

DEAF SENIORS OF AMERICA 17th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2023



Deaf Seniors  
of America <sup>2</sup>



HOLLYWOOD, FL

DEAF SENIORS OF AMERICA  
ROCK SWIMMING  
SEMINOLE SWIMMING  
FITNESS CENTER  
FUN TOP HOSPITALITY  
EXCITING MORE FREE  
WORKSHOPS FUN WIFI  
DELICIOUS FREE SNOWING  
FOOD PARKING





# Welcome

EVERYONE UNDER THE SUN



We're thrilled to welcome you to Greater Fort Lauderdale. We trust you'll have a fantastic conference and enjoy your stay. To learn about everything to see and do, visit us online at [VisitLauderdale.com](http://VisitLauderdale.com).



**VISIT  
LAUDERDALE**  
EVERYONE UNDER THE SUN

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DSA Members:

As President of DSA, I finally can welcome you all to the 2023 DSA Conference in Hollywood, Florida!

Why “finally”?

It’s because we unfortunately had to submit to the pandemic and cancel the 2021 conference that was planned by the Pittsburgh committee under the shared leadership of Chris Noschese and Jeff Janaszek. Now it is four years since Seattle in 2019, and we can actually meet in person.



Chair Phil Aiello and his committee of volunteers, mostly from South Florida, have spent many hours developing plans to ensure your week will be entertaining, enjoyable, and educational. The schedule includes many workshops and events that will engage you. We anticipate that you will go home with wonderful memories.

Due to DSA’s increased collaborative efforts with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) in the past couple of years, we are delighted to welcome AARP Executive Vice President/Chief Diversity Officer Edna Kane-Williams. She will give a warm welcome as a proud sponsor, and speak briefly on her role and the importance of engaging with the Deaf community and people with disabilities communities. We are very much looking forward to having her.

Looking forward to meeting with you all this week!

Alfred Sonnenstrahl  
President, DSA



Connect Cherish Celebrate

JUNE 25–JUNE 29, 2023



Dear Conference registrants, Exhibitors, and Sponsors,

Welcome to the 17<sup>th</sup> Biennial Deaf Seniors of America Conference at the awesome Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino in Hollywood, Florida!!

We are excited to finally put the pandemic behind us and host our traditional biennial gathering of our deaf and hard of hearing seniors. In keeping with the conference theme, we will Connect with each other, renewing friendships and meeting new friends; we will Cherish each other and our community, and we will Celebrate with each other and look to the future.

This is the very first biennial conference hosted by DSA, a tradition that will continue thereafter. Our conference management team and volunteers are extremely excited that you are here with us in Hollywood, FL for what promises to be a great and exciting conference. It'll be packed with exciting tours, excellent workshops, two nights of professional entertainment and a variety of late hour activities.

I must say this conference would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors, the DSA Board, and the conference management team and volunteers. I want to thank all who have given their energy, talent, and time to create what I expect will be a highly successful conference.

Be prepared to come and explore the beauty of the Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino complex and its 15+ gourmet restaurants. Do not forget to visit the shopping arcade and try the ice cream and sorbet at Aubi & Ramsa.

No matter how busy I may be during the conference, please do not hesitate to stop and connect with me. I'd like to get to know you, where you are from, and what you enjoy best about this conference.

Cheers,

*Phil*

Phil Aiello  
Conference Chair





**RON DESANTIS**  
GOVERNOR

June 25, 2023

Dear Friends:

Welcome to Florida! It is my pleasure to welcome members from across the nation to the 2023 Deaf Seniors of America Conference at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino & Hotel.

Here in Florida, we prioritize and protect the health and safety of our 4.4 million valued elder members of society that deserve to lead longer, healthier, and more productive lives. I appreciate organizations like yours that serve to make a positive difference and improve the quality of life for senior citizens.

I hope that during your stay in Hollywood you will enjoy the local dining and attractions. Best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis  
Governor







On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners, it is an honor to welcome you to Broward County! We are excited to have you in our community. As a fourth-generation Broward County resident, it's a point of pride for me to shine a light on what makes our destination unique. From our beautiful eastern coastline with miles of sandy beaches to the wild everglades on the west, there is so much to do.



While you are enjoying the many educational sessions and activities the conference has to offer, I invite you to take time to explore our sunny region's entertainment, dining and recreational pursuits. Broward County is made up of 31 beautifully unique cities, each bringing its own dynamic impact to Broward County as a whole. Our residents are diverse, from many different backgrounds, ages and abilities. That is why it is always with great pleasure to welcome all to our community.

Thank you for bringing your organization to South Florida, we hope you enjoy your stay and best wishes on a successful conference at the iconic Seminole Hard Rock Hotel and Casino.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lamar P. Fisher".

Lamar P. Fisher  
Broward County Mayor  
Commission District 4

Mayor Josh Levy

Dear Friends,

## WELCOME TO HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA!

As Mayor of the City of Hollywood, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to each of you attending the First National Deaf Seniors of America (DSA) Conference June 25-29, 2023. We are delighted that you selected the Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Hollywood to host your first national conference. While you'll be busy making social connections and maximizing cultural engagement, I hope you will also have some time to enjoy all that Hollywood has to offer.

From our award-winning beaches and historic oceanfront boardwalk, lined with shops and restaurants, to our inviting downtown district, there's so much to see and do during your stay. Check out the more than 25 vibrant, larger-than-life wall murals or paddle a kayak through one of Florida's largest mangrove preserves at West Lake Park.

Hollywood is the perfect backdrop for this annual gathering, and an ideal place to inspire and share new ideas. We are a city that celebrates diversity and enjoys hosting visitors from all across the United States and abroad. We welcome your organization with its nearly 850 attendees participating in this year's conference.

As you forge new relationships over the next few days and gain additional tools and insightful relationships, we hope you'll also make wonderful memories of your stay in Hollywood!

Sincerely,

Josh Levy  
Mayor



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tel: 954.921.3321 • fax: 954.921.3386

[hollywoodfl.org](http://hollywoodfl.org) • [choosehollywoodfl.com](http://choosehollywoodfl.com)



Welcome to Greater Fort Lauderdale! We are delighted and are very excited to showcase our spectacular destination to all of you.

With 300 miles of navigable waterways and eight distinct beach communities spanning 24 miles of beautiful Atlantic coastline, it's easy to see why Greater Fort Lauderdale is known as "The Yachting Capital of the World" and the "Venice of America."

The 17<sup>th</sup> Biennial DSA 2023 Conference theme "Together, we build up our community" perfectly aligns with our destination's new brand campaign to welcome *Everyone Under The Sun*. We've had great success by focusing on what makes our community and our industry great – including our inclusivity, accessibility, and diversity.

We encourage all attendees to add a couple of days on the front or back-end of your conference so that you can discover all that Greater Fort Lauderdale has to offer. From incredible dining options to rooftop vistas and waterfront bars, shopping, and outdoor adventures, the possibilities are endless.

Warmest wishes for a memorable visit to Greater Fort Lauderdale,



Stacy Ritter  
President & CEO





# Board of Directors



**Alfred Sonnenstrahl**  
*President*  
[president@deafseniors.us](mailto:president@deafseniors.us)



**Phil Aiello**  
*Vice President*  
[vicepresident@deafseniors.us](mailto:vicepresident@deafseniors.us)



**Ellen Scheppach**  
*Secretary*  
[secretary@deafseniors.us](mailto:secretary@deafseniors.us)



**Michael Lockhart**  
*Treasurer*  
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**Richard McCowin**  
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**Raymond Kilthau**  
*Board Member*  
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**Elaine Navratil**  
*Board Member*  
[elaine.navratil@gmail.com](mailto:elaine.navratil@gmail.com)



