



OCTOBER 2020

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OCTOBER IS BLINDNESS AND VISUAL IMPAIRMENT AWARENESS MONTH IN KENTUCKY

...and we hope you will join us in celebrating by checking out all the fun activities we have planned for the month of October!

A promotional banner for the SEE Cruise 2020. On the left is the Bluegrass Council of the Blind logo. The main text "SEE CRUISE 2020" is in large, yellow, outlined letters. Below it, it says "Presented by Gates Ford" with the Ford logo and "GATES AUTO FAMILY" logo. At the bottom left, it says "Sailing the Airwaves Oct. 4-11, 2020!". On the bottom right is an illustration of a cruise ship sailing on blue waves.

It's Time to Sail the Air-Waves for SEE Cruise 2020

The Bluegrass Council of the Blind's 2020 SEE Cruise - "Sailing the Air-Waves!" begins an extended, week-long virtual cruise this Sunday, October 4th. We will launch our online auction and raffle, followed by a week of exciting live, online updates, auction package features, giveaways, and will reach our final destination with a "sail-abration" on October 11th from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. featuring live music from Conch Republic and lots of fun with our honorary SEE Captain, LEX18 Chief Meteorologist, Bill Meck. Tune in for fun and philanthropy on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram or on the auction website.

This cruise ship-themed virtual event will sail the air-waves from the live sound stage at the Lexington School for Recording Arts and will broadcast LIVE over multiple social media platforms and on our event website, givergy.us/bcb2020seecruise.

We hope you will join us on **October 11th** at 4 p.m. for the finale and invite your friends to join in the “sail-abration” online!

The 2020 SEE Cruise is presented by Gates Ford and we are thrilled to have a long list of very supportive sponsors and we would like to recognize them for their generosity! Please see below for our list of sponsors for the 2020 SEE Cruise!

2021 Membership Drive

October kicks off BCB's Membership Drive! It has been our tradition that if you pay your dues starting in October, it will count for the entire following year. This gives you a chance to get a head start on becoming a member or renewing your dues. Membership is vital to the work of BCB and, although it is not necessary to be a member in order to obtain services, we are a membership-driven organization and need the support of committed members. The great news is that the membership dues are still only \$10 a year!

Please consider paying your dues now by making a check out to Bluegrass Council of the Blind (with member dues in the memo line) and dropping it in the mail addressed to: Bluegrass Council of the Blind, 1093 S Broadway Ste 1214, Lexington KY 40504.

Alternatively, you can pay by credit card by visiting our website at bcbky.org or call the office at 859-259-1834. Thank you and an early Happy New Year!

Pictured right is Kris Seeger, left, and BCB Board President Judy Potter packing items for the monthly food distribution at BCB while social distancing on September 23rd.



BCB October Community In-ing:

Don Blevins, Fayette County Clerk will be on a Zoom conference call for BCB participants to inform and answer your questions about the voting process. Be sure to join the call to get the latest in order to make your vote count!

Date: Monday, October 5th

Time: 1 p.m.

Topic: How to Vote

Presenter: Don Blevins, Fayette County Clerk

Location: via Zoom Program

RSVP: Call 859-259-1834 or email susana@bcbky.org for Zoom access info.

November 3rd is Election Day! Be Prepared to Vote!

There are four ways for Kentucky voters to cast their ballot for the November election:

- 1) In-person before Election Day, on October 13th to November 2nd
- 2) In-person on Election Day, November 3rd
- 3) By absentee ballot (return by mail or ballot dropbox)
- 4) VotingWorks (See below)

The deadline to register to vote in Kentucky is **October 5th**. The deadline to apply online for an Absentee ballot is **October 9th** or call the Fayette County Clerk at 859-253-8377 if you need help.

IF YOU INTEND TO VOTE IN PERSON, DO NOT REQUEST A MAIL-IN BALLOT.

According to Section 23 of the emergency regulations for this election, "Once a voter has requested a mail-in absentee ballot, the voter cannot vote in person unless the voter does not receive their requested ballot by October 28, 2020."

