



MAYOR'S ALLIANCE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES NEWSLETTER • JUNE 2002

Some Disabled Permits to Cost Less

Starting July 1, Florida residents with long-term or permanent disabilities may buy disabled parking permits for \$1.50 instead of the \$15 fee. Those who qualify for the four-year permit may buy an international wheelchair user symbol license plate instead of the window placard. Disabled veterans may opt for the DV license plate.

Demonstration of Accessible Voting Machine

The East Hillsborough Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Florida will be hosting a presentation and hands-on demonstration of the new accessible voting machines. The demonstration will be at their June monthly meeting to be held on Saturday, June 15 at 12 noon in the Brandon Regional Hospital's Senior Friends Classroom located at 228 South Moon Avenue in Brandon. For more information call Marion Gwizdala at 813-661-7287.

ADA Accessibility Guidelines Survey Training

Training classes for anyone preparing to give information to the public regarding accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the governing regulations will be held on June 6 and June 7, from 8:30 am to 5:00 PM. The classes will be held at the HCC Dale Mabry Campus, 4001 Tampa Bay Blvd. - Student Services Building (Red brick building closest to Dale Mabry Highway) For more information call (813) 975-6560

Information Available About ADA

The Department of Justice (DOJ) operates a toll free information line to provide the public with ADA

requirements, answers to technical questions, free publications and information on filing complaints. The phone lines are manned from 10am to 6pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, and from 1pm to 6pm Thursdays. The numbers are 800-541-0301 (Voice) and 800-514-0383 (TDD). Services are available in Spanish.

Top 10 Ships for Cruisers Who Are Disabled

The relaxing and pampered atmosphere of a cruise vacation is the perfect solution for the approximately 54 million persons with disabilities in the United States. When selecting a ship, it's important to note that vessels built during the past five years are more likely to have purpose built staterooms, usually in more than one category and conveniently located for easy access to elevators. Most adhere closely to ADA requirements and some even go several steps beyond. Others are retrofitting staterooms to conform. Other things to consider before booking: Ask if the cruise line has a Special Needs brochure; many lines have published these brochures detailing the amenities offered to those with disabilities. Most cruise lines have an alert kit for guests with hearing impairments, which can be fitted to any cabin. These TTY kits include visual notification of the doorknocker and smoke alarm; also a vibrating alarm, door knocker, bed shaker and

phone amplifier. Service dogs are permitted on all ships with required documentation but may not be allowed to disembark at all ports. The number of service dogs allowed per sailing is usually limited. The Top Ten Ships for cruiser who are disabled are: Amsterdam/Rotterdam (Holland American); Grand/Golden/Star Princess (princess Cruises); Voyager/Explorer/Adventure of the Seas (Royal Caribbean); Millennium /Infinity /Summit (Celebrity Cruises); Radiance/Brilliance of the Seas (Royal Caribbean); Carnival Pride/ Spirit /Legend (Carnival); Crystal Harmony/Symphony (Crystal Cruises); Seven Seas Mariner (RSSC); Disney Magic/Wonder (Disney); Costa Atlantic (Costa Cruises)

"Tis" the season

For Hurricanes and Tropical storms...are you ready? Persons with disabilities have different needs during this season, have you taken care of yours. There are basics steps that you must take to be ready for "the season." If you do require special care please get in touch with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) now! The Hillsborough County EOC can be reached at 813-272-6900. Don't wait until it is too late, be prepared for the worse and you will be safe.

Grassroots Forum for People With Disabilities

Florida Grassroots Forum 2002: Power through participation: No More Excuses! Will be held at the Rosen Centre Hotel, in Orlando, June 10 - 12. The forum is a statewide conference where individuals with disabilities will gather to learn new skills on how to make a meaningful difference at the local, state and national level. For more information call Fredrico Abreu at 813-975-6560.

Mayor's Alliance Board Meeting

3rd Wednesday every month at 1:00 p.m.
Sandy Freedman Tennis Club
Davis Island

Dates to Remember

2nd Monday every month - 7pm

The Mayor's Hour

Live cable telecast on CH-15 Time-Warner in Tampa and Hillsborough County and CH-17 on Adelphia cable. Your chance to ask Mayor Greco a question or express your concern, live in the studio or by phone. To call in a question to the Mayor call 274-8328. To be part of the studio audience call Mindy Snyder at 274-7033. Repeats on Sundays pm, Mondays at 7pm and Fridays at 3pm.

1st Monday every month - 3pm

Employment & Job Fair Committee Meeting

Corporate Square, 7402 N. 56th Street, Building 800, Suite 850. For more information, call Cindy Stephens at 984-6840.

3rd Wednesday every month - 2pm

Accessibility Committee Meeting

Sandy Freedman Tennis Complex 59 Columbus Drive, Davis Islands

3rd Tuesday every month - 2pm

Florida Council for the Blind, Greater Tampa Chapter

USF Westside Conference tn. Section B

3rd Tuesday every month - 6:30pm

Tampa Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH) Group

Jefferson High School

4th Wednesday every month - 2pm

County Alliance Meeting

Tampa Lighthouse for The Blind, 1106 W. Platt St. For more information call Elizabeth Mueller at 273-3625 or Debra Guest at 558-5557.

3rd Thursday every 3rd month - 2pm

(next meeting 4/19)

HARTLINE ADA Consumer Forum

Hartline Offices, 4305 E. 21st Ave. For more information contact Lauren Skiver at HARTLINE 623-5835, ext.1171.

Get Involved! Join the Alliance Board!

For more information call 254-1111.

Support Groups

City of Tampa Office of Human Rights	274-5835
Hillsborough County Information Line	272-5900
Self-Reliance Cross Disability Support Group	975-6560
Family Network on Disabilities	1-800-825-5736 Jan Labell
VA Spinal Cord	972-2000 ext. 7886 Karen McGoff
Brain and Head Injury Support	908-1375 Bob Barrett
Multiple Sclerosis Self Help Group	800-FIGHTMS
Statewide Advocacy Network on Disabilities, Inc. (STAND)	
Offering education and resource services to persons with disabilities	258-5700 Patricia Miller
Florida Alliance for Assistive Services and Technology (FAAST)	
Learn about assistive technology	844-7591
Spinal Cord Injury Unit, Tampa General Hospital	844-4286
Amputees Together	870-3323
Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)	935-6540 Ben Ritter
All People's Life Center 6105 East Sligh Avenue (east of 56th St.)	
Fully accessible recreation center	903-2248 Al Orr
Tampa Bay Polio Survivors Support Group	779-8158 Lonnie Hazelwood, President

Officers & Committee Chairpersons

Chairperson: Norman Mallory	988-4985
Treasurer: Connie Hayden-McPeak	276-5555
Secretary: Kelly Hickman	974-8927
Past Chairperson: Chuck Porter	276-2029 ext. 7659
Advocacy and Accessibility Co-chairpersons:	
Norman Mallory	988-4985
Ben Ritter	935-6540
Employment Committee Chairperson: Cindy Stephens	984-6840
Awareness Committee Chairperson: Chuck Porter	276-2029 ext. 6140
Mayor's Representative: Herb Gold	254-1111



MAYOR'S ALLIANCE
FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
DICK A. GRECO, MAYOR
City Hall 8N • Tampa, FL 33601

*The Alliance thanks
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for printing this newsletter.*