## Executive Team



**Phil Aiello**  
Conference Chair



**Lance Fischer**  
Vice Chair



**Muriel Strassler**  
Public Relations



**Myrna 'Mo' Aiello**  
Admin./Accessibility



**Michael Lockhart**  
Business Manager

## Conference Management Team



**Adam Novsam**  
Ads/Accessibility



**Cathy Elder**  
Treasurer



**Don Galloway**  
Entertainment



**Donalda Ammons**  
Workshops



**Heath Alter**  
Tours



**Joel Pollick**  
Sr. Graphic Designer



**Kevin Nolan**  
Hospitality



**Kitty Fischer**  
Registration



**Mary Ann Corbett**  
Events



**Maureen Whetham**  
Volunteers



**Nancy Bloch**  
Sponsors



**Phil Esposito**  
Photography/Video



**Beth Wagmeister**  
Interpreting Coordinator

## **Thank You to Our Volunteers**

**Their hard work makes our conference go smoothly!**

Marie Adamo

Elaine Aiello

Preston Ashley

Glenna Ashton

Sydney Beckman

Doris Berman

Nancy Calderone

Iris Carvajal

Ann Conrad

Patti Esposito

Toni Falsetta

Hugh Farquhar

Anita Farquhar

Tom Fields

Susan Fisher

Michael Goldberg

Joel Goldfarb

Blake Goodman

Fred Hartman

Becky Hartman

Laurie Itteilag

Jordan Johnson

Adrian Kantor

Jeanie Lentini

Diane Lockhart

Holly MacFadden

Jim MacFadden

Jackie McBroom

George McCleary

June McMahon

James Muehlbach

Linda Muehlbach

Randi Pakula

Charlie Reisinger

Fern Reisinger

Susan Saperstein

Brian Saperstein

Boris Segal

Karen Shephard

Edward Shephard

Joel Silberstein

Laura Smith

David Tossman

Kim Tossman

Carol Trachtenberg

Darlene Watson

Lance Weinrib

Rosemarie Weinib

Susan Dramin-Weiss



# Thank You! TO OUR SPONSORS

## Deaf Seniors of America 2023 Conference

Diamond Level



Emerald Level



Ruby Level



Gold Level



Morgan Stanley

THE ROONEY SWANSON GROUP  
AT MORGAN STANLEY



Better Together  
ZVRS & Purple Communications

**RIT** | National Technical Institute for the Deaf

Silver Level



Bronze Level



Partner



## Past DSA Conferences

Year	Location	Theme
1992	Austin, TX	Our Heritage - Our Future
1994	Columbus, OH	Senior Citizens: The Root of Deaf Culture
1995	Ft. Lauderdale, FL	New Challenges, New Responses
1997	Phoenix, AZ	Senior Citizens Enhancing the Future of Deaf Culture
1999	Atlanta, GA	Building Tomorrows from Lessons of Yesterday
2001	Minneapolis, MN	Land of Four Seasons
2003	Boston, MA	The Spirit of New England: Re-Discover America's Heritage
2005	San Francisco, CA	Golden Gateway to Tomorrow
2007	Orlando, FL	Discover the Magic of Youth
2009	Las Vegas, NV	Enchanting Golden Years
2011	Chicago, IL	We, the People CANCELLED
2013	Baltimore, MD	Golden Years, Golden Times
2015	Ashville, NC	Trip Down Memory Lane
2017	Houston, TX	Remembering Austin...Our Heritage Continues
2019	Seattle, WA	Savor the Pacific Northwest...Experience the Difference
2021	Pittsburgh, PA	Bridging Deaf Seniors Together CANCELLED
2023	Hollywood, FL	Connect * Cherish * Celebrate

### DSA Past Presidents

Ralph White	1992-2001
Gertrude Galloway	2001-2007
Robert Cook	2007-2009
James Potter	2009-2013
Nancy Rarus	2013-2019
Alfred Sonnenstrahl	2019-2023

### Past New Horizon Editors

Eric Malzkuhn	1996-1999
Jim DeBonis	2000-2006
Harry Tremaine	2006-2008
Donna Wait	2008-2009 (Interim)
Ernie Hahn	2009-2016
Susan Sien	2016-2019
Muriel Strassler	2019-2023



# Visit Our Exhibitors!

## See the Latest in Deaf-centric Products and Services

Advanced Bionics  
AGED, Inc. Trust Company  
Amazon  
ASL Anywhere  
Association of Late-Deafen Adults  
Avamere at Chestnut Lane  
Cardinal Capital Mgmt  
Carlos ASL Shop  
Catch Rachie Boutique / LuLaRie  
Center for Hearing & Communication  
Cochlear Americas  
Deaf Authors  
Deaf Resorts  
Deaf Seniors of America  
Dome Audio  
EEOC  
Eisenberg & Baum  
Florida Deafblind Equip Distrib Pgrm  
Friendly Environmental Casade  
Gallaudet University  
Global VRS  
Hamilton CapTel  
Hands On Travel  
Health Markets  
Hear More  
Heart Cruise, LLC  
Jennifer Tandoc Artist  
Kerstin's Deaf Travel  
KODA  
Kramer Wealth Managers  
Libby Lael Author  
Living Insurance, LLC  
Medicare Insurance Advisors  
Morgan Stanley  
Mymmx DB Access256 Prod  
Nagish  
National Association of the Deaf  
National Institue for the Deaf/RIT  
New England Homes for the Deaf  
Nopadol Signaling Systems  
Romans Road for the Deaf  
Schuchman Deaf Documentary Center  
sComm  
Sign Talk, LLC  
Signs of Excellence, LLC  
Sorenson Communications  
SquareGlow  
Styles & Stuff  
Telecom Equip Distrib Prgm  
The Decker Team  
T-Mobile Accessibility  
Wilson Clinical Services, PLLC  
ZP Better Together

**Hard Rock**  
EVENT CENTER

# DSA 2023 Conference

**Hard Rock**  
LIVE

**DSA 2023 Exhibits**



**MAP LEGEND**

**AMENITIES**

- FedEx Office Business Center (A)
- Cashier Cage (E)
- Hard Rock Hotel Check-In (D)
- Hard Rock Hotel Valet (C)
- Hard Rock Live Box Office (F)
- Lucky Street Valet (I)
- Pool Cabana Access (B)
- The Guitar Hotel & Oasis Tower Check-In (H)
- The Guitar Hotel & Oasis Tower Valet (G)
- The Guitar Hotel Watersports (J)

**GAMING**

- High Limit Slots
- High Limit Tables
- Non-Smoking Slots
- Player's Club
- Poker Room
- Slots/Table Games

**DINING**

**ENTERTAINMENT**

**MEETINGS & EVENTS**

**PARKING**

**THE SHOPPES AT THE GUITAR HOTEL**

**Main Number 866.502.7529**  
**Customer Care 800.937.0010**





Witness The Guitar Light Show nightly!  
 Visit [GuitarLightShow.com](http://GuitarLightShow.com) for performance schedule.



Cashier & Credit



Escalators



Towel Hut



Dog Walking Areas



Fitness Station



Designated Smoking Areas



Elevators



Restrooms



Guest Entrances

# DINING

**B** BREAKFAST **L** LUNCH **D** DINNER

## ABIKA (28) **D**

American wood-fired grill restaurant showcasing culinary techniques of solid fuel grilling inspired by South Florida's unique bold flavors

## AUBI & RAMSA (17)

"Adult" ice cream made with top quality ingredients & infused with premium spirits (21+)

## BAE KOREAN GRILL (13) **D**

An authentic Korean barbecue experience featuring Shinpo grill tables & chef-prepared dishes

## BEACH CLUB BAR & GRILL (27) **L**

Poolside dining offering classic American favorites with a tropical twist

## CIPRESSO (12) **D**

Italian-American fare with a menu of time-honored classics based on old world traditions

## CONSTANT GRIND (19) **B L D**

Artisanal coffee shop with baked goods, sandwiches, salads, chocolates & gelato made in-house daily

## COUNCIL OAK STEAKS & SEAFOOD (21) **D**

Classic-American steakhouse offering USDA prime cuts of beef, raw bar, delectable seafood & award-winning wines of 400+ labels

## HARD ROCK CAFE (11) **L D**

American diner-inspired cuisine wrapped in a unique musical experience

## KURO (5) **D**

Award-winning, new-style Japanese restaurant using both locally sourced & imported ingredients

## MARKY'S CAVIAR LOUNGE (14) **D**

Full-service restaurant & bar serving French cuisine, caviar service & modern American influences in a chic & intimate dining room

## POOL BAR & GRILL (1) **L**

Poolside dining offering classic American favorites with a tropical twist

## RISE KITCHEN & DELI (23) **B L D**

24-hour contemporary American diner/deli serving all-day breakfast, hearty salads, burgers & sandwiches & deli offerings

# DINING (Cont...)

## THE BOL (7) **L D**

Offering delectable Vietnamese & Chinese cuisine

## THE FOOD COURT (3) **B L D**

Features Egg (all-day breakfast), Healthy (salads & vegan), Sirico's (pizza & Italian), Lucille's (hot dogs), Asian Palace & Shake N' Burger

# THE SHOPPES AT THE GUITAR HOTEL

## HARD ROCK STORE (a)

Look & feel like a rock star; open 24 hours

## HUBLLOT (d)

**NEW!** The Art of Fusion - Luxury Swiss timepieces combining tradition and innovation

## INMOTION (e)

Electronics retailer presenting the most cutting-edge gadgets

## JOCALE (f)

Locally inspired, on-trend gifts & products

## KRISTALS (b)

Gemstone-infused luxury skincare & cosmetics

## LAVISH EYEWEAR (c)

Functional & fashionable eyewear featuring luxury brands

## LUX (j)

Women's apparel & accessories for the fashionista in you!

