**Dots and Dashes**

**June 3, 2024**

# **Urgent FDA Recall**

Version 2.7 of the t:connect iOS app has been found to crash, and is now [**the subject of an FDA recall**](https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/medical-device-recalls/tandem-diabetes-care-inc-recalls-version-27-apple-ios-tconnect-mobile-app-used-conjunction-tslim-x2). [A Class I recall](https://www.fda.gov/medical-devices/postmarket-requirements-devices/recalls-corrections-and-removals-devices#:~:text=Class%20I%20%2D%20a%20situation%20in,adverse%20health%20consequences%20or%20death.) is the most urgent of the three categories, and is used only when “there is a reasonable probability that the use of, or exposure to, a violative product will cause serious adverse health consequences or death.”

A bug in the app is causing it to repeatedly crash and restart. Each time it does, it establishes a new Bluetooth connection, which drains the battery in the pump itself.

What to do? The bug has been fixed in version 2.7.1 of the app, so all users should ensure they have updated to this version. Users should also ensure that the pump is fully charged before going to sleep, and always charge it at the first low-battery alert.

# **2024 International Voices Contest**

ACB’s International Relations Committee invites entries to our 2024 International Voices Contest! This opportunity will enable international guests to receive complimentary virtual registration to our 2024 conference and convention, occurring June 27-29 and July 5-12, 2024. The convention will be packed with over 200 sessions on all aspects of living with blindness, including advocacy, technology, employment, transportation, and audio description, and sessions of interest to communities such as guide dog users, students and young professionals, seniors, and more. You will be able to browse all sessions at [**https://acbconvention.org**](https://acbconvention.org)beginning in mid-May. Note that while a select number of tours and sessions are in-person only, the vast majority can be attended virtually.

Being selected as one of our winners would grant you free virtual attendance. Please note that, should you choose to attend in person, this does not include any travel expenses or hotel rooms.

To be eligible, you must reside outside of the United States and its territories. To participate, kindly submit an audio recording of up to 10 minutes in length discussing your blindness-related experiences in your country, your message to the blindness community in the United States, and why you wish to attend the ACB convention. The top three contestants will receive complimentary registration, and the first-place winner will have the opportunity to address a general session of the convention via a pre-recorded video interview with the Committee chair.

Send your audio files to Committee chair Maria Kristic at [**acbinternationalcommittee@gmail.com**](mailto:acbinternationalcommittee@gmail.com) by **June 7**.

# **ACB Summer Auction Coming Up**

Just a friendly reminder about the ACB Summer Auction. There will be an appetizer auction on Thursday, June 20 starting at noon Eastern and closing on Friday, June 21 at noon. The second appetizer auction will open at noon on Friday, June 21 and close on Saturday, June 22 at noon Eastern. The main auction will be on Saturday night starting at 6 p.m. Eastern. Come and bid with all your friends! See you at the auction.

# **Ordering Dog Food for Convention**

Scoopmasters will provide and maintain our dog relief areas in Jacksonville. Locations of the dog relief areas will be shared via email lists and posted in the convention newspaper as soon as they are set up.

If you would like to pre-order dog food to be delivered to your hotel room, call Tim Stone at (661) 714-0749 or order online at [**http://scoopmasters.com/acb**](http://scoopmasters.com/acb).

Note from Tim: “It's a simple form that asks for name, phone number, brand and type of food. I will call to get the details within 24 hours, and I will accept payments at the hotel.” Food must be ordered by **June 25th** to ensure delivery.

# **Access Board Webinar on Title II of the ADA**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) has five “Titles” that provide different protections for people with disabilities. Title II of the ADA specifically covers public services provided by any state or local government. As a tax-funded entity, there are more accessibility requirements than expected of private entities or businesses. During this webinar on **Thursday, June 6 from 2:30 – 4:00 p.m. (ET)**, Access Board Accessibility Specialists will review what the different accessibility laws are, how they apply, and compare how the requirements for state or local government entities differ than those in the private sector. In addition to these concepts, the accessibility specialists will cover a broad overview of key components that are likely to apply to government funded spaces, such as accessible routes, toilet rooms, and counters.

