid, call 877-904-1080 (toll-free) and 502-571-1080. If one number is busy when you call, be sure to try the other one. Once you place your bid(s), hang up and listen to the broadcast. If you are outbid, you may call back and bid again; you may not stay on the line while others bid. No pre-bidding allowed.

A total of 70 items will be up for bid; lots of technology! Here's a sneak peek:

- Echo Connect - for calling any number anywhere from your existing home phone service, just using your voice;
- Amazon Fire Tablet;
- Amazon 2nd Generation Echo and Echo Dot;
- A Focus 40 Blue braille display;
- A Rainbow II color identifier;
- An ACB Mega Power Bank hiding inside an ACB computer messenger bag;
- A pair of tiny micro drones for lots of flying fun;
- MagicBeatz Pro wireless earbuds; and
- An iPhone 8 X-travaganza.

Read complete auction rules and check out all our great items by visiting the ACB website at [www.acb.org](http://www.acb.org) and following the 2017 Holiday Auction link. Help us take your first bid faster by pre-registering for the auction; it only takes a few minutes and it will make the bidding move along faster on Sunday. To pre-register, call 877-630-7190 between 8:00 AM and 8:00 PM today (Thursday) or tomorrow (Friday).

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**UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:**



**DECEMBER 7, 2017** – BCB December Membership Meeting and Dirty Santa Gift Exchange will be from Noon – 3 PM

**DECEMBER 12, 2017** – Sheri Pruitt will be giving a presentation and demonstration on the OrCam from 1-2 PM! She'll be showing off the new features that were recently added.

**DECEMBER 25, 2017** – BCB will be closed for Christmas Day

**JANUARY 1, 2018** – BCB will be closed for New Year's Day

**FEBRUARY 8, 2018** – Our very own Tess Flynn will be leading a cooking class where she'll be focusing on measuring ingredients and using the oven! Limited space available so RSVP soon by calling (859) 259-1834.

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**FREE MATTER FOR  
THE BLIND AND  
HANDICAPPED**

**«Name»  
«Address»  
«City», «State» «Zip»**