## MACEOO (i)

Luxury menswear

## PSYCHO BUNNY (h)

Sophisticated men's & boy's apparel that stands apart from the crowd

## SPLASH (g)

A specialty boutique with looks for poolside to a night out... Splash has it all!

## WENTWORTH GALLERY (k)

Where rock & art meet

## WESTON JEWELERS (l)

Serving South Florida for 20 years with fine jewelry & timepieces



# ENTERTAINMENT

## CENTER BAR 10

Elevated bar serving drinks, live entertainment, video poker & TVs airing sports

## CIPRESSO BAR 12

Extensive wine list with focus on Italian varietals & creative cocktails

## COUNCIL OAK BAR & LOUNGE 21

Specialty libations & live entertainment

## DAER DAYCLUB 26

Boasting resort-style pools with private cabanas, DJ booth, daybeds & a bar

## DAER NIGHTCLUB 25

Hot spot with world-class DJs, state-of-the-art audiovisuals & bottle service

## DAVIDOFF CIGAR LOUNGE 18

Premium cigars & accessories with speakeasy bar

## ENTICE ULTRA LOUNGE 16

High energy dance club with three bars

## HARD ROCK LIVE 8

State-of-the-art theater-style entertainment venue with multiple bars & VIP seating

## HARD ROCK SPORTS BAR 9

**NEW!** All the sports action with live gaming and classic sports bar fare

## KURO BAR & LOUNGE 5

Handcrafted cocktails using fresh ingredients in modern recipes

## L BAR 6

Intimate lounge & cocktail bar offering handcrafted cocktails & live entertainment

## OCULUS BAR 20

Classic wine bar with a focus on craft beers, curated wines & signature cocktails

## PLA SPORTS BAR 22

Next-level sports bar featuring sports & game simulators & delicious food & drinks

## ROOFTOP LIVE 24

Vibrant rooftop bar featuring cocktails, live music & dramatic views overlooking the Guitar Hotel lagoon

rock  spa<sup>®</sup>  
& SALON

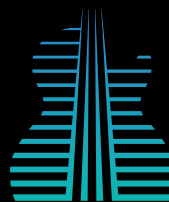
Located on 3rd floor of The Guitar Hotel  
RESERVATIONS 954.797.5888

# PROPERTY DIRECTORY



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THE GUITAR HOTEL<sup>®</sup>



HOLLYWOOD, FL

# DSA 2023 Schedule

**Red: Not Included in Combo Ticket**

Subject to Change

## Sunday, June 25, 2023

Conference Registration: 8 AM–6 PM  
Exhibits - Open to All: 12 PM–4 PM  
DSA Board Meeting - Open to All: 1 PM–4 PM  
HOTEL CHECK-IN: 4 PM >  
DSA Cocktail Hour: 6 PM–7 PM  
DSA Opening Ceremony/Reception:  
7 PM–10 PM

## Monday, June 26, 2023

Conference Registration: 8 AM–6 PM  
**Pickleball Tournament: 7 AM–1 PM**  
Workshops: 8 AM–11:30 AM  
Exhibits-Open to All: 9 AM–5 PM  
Documentary Films: 10 AM–4 PM  
Workshops: 1:30 PM–4:30 PM  
**Armchair Tour of Florida: 3:15 PM–4:30 PM**  
Gallaudet Alumni Reception: 5 PM–7 PM  
Keeping Sex Spicy in Your Golden Years:  
7 PM–9 PM  
Social Activities: 7 PM–10 PM

## Tuesday, June 27, 2023

Conference Registration: 8 AM–6 PM  
Workshops: 8 AM–11:30 AM  
Exhibits-Open to All: 9 AM–5 PM  
Documentary Films: 10 AM–4 PM  
**Red Hat Luncheon: 11:30 AM–1:30 PM**  
Workshops: 1:30 PM–4:30 PM  
**Armchair Tour of Florida: 3:15 PM–4:30 PM**  
NTID/RIT Alumni Reception: 5 PM–7 PM  
Variety Show: 7 PM–10 PM  
Social Activities: 7 PM–10 PM

## Wednesday, June 28, 2023

Conference Registration: 8 AM–6 PM  
Workshops: 8 AM–11:30 AM  
Exhibits-Open to All: 9 AM–5 PM  
Documentary Films: 10 AM–4 PM  
**Sports Luncheon: 11:30 AM–1:30 PM**  
Workshops: 1:30 PM–4:30 PM  
DSA Forum: 1:30 PM–4:30 PM  
**DINGO-DSAGO - 500 players max: 7 PM >**  
Social Activities: 7 PM–10 PM

## Thursday, June 29, 2023

Conference Registration: 8 AM–6 PM  
DSA General Meeting: 8 AM–12 PM  
DSA Farewell Luncheon: 1 PM–4 PM  
DSA Cocktail Hour: 6 PM–7 PM  
DSA Spectacular Show: 7 PM–9:30 PM  
LGBTQ+ Social Gathering-Open to All,  
Oculus Bar: 10 PM >

## Friday, June 30, 2023

DSA Board Meeting-Open to All: 10 AM–12 PM  
HOTEL CHECK-OUT: Before 11 AM





# Variety Show - Tuesday Eve June 27



## Entertainment Event



**Maxim Fomitchev**  
Physical Clown



**Liliana Morgan**  
Magicienne



**John Smith**  
Comedian



**Don Galloway**  
Master of Ceremonies



**James JJ Jones**  
Mime



**Javier Guisado**  
Slapstick Comedian



# Spectacular show - Thursday Eve June 29



**Entertainment Event**  
Five of Deaf International's Best Performance  
Appearing on One Stage

**NEW SHOW**  
**You won't Believe your Eyes!**



**Liliana Morgan**  
**International Illusionist**

**Magic Morgan**  
**International Illusionist**



**John Smith**  
**Comedian**

**Sebi'Art**  
**Illuminated Juggler**

**Javier Guisado**  
**Slapstick Comedian**

# DSA 2023 Workshops

**Monday, June 26**

## **What's New in the Deaf-Dementia Connection—Dr. Jaime Wilson**

*Seminole Ballroom  
8:00-9:30 AM*

Dr. Wilson will kick off the DSA Conference with a spectacular **Keynote Presentation** that provides essential updates to his wildly popular and educational presentation on the serious disease that is dementia. Dr. Wilson will further detail the deaf-dementia connection and share new approaches to protect ourselves against cognitive decline to live happy, healthy, and vibrant lives during our Golden Years.



appointments because they don't have enough money to pay for both health care and living expenses. This presentation will focus on the Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program, a Medicare savings program that that reduces medication and copay expenses for people already on Medicare. Learn what benefits are provided by QMB and how to qualify when you are over the financial limit.

## **That's Not What I Meant!—W. Ross III**

*East 1&2  
10:45-11:30 AM*

Interpreting from ASL into spoken English is very challenging. People who can hear do not understand the genuine meaning of terms that have a lot of meaning to Deaf people – words or phrases like generational Deafness, oral education, and residential schools. Research shows that some words are shared by Deaf and hearing people, but they do not have shared meaning; these terms are Deaf-centric. When those words are interpreted literally, as they often are, the literal interpretation causes meaning to be lost or misunderstood which in turn creates greater distance between Deaf and hearing people.



## **The Art of Mime: Sign to Mime—James “JJ” Jones**

*East 1&2  
9:45-10:30 AM*

JJ will cover the history of mime and his journey as a mime artist. He will also show mime techniques and movements.