Uber will help you register to vote and give you a discounted ride to the polls on Election Day.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/suzannerowankelleher/2020/09/15/uber-will-help-you-register-to-vote---and-give-you-a-discounted-ride-to-the-polls-on-election-day/>

VotingWorks Also Available for Individuals with Vision Impairment

In the past, it has not been possible for a person who is blind or who has a print disability to vote independently by absentee ballot. Now, thanks to the combined efforts of Kentucky Protection and Advocacy, the National Federation of the Blind and NFB of Kentucky, and the American Council of the Blind and the Kentucky Council of the Blind, absentee voting for people with print disabilities will be provided by VotingWorks for the upcoming general election. Accessible voting options will also be available at in-person polls throughout the state.

Blind and low-vision voters who are considering using the Voting Works system to mark their absentee ballot for the November general election are encouraged to become familiar with this system prior to the election.

To assist with this process, Voting Works has created a demo ballot that can be accessed and marked as many times as you wish. The link to the demo ballot and login information is as follows:

<https://demo.access.vote/>

First Name: Demo

Last Name: Voter

DoB: 01/01/1980

Access PIN: 040665

BCB October Mentoring Support Groups

There will be two virtual mentoring support groups in October.

Dates: Wednesday, October 14th, 1 p.m.

Monday, October 19^t, 7:30 p.m.

Topic: Understanding Acceptance as it relates to Vision Loss and Blindness

Host: Susan Ament, Ph.D.

RSVP to Susan at susana@bcbky.org or call 859-259-1834.

BCB October Accessible Technology Seminar

In this month's AT Seminar, we are covering some of the new and exciting features of iOS 14. Come see what is new and how these changes and updates will work with accessible features like VoiceOver and magnification. Please join us! Everyone is welcome!

Date: Tuesday, October 27th

Time: 7 p.m.

Location: Zoom

Topic: What's new in IOS 14

Presenter: Richard Sizemore, BCB

RSVP: Call the office for the zoom link or preregister at this link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpfuuqrjgtE9Y88TGw6CJbbq2oIOPmCgOj>

BCB October Lunch & Learn

Barbara Penegor, with Kentucky Talking Books Library (KTBL), will talk about updates at KTBL, current status, safety measures and the new Braille and E-reader pilot project.

There will be time for questions, as well as sharing and chatting about our favorite authors and books, recommendations and ideas for reading,

Date: Wednesday, October 28th

Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Via Zoom meeting

Presenter: Barbara Penegor, Branch Manager, KTBL

Topic: KTLB Updates

RSVP: Call the office 859-259-1834 or email susana@bcbky.org for Zoom access. Remember you can use an ordinary telephone as well as a computer or tablet to call and join in the Zoom meeting.

BCB November Community In-ing

Bob Denham, a BCB member and Lions Club member who prepares lunches for the Lexington Lions Club will be sharing with us some tips for preparing delicious foods suitable for a diabetes-friendly lifestyle. He will also include a discussion of ideas and devices that make cooking easier for people with blindness and low vision. This will be a great way to gear up for holiday cooking! You may even discover a new, fun hobby!

Date: Monday November 9th

Time: 1 p.m.

Topic: Preparing Diabetes Friendly Dishes

Presenter: Bob Denham, Lexington Lions Club

Location: Via Zoom meeting

RSVP: Call the office 859-259-1834 or email susana@bcbky.org for Zoom access. Remember you can use an ordinary telephone as well as a computer or tablet to access a zoom meeting!

A NEW WAY TO ACCESS THE eyeKNOW NEWS!

Due to the recent and on-going issues with the delivery speed of the mailed newsletters, we have been challenged with getting creative on how to ensure an accessible delivery method of our monthly newsletter and calendar.

We are excited to announce that you can now hear a recording of the BCB eyeKNOW NEWS simply by calling the BCB office at 859-259-1834 and pressing "8" when prompted. The newsletter will be at extension 8 and a recording of the calendar will be at extension 9. The new automated system can put you directly through to the recordings, or, if your call is answered by a staff member, simply tell them you would like to listen to the newsletter or calendar and they will connect you.

We hope you enjoy this new option that can be reached anytime, day or night, when it is convenient for you! Enjoy and Happy Listening!

