

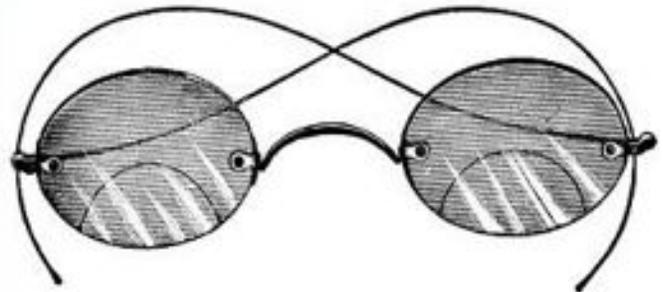


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ALDAgram – June 2017

In honor of Father's Day, which was June 18, ALDA Boston is giving away tee shirts to those who correctly identify some of the inventions of our Founding Fathers: Bifocals, Sunderland Bridge, the Threshing Barn, the Cipher Wheel, and the Lightning Rod.



Upcoming ALDA Events



There is still time to register for the fabulous ALDA Boston 4th of July BBQ, which will be held on Saturday, July 8th. Registration is needed so that we know how much food to purchase. If you haven't yet registered, email Lou & Linda Sakin at louissakin@aol.com or phone 508-620-1148.

Other Events of Interest



Museum of Fine Arts Accessible Guided Tours

There is no tour scheduled for July. August's tour of Jewelry at the MFA including the Revival Jewelry Exhibit will be on **Sunday, August 6**. Look for registration details in mid July.

Accessible Theater



Thanks to Felicity Lingle for telling us that Coolidge Corner theater has implemented accessibility upgrades and has Capti-View®, assistive listening devices, and visual narration for the blind. Here is the announcement and part of an article that Ginny Mazur has written: “The not-for-profit Coolidge Corner Theater is one of Brookline’s great treasures.... Coolidge Head Projectionist Nick Lazzaro contacted us a several months ago, to announce great news. The theater spent the winter completely revamping its assistive technology systems for Deaf, hard-of-hearing and vision-impaired audiences in all four movie houses, partnering with Boston Light & Sound to introduce state-of-the-art systems for communication access. For a movie-goer, like myself, with profound hearing loss, this is life-changing. For close to a decade, I’ve not been able to attend a first-run movie in a theater in English because there are no captions or subtitles. But now at the Coolidge captioning is available for most of the films that are screened. I attended La-La Land during its first week out. What a thrill to be back in the theater for a first run movie, following along without missing a beat, by reading captions through the new access system.”

To read the full article, go to <http://www.goddardhouse.org/Theater-Article.pdf>

News of Note

Healthy Hearing asked its readers where unexpected hearing hazards can lurk in everyday life, and the results came as no surprise to us! Whether it's at work, at play or even in your bedroom at night, dangerous noise is everywhere. For some, it's all part of the excitement. Find out how to [be prepared and preserve your hearing](#).

New Captioning Standards. Groups serving the Deaf and hard-of-hearing community, including ALDA and HLAA, have asked the FCC to make sure that closed captioning requirements carry over to the voluntary rollout of the ATSC 3.0 next gen transmission standard. That came in comments on the FCC proposal to allow broadcasters to start rolling out the new standard alongside the current ATSC 1.0 (ATSC 3.0 is not compatible with current TV sets).

"The captioning rules, which serve as 'curb cuts' to the social, cultural, democratic, and economic benefits of broadcast television, have ensured equal access over the past quarter-century..." they told the commission. They said they were generally supportive of the rollout, and that after conversations with the National Association of Broadcasters. They believe that the transition can occur without disrupting closed captions but want the FCC to make sure that happens." To read more, go to <http://www.multichannel.com/news/fcc/groups-seek-atsc-30-captioning-assurances-fcc/412814>

According to HLAA e-news, The **Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017** – bipartisan legislation that would make certain types of hearing aids available over the counter – is now a step closer to becoming a reality after it was attached to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) User Fee Reauthorization Act of 2017, which has been termed “must-pass” legislation. On May 11, the Senate HELP (Health, Education, Labor and Pensions) Committee [approved](#) the Reauthorization Act. It will now be sent to the Senate for a vote at some point in the near future. The Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2017 is one of the 20 amendments to the FDA User Fee Bill. The bill has also passed the first hurdle in the U.S. House of Representatives. The Health Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee adopted the amendment to the FDA User Fee Bill. The User Fee Bill is slated to be voted on by the full committee and then on to the House Floor in the coming weeks.

What are you listening to and watching on TV?



Deaf Singer Mandy Harvey Earns Simon Cowell's Golden Buzzer With Her Original Song "Try" on America's Got Talent 2017

To watch Mandy's performance, go to:

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/tv/tv-news/simon-cowell-mandy-harvey-agt-10595681> or watch on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZKSWXzAnVe0>



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