## **Benefits Equal Dollars: How to Afford Your Doctors and Medications—Sharon Reich**

*East 4&5  
9:45-10:30 AM*

You need to take a new medication, but it costs too much to fill. You should go for diagnostic testing, but the co-pays are too expensive. Every day, people choose not to fill prescriptions or attend medical



## **Overview & Use of a Certified Deaf Interpreter: Addressing the Wh-Questions—Reinaldo Vega**

*East 4&5  
10:45-11:30 AM*

This workshop will introduce and give participants an opportunity to walk through a general overview of the concept of working with and the profession of a Certified Deaf Interpreter.





## **Travel Through Time with T-Mobile Accessibility—Alana Beal**

*West 4&5  
9:45-11:30 AM*

Explore communication tools from the past and examine how they have changed over time. Participants will be challenged to think about whether advancement in telecommunications technology equals advancement in civil rights and communication access. Presenters will lead a lively discussion on how the rise of technology has had a large impact on the Deaf community, including education, cultural behaviors and communication access. Learn how to recognize and protect yourself from government impersonation scams, lottery scams, tech support scams, and phishing emails/text messages. Zip through time with T-Mobile Accessibility!



## **Want to Receive Live VRS Calls and Texts on the Same Phone Number?—Norman Williams**

*East 1&2  
1:30-2:30 PM*

Learn how to set up of a single phone number that allows hearing people to contact you either via text or live VRS calls (not voice mails). No more missed texts to your VP number and voice calls to your text number.



## **Do You Remember When....? Elder Deaf LGBTQA+ stories—Bridget Klein & Robert Rourke**

*East 4&5  
1:30-2:30 PM*

Gays and lesbians don't grow up immersed in gay history; it is something they must search for. We will



share some historical turning points that have impacted Deaf LGBTQA+ intersectional experiences. We hope to help elder LGBTQA+ remember their experiences and share those with us. We will provide tips on preservation of stories by scanning pictures and conversations via VHS tape to digital video. In this way, we will engage in the creation of a collective history.



## **Secure 2.0: How will this new law affect your retirement account?—Stephanie Summers & Danny Lacey**

*West 1&2  
1:30-2:30 PM*

A new law was passed in December 2022 referred to as SECURE Act 2.0. It made sweeping changes to retirement accounts. This workshop outlines the majority of these changes and how they may impact you and your retirement. This information applies to those who are still working and also to those that are already retired but still have retirement accounts such as IRAs, 401(k), 403(b), TSP, etc. No changes apply to pensions.



## **Choices in Senior Living and Homecare—Chuck Crush**

*West 4&5  
1:30-2:30 PM*

This session will address housing options and different levels of medical care for seniors, including assisted living, nursing homes, rest homes and hospice care options.





## Estate Planning with Probate Avoidance—Todd Elliott

West 1&2  
2:45-3:45 PM

This workshop focuses on probate avoidance techniques that people can undertake in their estate planning endeavors. Learn how you can ensure that your loved ones get the assets and monies they need from your estate.



## Hands and Flippers for Marine Conservation: Sea Turtle Research & ASL Guided Programs—Jennifer Reilly

East 4&5  
2:45-3:45 PM

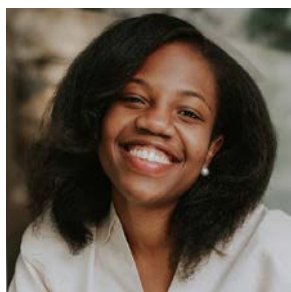
ASL Guided Programs are the first of their kind for Loggerhead Marinelife Center (LMC), in South Florida. These began in 2018 and include private facility tours of the facility, school field trips, night turtle walks, sunrise nest excavations and internships. The goal of these programs is to provide Deaf communities the opportunity to learn how to become stewards in marine conservation, using sea turtles as a focal point.



## Discover the Future of Speech Recognition Technology: Introducing Koda— Saida Florexil & Aakrit Gupta

West 4&5  
2:45-3:45 PM

We will offer training and support for users on Koda, including step-by-step guides and training sessions. We will also collect feedback to ensure that Koda is designed with accessibility in mind and improve usability.



## Deaf Printer Pages: Stories of Deaf Printers from the Washington Post, 1970-2001— Janie Golightly, Dave & Penny Herbold, Drs. Brian Greenwald & Jannelle Legg

East 1&2  
4:00-5:00 PM



This panel will cover the rapid technological changes in the printing trade. Once considered an avenue of steady employment for large number of white Deaf printers, changes over the last several decades rendered many print technologies obsolete. Moderators will guide this panel in a discussion of their experiences as printers at The Washington Post and explore the importance of documenting and preserving Deaf histories.

**Tuesday, June 27**

**Empowering the Caregiving Journey with HEART: Navigating with Hope, Empathy, Awareness, Resilience, and Trust—MJ Grant**

*Seminole Ballroom  
8:00-9:30 AM*

In this **Keynote Presentation**, MJ Grant will share her heart-opening personal caregiving journey and offer practical tips and strategies for navigating the caregiving journey with HEART – Hope, Empathy, Awareness, Resilience, and Trust – within the unique context of the Deaf community. The presentation will explore the challenges of caregiving in this community and provide valuable insights and tools for overcoming them. The talk will emphasize the importance of each HEART concept and how they can help caregivers not just survive, but thrive. Attendees will leave empowered to navigate the caregiving journey with confidence, compassion, and HEART.



**Doing Genealogy to Leave a Family Legacy—Debbe Hagner**

*East 1&2  
9:45-10:30 AM*

Ever been curious about your family tree? Do you have or ever wondered if you have any other deaf or hard of hearing members in your family tree? It can often be passed from generation to generation and this workshop can help identify any other family members who might have a hereditary hearing loss. Debbe will sign and use her voice during the presentation. She will report that there are approximately 360 million deaf and hard of



hearing in the world, meaning that about one out of every 20 Americans are deaf (eight million hard of hearing people in the USA).

**Protect Yourself Against Scammers, Spammers and Hackers—Brianna Tabil**

*East 4&5  
9:45-11:30 AM*

Scammers are everywhere ready to prey on the kindness and naivete of unsuspecting victims. This presentation will go over how to spot a scammer, what to do when you feel like you are being scammed, and steps you can take to protect yourself and your family.



**What Can Your State Agency of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Do for Deaf Senior Communities?—Darlene Zangara**

*West 1&2  
9:45-11:30 AM*

This session will include NASADHH (National Association of State Agencies of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) panelists representing several state agencies that advocate and advance the well-being and quality of lives of deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing people through services and legislation.

State agency representatives will discuss their organization and how they work with their communities, state leaders and elected officials. They will also share resources how participants can engage with their state organizations to address the needs of deaf senior communities.





## Updated Information on 9-1-1 Services—Donna Platt

East 1&2  
10:45-11:30 AM

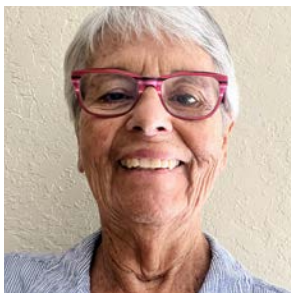
Individuals who are deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing require a variety of communication methods and media to make 9-1-1 calls, but indirect calls can cause delays in reaching 9-1-1 centers which can be life threatening. What are current and future options for making direct 9-1-1 calls without barriers and challenges? This session will provide updated information on 9-1-1 services and how you can advocate for your communication needs.



## HOW DID I GET SO MUCH STUFF? The Art of Downsizing (Painlessly)—Diane Morton & Sharon Wilson

East 1&2  
1:30-2:30 PM

In this session we will discuss the organization and planning involved in downsizing and will also focus on the emotional aspect and necessary motivation involved in parting with things we may view as important. Tips will be shared with participants and group involvement and sharing will be encouraged.



## Back to the Future: Reviving Our Forgotten Home Movies—Matt Malzkuhn

East 4&5  
1:30-2:30 PM

This presentation will inspire us to preserve, revitalize, and appreciate our Deaf-made home movies. These movies



have been long forgotten, stored away in attics, garages or storages collecting dust. The time is ripe to rediscover our treasure trove of historical, cultural, and linguistic moments frozen in time. This presentation will cover three key areas: The urgency to rescue home movies, different ways to convert film to digital copies, and appreciate your family and community memories! This will be an open and engaging presentation that showcases the amazing moments discovered in different home movies around the country!