Condolences

On behalf of the staff, board and members of BCB, we extend our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of four of our members who passed away this past month: Cleophus Charles, Curtis Harlin, Ralph Huffsey and LaVonna Snell. We are deeply

saddened by their passing. All four were committed and involved BCB members and will be greatly missed. A moment of silence will be observed during the BCB Membership Meeting in memory of each of these dedicated members.

Medication Safety Awareness for the Blind Can Save Lives

Imagine if you can't see to read your prescription labels. The dangers of dosage mistakes can lead to illness, hospitalization, or even death. Almost 12 million Americans have vision impairment, including 1 million who are blind and 3 million who



have vision impairment after correction, according to the CDC, and some of those individuals live right here in our community.

Many individuals who are blind, visually impaired, or print impaired do not realize that thousands of participating pharmacies throughout the U.S. and Canada offer FREE accessible prescription labels. Which is why BCB is stepping up to devote some time and resources to spreading the word through Medication Safety Awareness for the Blind (MSAB).

Together we can make a difference. One of the most popular types of accessible prescription labels is ScripTalk talking medication labels. Through this program, the pharmacist places a small electronic tag on the prescription package. A patient can then receive a FREE talking prescription reader, or download a free mobile App that will read all their prescription label information aloud, including: drug name, dosage, instructions, instructions, warnings, pharmacy information, doctor name, prescription number and date. Learn more about MSAB and how to participate by visiting <https://mailchi.mp/envisionamerica/msab>.



Book of the Month

Ahoy BCB Mates! Here's some fun reading to set the mood for BCB's 8th annual SEE Cruise. We hope you'll join us on October 4-11th, from your very own Captain's bridge, for BCB's 1st virtual SEE Cruise! It's a fun-filled week of entertainment, great auction items and you'll guide your ship into port on Sunday, October 11th from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., with a performance from the band Conch

Republic! Remember all those times you were dying to get up and dance but too embarrassed! Jump right in that Congo line with SU-nora (our very own Executive Director)!

“Tales from Margaritaville: Fictional Facts and Factional Fictions”

By: Jimmy Buffett

Book Number: DB30571 **Reading Time:** 5 hours, 43 minutes

Read by Christopher Hurt. A production of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress.

Access: Downloadable Talking Book

Singer, guitarist, songwriter, and band leader Buffett creates a grab bag of lighthearted fun. The eight short stories introduce characters such as rock and roll singer Freddy Fishstick; cowboy Tully Mars; and Angel Beech, named for her father’s favorite fishing spot. Buffett’s nonfiction pieces describe his love for sailing and his world travels. Some strong language. Bestseller.

Disclaimer: The book recommendations and opinions from staff and others do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Bluegrass Council of the Blind, Inc.

BCB OCTOBER CALENDAR

October

World Blindness & National Disability Employment Awareness Month

Blindness and Visual Impairment Awareness Month in Kentucky

Eye Injury Prevention Month

October 3rd, National Blind Sports Day

October 10th: World Sight Day

October 15th: National White Cane Safety Day

BCB 2020 SEE Cruise – Sailing the Air Waves

Date: Sunday, October 4th to Sunday, October 11th

(Finale)The Final “Sail-abration”: Oct. 11th, 4 - 5:30 p.m.

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SEE CRUISE 2020

Featuring:



2020 SEE

CRUISE

SPONSORS:

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



PARTY BARGE SPONSOR:



RETINA ASSOCIATES
OF KENTUCKY

PORT SPONSORS:

Anelle Congleton, in Memory of Bill “Congo” Congleton

Davis and Plomin Mechanical

Mark Corrado

Kentucky Institute for Eye Health & Surgery

United Healthcare

TUGBOAT SPONSORS:

Susie Basham, Realtor, The Agency

Bluegrass Parrot Head Club

Cassie and Jason Collins

The Delta Gamma Foundation

Kentucky Academy of Eye Physicians & Surgeons

Kentucky Health Solutions

Rick & Brenda Satterwhite

The Sam Shubert Foundation

Melody Leigh Bell