For more information, or to register, visit [**https://www.accessibilityonline.org/ao/session/?id=111117**](https://www.accessibilityonline.org/ao/session/?id=111117). All webinars include video remote interpreting (VRI) and real-time captioning. Questions can be submitted in advance of the session or can be posed during the live webinar. Webinar attendees can earn continuing education credits. The webinar series is hosted by the [ADA National Network](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LmFjY2Vzc2liaWxpdHlvbmxpbmUub3JnL2FvLyIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDA1MjguOTUzOTQwNzEifQ.k1dexiSq2JO5M7d1PYoUrZSChOclp1EMsDrT6UUM-mg/s/3035869955/br/243153336722-l) in cooperation with the Board. [Archived copies](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHA6Ly93d3cuYWNjZXNzaWJpbGl0eW9ubGluZS5vcmcvYW8vYXJjaGl2ZXMvIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDUyOC45NTM5NDA3MSJ9.U01tBCSHDOPW0tuzQob3Yj1JtFk6ho626sOhHzd841Q/s/3035869955/br/243153336722-l) of previous Board webinars are available on the site.

# **Interview with a Chemist**

Join CareerConnect for our popular Career Conversations on Thursday, June 6th at 6 p.m. Eastern, where we will be interviewing Hoby Wedler, a chemist who is blind. Hoby will share his journey in obtaining his Ph.D. and moving into his career. To register, visit [**https://aph.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_F-o9Ev\_zTBOWCM2HHdkOEQ#/**](https://aph.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_F-o9Ev_zTBOWCM2HHdkOEQ#/).

# **Upcoming Webinar on Innovations in Accessibility**

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time

As communities work to improve safety for pedestrians through roadway design and countermeasures, it is important to consider and integrate solutions that address the mobility and accessibility needs for all. Specific designs, including tactile walking surface indicators, increase safety and enhance wayfinding in public rights-of-way for pedestrians with vision disabilities, especially on roads that may have features that are confusing, misleading, or lacking in tactile or audible information for wayfinding. This webinar will offer new, research-based recommendations for making complex intersections, floating boarding islands, separated bicycle lanes at sidewalk level, open plazas, and quick-build sidewalk extensions accessible to pedestrians with vision disabilities. Panelists from Accessible Design for the Blind and UNC Highway Safety Research Center will provide an overview of traditional practices and approaches used by pedestrians with visual impairments to navigate roads and how these can be supplemented by additional tactile information for wayfinding.

Panelists will present new research on tactile walking surface indicators in multimodal environments, including their detectability, integration into guidance systems, and recommendations for implementation. Following their presentations, panelists will respond to questions from attendees during a facilitated discussion period.

To register, visit [**https://unc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_wzI-sl0QT0Goo6wUAIvstA#/registration**](https://unc.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wzI-sl0QT0Goo6wUAIvstA#/registration).

# **Blindness and Mental Health Summit**

Accessible Pharmacy Services will hold a Blindness and Mental Health Summit on Friday, June 14th. The Summit is the largest online gathering of organizations and consumers sharing information, resources, and services focusing on mental health in the blindness, low vision, and disability communities.

The Summit is a 2-part event:

* Part 1 - Speaker Series at noon Eastern
* Part 2 - Exhibit Hall at 2:30 p.m. Eastern

ACB’s Mental Health and Wellness Committee, along with a number of other organizations, will be participating in the summit.

To register, or for more information, visit [**https://tinyurl.com/yee77vsj**](https://tinyurl.com/yee77vsj)**.**

# **Usability Sciences’ Paid Website Research Opportunity**

Do you enjoy visiting websites, but sometimes get frustrated that they are not user friendly? Usability Sciences conducts one-on-one user experience research discussions on websites and other digital products, and we sometimes have clients who are interested in hearing feedback from those who are blind or have low vision.

We have a research study coming up where users will participate in a 90-minute Zoom session and provide feedback on a financial services website. Remote sessions will occur July 16-18 and those who qualify and participate will receive a $150 online gift card for their time. You will have hundreds of choices for your online gift card, such as Amazon, Visa, Target, Walmart, Starbucks, etc.

If you would like to determine if you fit into a needed segment for this research – or if you would like to hear about other research studies in the future, complete our online screener here: **<https://bit.ly/usabilitysciences_B_LV>.**

If you need assistance, contact us via email, [recruiter@usabilitysciences.com](mailto:recruiter@usabilitysciences.com), or call us at (972) 550-1599.

# **The Vision-O Team Wants to Hear From You**

Kevin Navarro, a project team lead on behalf of the National Science Foundation, is working on a project meant to help people with visual impairments have a better quality of life.

The project is a feedback-based computer vision and LiDAR navigation system. They want to learn from all the people living with varying levels of blindness and enable more social inclusion, independence, and equality. The sensors and technologies they plan on using are miniature and meant to be as unobtrusive as possible. Their plan is that their product will be able to greatly improve how one navigates and interacts with all types of surroundings.

The Vision-O team is looking for your input in order to gauge what the most pressing needs of the visually impaired community are to make their product the best it can be.

For more information, please visit

[**https://sites.google.com/njit.edu/vision-o/home**](https://sites.google.com/njit.edu/vision-o/home).