## Elevate Your Communication Experience—Elena Shapiro

West 1&2  
1:30-2:30 PM

Join Sorenson at DSA 2023 for a workshop discussing: • technology improving opportunities for the Deaf community, • getting the best experience with interpreters, and • the latest products and services available to you at no cost from Sorenson. Get the scoop on new developments and answers to your questions.



## Maximizing Family Wealth—Stephanie Summers & Danny Lacey

West 4&5  
1:30-2:30 PM

Most people want to enjoy a comfortable retirement but still have some money left over to pass on to heirs. What is the best way to do this? Interest rates have gone up, markets have become more volatile, and tax laws have changed- all of these factors affect how you could be structuring your retirement income and legacy planning. Tax law changes made





in 2019 significantly increased the tax implications for beneficiaries who inherit accounts. Delaying your own retirement withdrawals can adversely impact your beneficiaries in the future. Options for deaf or disabled beneficiaries are different from options for hearing beneficiaries without a disability. In this workshop, you will learn strategies for maximizing their own income while also maximizing the amount of wealth that you transfer to the next generation or to your favorite charity. Learn how to potentially keep the money in the family rather than in Uncle Sam's pocket.

### **SIG: Building a Conversations Library to Improve Deaf/HH Caregivers' Quality of Life Outcomes— Poorna Kushalnagar, Smitha Hanumantha & Stacy Lawrence**

*East 3  
1:30- 2:30 PM*

Join this **Special Interest Group (SIG)** session where we will dive into caregiving, especially by deaf and hard of hearing people who care for loved ones with Alzheimer's diseases or related dementias (ADRD). This topic is rarely discussed within our community, and we want attendees to walk away with an awareness that the caregiving experience does not have to be alone. This SIG is for people who are used to or are currently taking care of their loved ones who have ADRD. This will be limited to 15 people. Advance registration is required. Please contact conference chair Dr. Donald Ammons to register.



### **Plant-Powered & Healthy Lifestyle for Seniors—Sandria Graham**

*East 1&2  
2:45-3:45 PM*

A diet high in plant foods can reduce the risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, autoimmune disease, and some types of cancer. The #1 benefit of a plant-based diet for seniors is that it helps slow the aging process, improves energy and ensures a clear mind. The recommendation is to follow a 95 to 100 percent plant-based diet of fresh fruits, leafy greens, vegetables, grains, beans, and legumes.



### **Understanding/Analyzing Linguistic Patterns of ASL (old ASL vs new ASL)—Reinaldo Vega**

*East 4&5  
2:45-3:45 PM*

In deaf culture, Deaf people tend to look at the English language and try make "mind-blowing" humor out of it for entertainment purposes as seen in conversations at deaf schools and deaf clubs. The area of exploration here is the use of compounds in both Signed English and ASL versions. Based on (initial) research on handshape and ASL dictionaries and interactions within the Deaf community, there seems to be general phonological patterns of certain parameters of ASL for lexical signs and how some signs appear to have changed over time.



## **Age of Access: Arizona State Model— Sherri Collins**

*West 1&2  
2:45-3:45 PM*

In this session, the presenter will identify key health-related services and gaps that impact the quality of life for seniors who are deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing (DDBHH). The presenter will also share information from relevant studies highlighting the need for services and action steps for local and state advocates to use to improve programming for seniors in their areas.



## **Taking Action through Emergency Alerts—Donna Platt**

*West 4&5  
2:45-3:45 PM*

Disaster events have been increasing more and more in the last few years. Have you been receiving emergency alerts that provide information and actions that you should take? Examples of actions could be to evacuate, to take cover from tornados, or health tips (boil water, mosquitos). There are different ways of receiving alerts (registration and non-registration) even though there are pros and cons. Do you know how to advocate for your communication needs? Learn various ways of receiving alerts and tools for advocating for your communication needs with local alerting providers.



## **Living with Dementia: Tips from Those on the Battlefield—Jaime Wilson**

*Seminole Ballroom  
2:45-3:45 PM*

Dr. Wilson will conduct a question-and-answer session on living with dementia with a panel of presenters that includes



those with lived experiences. Come and learn more about how to address the complex issues that dementia can present for individuals, loved ones, and caretakers.

## **Our Ongoing Journey Towards Anti-Racism— Marcia Zisman and Mary Lynn Lally**

*East 1&2  
4:00-5:00 PM*

Through in-person and video recordings, we will share how and why our group of six white Deaf women established our anti-racism reading and discussion group. This includes how we “selected which books to read and what we learned about ourselves and racism in our country. We hope to engage and inspire participants to begin their own journeys.



## **Wednesday, June 28**

## **A Guide to Being a Smart World Traveler!—Darren Frazier**

*East 1&2  
8:00-9:00 AM*

As we age, the world may seem smaller and less accessible, but it’s never too late to travel and have new experiences. As a Tour Leader, Darren will share secrets of world travel specifically tailored for senior citizens, including insider tips on finding deals and staying safe and healthy on the road. He’ll also share favorite destinations for senior travelers and give a taste of what to expect in different parts of the world.





## **Back to the Future: Reviving Our Forgotten Home Movies—Matt Malzkuhn (Repeat)**

*East 4&5  
8:00-9:00 AM*

This presentation will inspire us to preserve, revitalize, and appreciate our Deaf-made home movies. These movies have been long forgotten, stored away in attics, garages or storages collecting dust. The time is ripe to rediscover our treasure trove of historical, cultural, and linguistic moments frozen in time. This presentation will cover three key areas: The urgency to rescue home movies, different ways to convert film to digital copies, and appreciate your family and community memories! This will be an open and engaging presentation that showcases the amazing moments discovered in different home movies around the country!



## **Navigating the Road of Medicare Insurance Plans and Benefit Options (Part I)—Jason Dean**

*West 1&2  
8:00-9:00 AM*

This Medicare workshop consists of two sessions. This Part I (of two parts) session focuses on When, Where and How to sign up for Medicare insurance along with the parts of Medicare (Part A, Part B, & Part D).



## **Leave a Lasting Legacy— Sasha Ponappa & Avi Haimowitz**

*West 4&5  
8:00-9:00 AM*

Planned giving, sometimes referred to as “leaving a legacy,” is a process. It involves making written arrangements now that



will lead to donations granted on your behalf in the future, most commonly after death. During this session, we will cover basic planned giving options that empower you to take charge of your own legacy. This impactful type of giving helps sustain the work of nonprofits offering invaluable programs and services to causes that matter most to you.



## **Understanding Pooled Trust—Marina Fanshteyn**

*East 1&2  
9:15-10:15 AM*

This workshop will allow you to understand how to qualify for State funded home care services without giving up your assets and income.



## **Plant-Powered & Healthy Lifestyle for Seniors—Sandria Graham (Repeat)**

*East 4&5  
9:15-10:15 AM*

A diet high in plant foods can reduce the risk of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, autoimmune disease, and some types of cancer. The #1 benefit of a plant-based diet for seniors is that it helps slow the aging process, improves energy and ensures a clear mind. The recommendation is to follow a 95 to 100 percent plant-based diet of fresh fruits, leafy greens, vegetables, grains, beans, and legumes.





**Living the Good Old Life: Positive Psychology for the Aging Deaf Adult— David Feldman & Yasmeen Alhasawi**

*West 1&2  
9:15-10:15 AM*

The presenters will discuss positive psychology strategies to motivate Deaf seniors to engage in better healthcare practices.



**Elevate Your Communication Experience—Elena Shapiro (Repeat)**

*West 4&5  
9:15-10:15 AM*

Join Sorenson at DSA 2023 for a one-hour workshop discussing:

- technology improving opportunities for the Deaf community,
- getting the best experience with interpreters, and
- the latest products and services available to you at no cost from Sorenson. Get the scoop on new developments and answers to your questions.



**Caregivers and Caregiving in the Deaf Community—Denise & Jeff Anderson**

*East 1&2  
10:30-11:30 AM*

Learn about a new online Caregiving Training at Gallaudet University! This training is in ASL and English; participants earn Caregiver Certification from the American Caregiver Association (ACA). The course is based on a self-paced ACA course -



participants learn on their own time, at their computer. The content is in ASL and English. The course also provides real-life videos of caregiving with Deaf seniors. One of the presenters helped to develop this training and both are Deaf with many years of experience as caregivers. They will share experiences with this course and as Deaf caregivers.



**Loss and Grieving: Types, Processes, Procedures, Timelines and Support Strategies—Char Parsley & Elaine Navratil**

*East 4&5  
10:30-11:30 AM*

There have been requests for this type of workshop related to loss and grieving. People experience grief differently and this workshop will enable the attendees to explore the different kinds of losses and identify the processes and timelines of grieving that various people go through. It is hoped that attendees can take away with them a better understanding of the types of loss that leads to grieving, the types of grieving and steps/process of grieving that people go through, and what the norms are for grieving, how to support those who are grieving and what will work and what will not work. The attendees will also be better prepared to be aware of the type of strategies that help provide support to those who are grieving and be in a position to establish support systems in their home area for those who are grieving with communication access.



## **To Cut the Cord, or Not to Cut the Cord, That is the Question!— Karl Ewan**

*West 1&2*

*10:30-11:30 AM*

Rising costs of cable television has made people look to streaming services and watching content via the Internet to better manage their personal budgets. This session will talk about how cord cutting has given me greater flexibility and saved me a lot of headaches in dealing with cable providers. We will talk about T-Mobile Tuesdays offers where some streaming services are “on us.” (i.e., Netflix, Paramount Plus, Major League Soccer, et cetera). We will talk about T-Mobile’s home high speed internet (HSI) and how it compares with various cable providers. We will also talk about the streaming providers available and how your home can be maximized with the types of equipment available. In addition, Internet access options (i.e., hotspots, home Internet services, and among others) will be presented.



## **Taking Action through Emergency Alerts—Donna Platt (Repeat)**

*West 4&5*

*10:30-11:30 AM*

Disaster events have been increasing more and more in the last few years. Have you been receiving emergency alerts that provide information and actions that you should take? Examples of actions could be to evacuate, to take cover from tornados, or health tips (boil water, mosquitos). There are different ways of receiving alerts (registration and non-registration) even though there are pros and cons. Do you know how to advocate for your communication needs? Learn various ways of receiving alerts and tools for advocating for your communication needs with local alerting providers.



## **A Guide to Being a Smart World Traveler!—Darren Frazier (Repeat)**

*East 1&2*

*1:30-2:30 PM*

As we age, the world may seem smaller and less accessible, but it’s never too late to travel and have new experiences. As a Tour Leader, Darren will share secrets of world travel specifically tailored for senior citizens, including insider tips on finding deals and staying safe and healthy on the road. He’ll also share favorite destinations for senior travelers and give a taste of what to expect in different parts of the world.



## **Choices in Senior Living and Homecare—Chuck Crush (Repeat)**

*East 4&5*

*1:30-2:30 PM*

This session will address housing options and different levels of “medical care for seniors, including assisted living, nursing homes, rest homes and hospice care options.



## **Navigating the Road of Medicare Insurance Plans and Benefit Options (Part 2)—Jason Dean**

*West 1&2*

*1:30-2:30 PM*

This Part 2 session will discuss the difference between Medicare Advantage (Part C) and Medicare Supplement (Medigap) plans.





**Estate Planning with Probate Avoidance—Todd Elliott (Repeat)**

*West 4&5  
1:30-2:30 PM*

This workshop focuses on probate avoidance techniques that people can undertake in their estate planning endeavors. Ensure that your loved ones get the assets and monies they need from your estate.



**To Cut the Cord, or Not to Cut the Cord, That is the Question!— Karl Ewan (Repeat)**

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*East 4&5  
2:45-3:45 PM*

In this session we will discuss the organization and planning involved in downsizing and will also focus on the emotional aspect and necessary motivation involved in parting with things we may view as important. Tips will be shared with the participants and group involvement and sharing will be encouraged.



**“I give permission” : ASL and Artificial Intelligence Technology—Raja Kushalnagar & Ai Minakawa**

*West 1&2  
2:45-3:45 PM*

This presentation will include a demonstration of a new technology that will read your ASL signing and translate this into commands. You will be asked to try the app and share what you think. Dr. Kushalnagar and his team developed an accessible informed consent app to support deaf patients who wish to participate in research studies.



## Our Ongoing Journey Towards Anti-Racism— Marcia Zisman and Mary Lynn Lally (Repeat)

West 4&5  
2:45-3:45 PM

Through in-person and video recordings, we will share how and why our group of six white Deaf women established our anti-racism reading and discussion group. This includes how we selected which books to read and what we learned about ourselves and racism in our country. We hope to engage and inspire participants to begin their own journeys.



“Why? I don’t drink, I don’t have high cholesterol or have gall bladder issues. Do I have cancer?” He said, “No and I don’t know why you have pancreatitis.” I instinctively knew it was not right. After a three-day hospital stay, I was released. I immediately called my primary doctor. We began a medical journey that found my right diagnosis at the right time. I had pancreatic cancer. At that moment, I was devastated and thought I had very little time left on earth....” Darlene will describe her journey and how advocacy played a role in saving her life.

###

## SIG: Prostate Cancer—Adam Novsam

West 3  
4:00-5:00 PM

Join this **Special Interest Group (SIG)** session for an informal interactive group discussion where you can ask questions, get support and exchange information on prostate cancer, before and after surgery and the treatment process.



## Let Your Faith Be Bigger than Your Fear: My Pancreatic Cancer Journey—Darlene Zangara

East 1&2  
4:00-5:00 PM

“The week of my 29th wedding anniversary, I had terrible abdominal pains. I could not handle the intensity of the pain any longer. I asked my husband to take me to the emergency room. After CAT scans and tests, the doctor diagnosed me with pancreatitis. I asked,



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Joe's Pizza 01:51

Joe's pizza, how can I help you?  
6:19 PM

Hey, I would like to order a large pie with toppings please.  
6:20 AM ✓

Sure, what kind of toppings would you like?  
6:21 PM

Mushrooms and onions.  
6:21 AM ✓

Actually, do you have pineapple?  
6:21 AM ✓

We don't put pineapple on pizza, sir.  
6:22 PM

I see, so just mushrooms and onions.  
6:22 AM ✓

No problem, your total is \$17.99  
6:22 PM

Intro Wait Repeat

Type a message...

speaker mute Aa type 123 keypad



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ODHH provides communication and environmental access resources and consultation for adult family home providers and assisted living facilities to make meaningful connections through:

### Accessible Communication

- Sign language interpreters
- Communication facilitators

### Accessible Technology

- Telecommunication Equipment Program
- Telecommunication Relay Service
- Assistive Communication Technology
- Remote Conference Captioning

### Client Advocacy Services

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[www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/odhh](http://www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/odhh)



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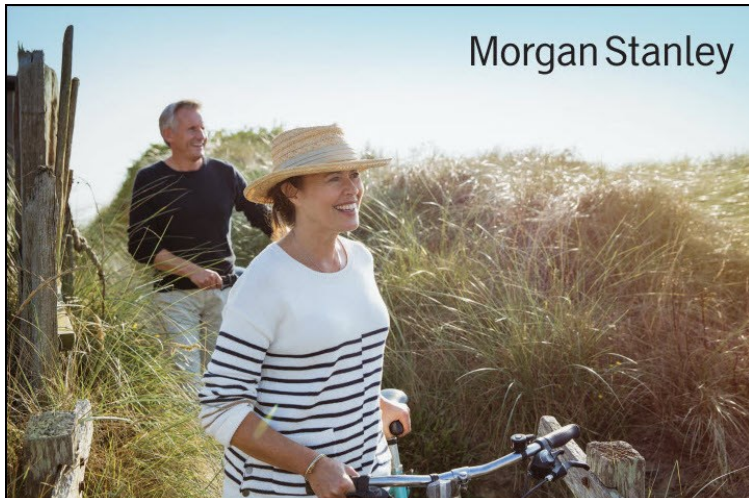
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“ The Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing Age of Access initiative provides centralized information and resources for aging Arizonans who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind or with Combined Vision and Hearing Loss. ”

[ageofaccess.gov](http://ageofaccess.gov)

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Gallaudet University congratulates Deaf Seniors of America on its 17th biennial conference! Many of our alumni are DSA members, and have become leaders in DSA and its organizational affiliates. "Together, we build up our community" is a fitting theme that embodies so much of what we both do. Best wishes for a successful conference!

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FTLAD Officers and members wish Deaf Seniors of America 2023 Hollywood Conference a fun and successful week.

Be sure to thank the DSA2023 Chair and the Committees for dedicating their time and hard work to make this happen.

Please travel safely back home!

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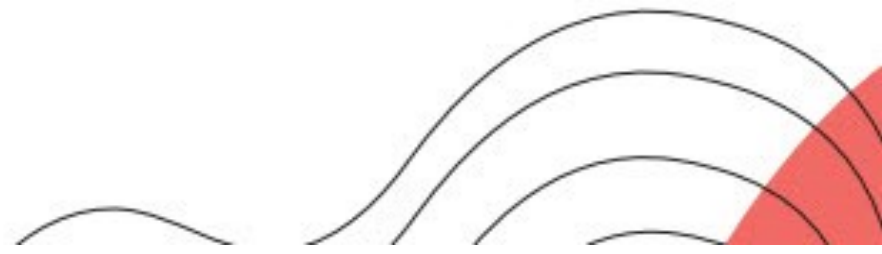
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**AARP is a proud sponsor of the  
17th Biennial Deaf Seniors  
of America Conference.**

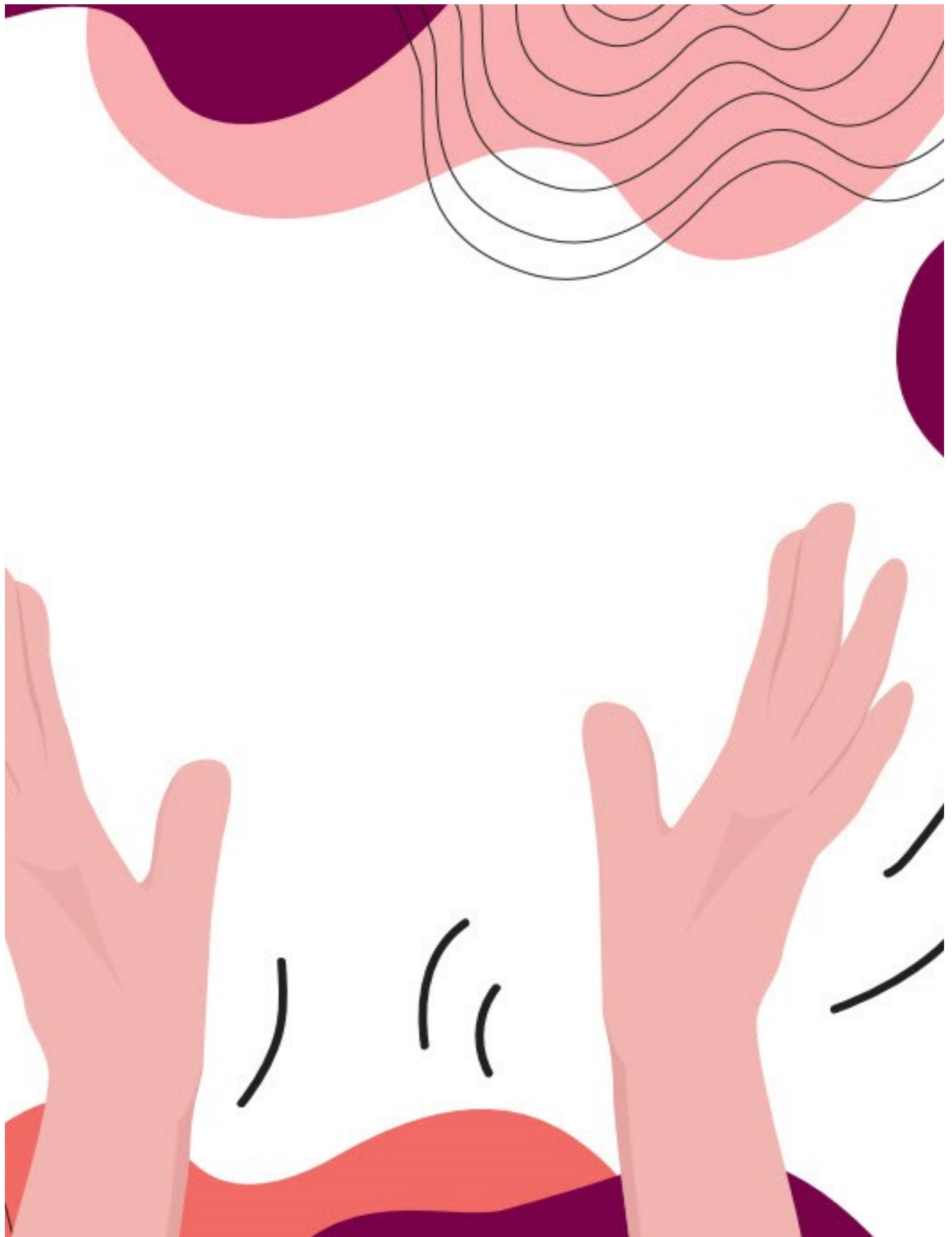
We celebrate and commend the DSA for its continuous efforts to empower and brighten the lives of Deaf and hard-of-hearing seniors.

The AARP Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will collaborate with DSA to provide access to trusted information and resources that impact the lives of Deaf and hard-of-hearing seniors — working together to help people build a future filled with money, health and happiness.

To learn more about what AARP has to offer, visit  
**[www.aarp.org/membership/benefits/health/hearing-center/](http://www.aarp.org/membership/benefits/health/hearing-center/)**









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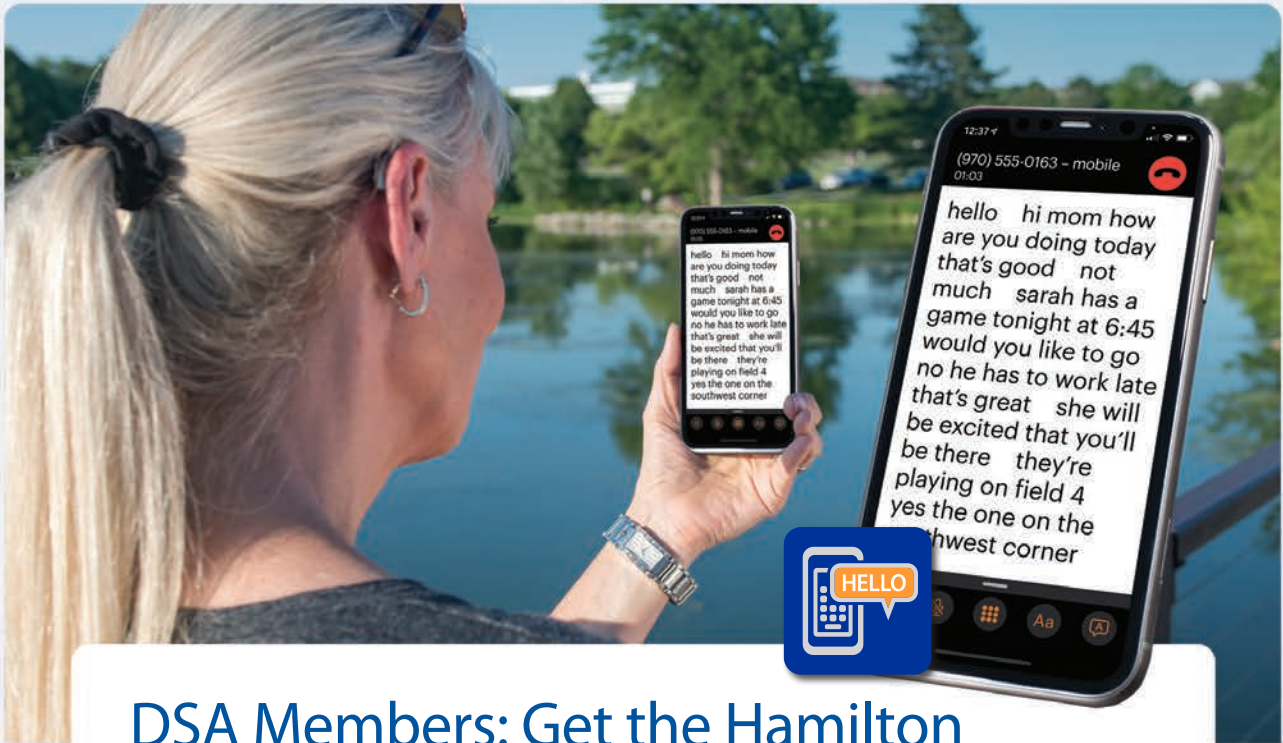


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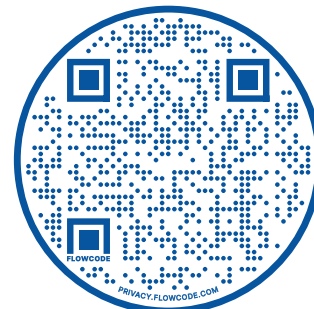


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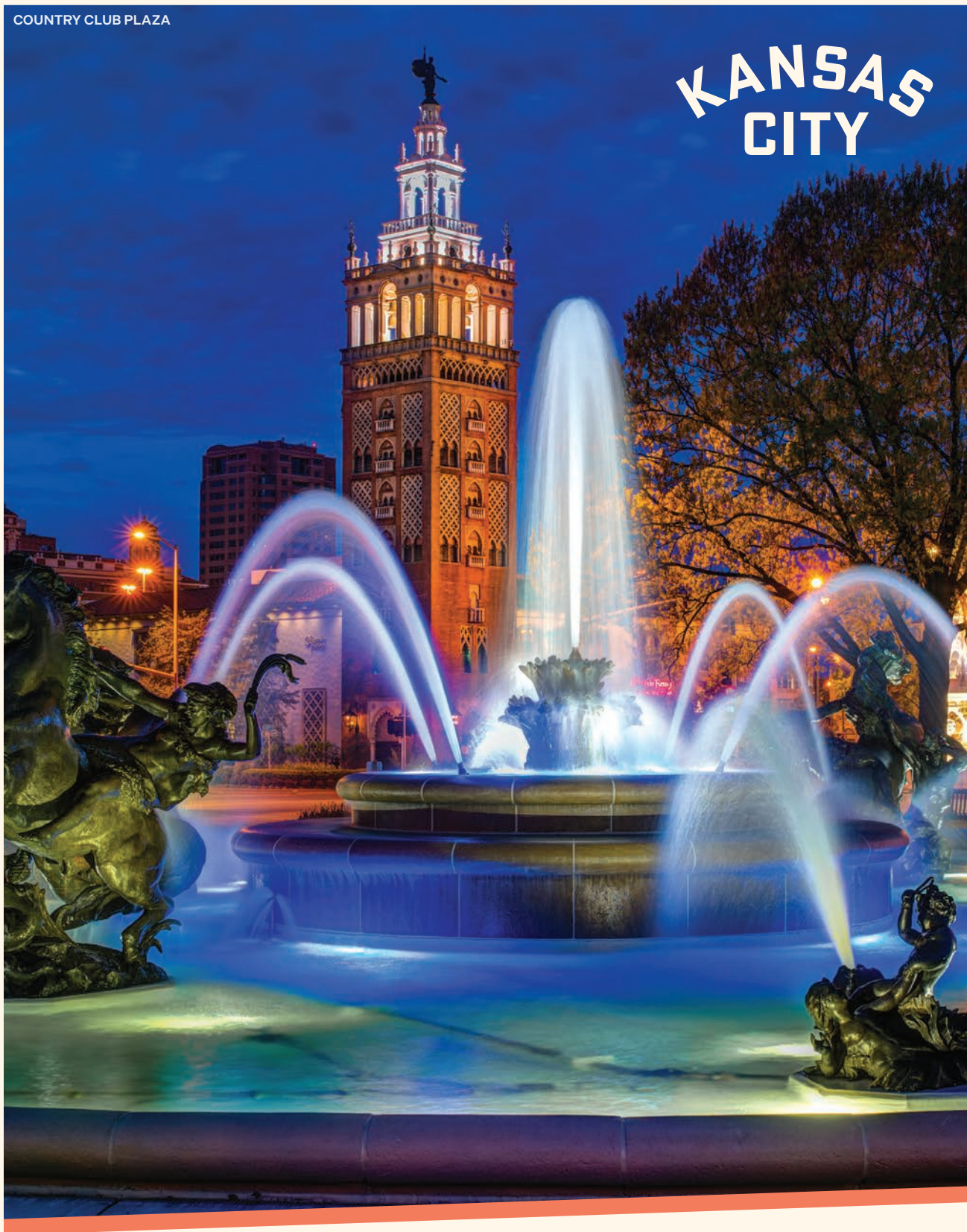
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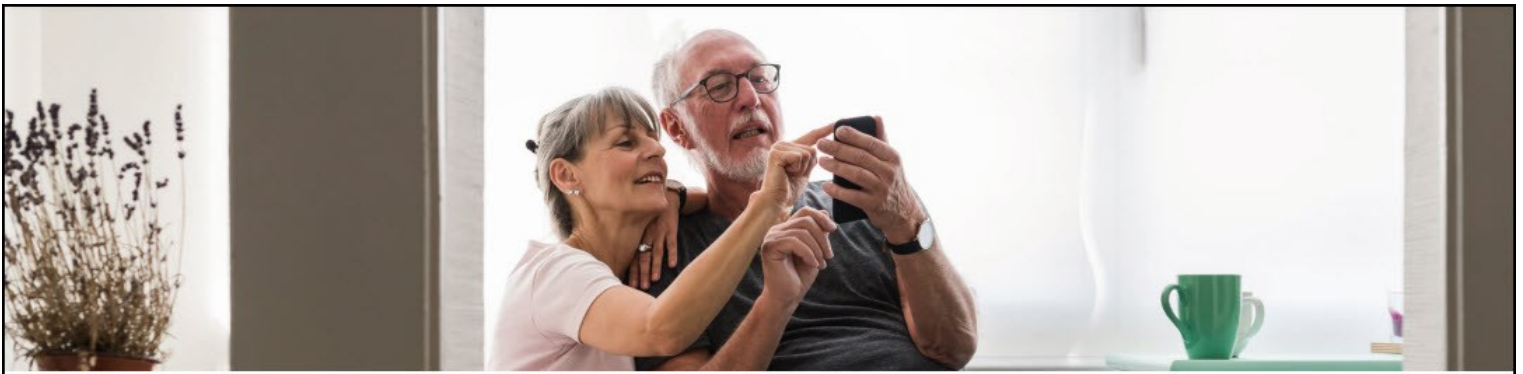


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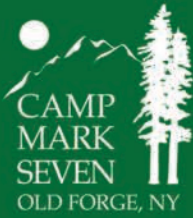
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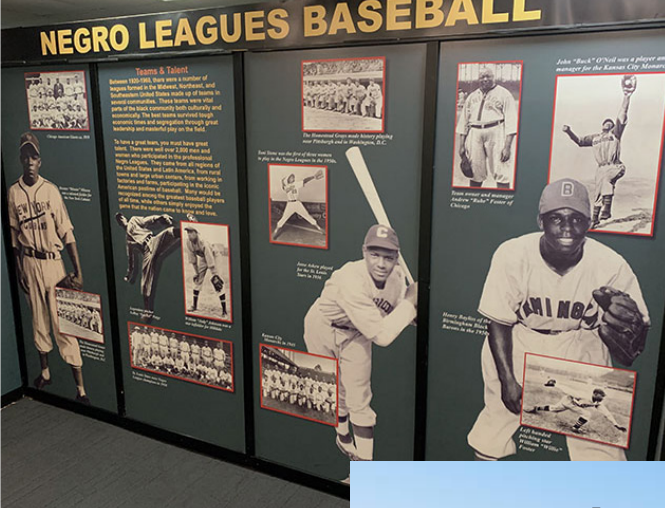
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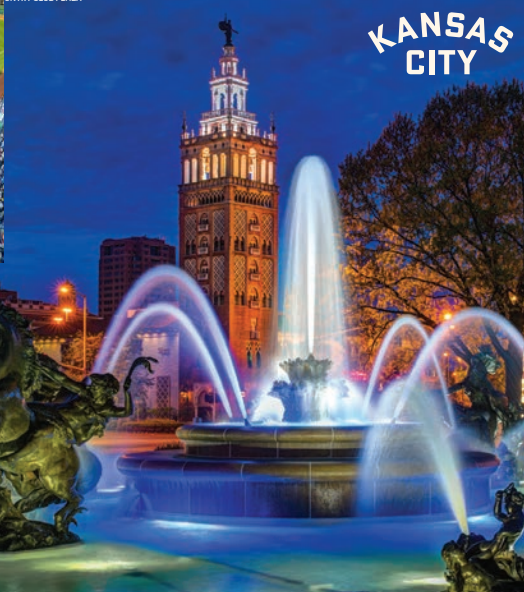
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