# **Dots and Dashes**

# **October 25, 2022**

# **NASCAR’s VIVID with Audio Description**

ACB staff member Kolby Garrison was featured in a series about how she experiences NASCAR racing, her favorite sport. Take part in her incredible adventure through NASCAR’s VIVID, now available with audio description! [Visit this link for NASCAR’s VIVID with AD](https://youtu.be/kQdVXP0mK70).

# **Social Security Announces 8.7 Percent Benefit Increase for 2023**

Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits for approximately 70 million Americans will increase 8.7 percent in 2023, according to the Social Security Administration.

The 8.7 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin in January 2023. The substantial gainful activity for blind people is going up, too, from $2,260 per month to $2,460.

For more information, visit [www.ssa.gov/cola](https://u7061146.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=TeZUXWpUv-2B6TCY38pVLo9mdvipWLrJ2wFScHU8S9q0I-3DDsYn_QGL-2B0imNYUTBW7D0lqoNws-2BMHJI9VuGd6naFW4WMXY-2BgT-2BtVd7HtXUYqKcPVZINXM1ZfeU787-2F3mADknBXbo9aMZtvjMGweItBsRpNowx1nvlm3uuLZYnwbRKCQRQpBCCvjJ3HxdPVhODtHqGtXyeBTveUNgvsoKmEr-2BiDsFZ1aL6BzhB6V0ju1nxDFr6VjZn9w543vBu554T4315Gzj0ou7kCAXltM5bm6jVB9eSUxTmp8YXZwCaRa6dM2r6kAPtUqPgn51vn8A7HJ7qnAVWbDuQS-2BZVrX6OfLakiP2zR1Ch09lcShmHqLKaAUQQHnLQB8jCu1I1DQ6O-2BegbI3DzA-3D-3D).

# **U.S. Access Board Seeks Public Comment**

Touchscreen kiosks and other types of self-service transaction machines (SSTMs) are a common feature in places of public accommodation, government offices, and other buildings and facilities, allowing users to independently conduct a range of transactions and functions. The U.S. Access Board has issued an [advance notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPRM)](https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2022/09/21/2022-20470/americans-with-disabilities-act-accessibility-guidelines-for-buildings-and-facilities-architectural) on supplemental accessibility guidelines for different types of SSTMs, including electronic self-service kiosks, for persons with disabilities. The Board seeks comments on accessibility related to the various types of SSTMs, use and design of SSTMs, location of SSTMs, and economic impacts on small business, non-profit, and governmental entities in the implementation of accessible SSTMs.

For more information, visit <https://acb.org/washington-connection#AccessBoardSeeksPublicComment> or <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/ATBCB-2022-0004>.

# **Barilla Partnership with Be My Eyes**

Barilla, a world leader in the markets of pasta, is [expanding its partnership with Be My Eyes](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/barilla-adds-qr-codes-on-packaging-to-assist-visually-impaired-customers-in-expanded-partnership-with-be-my-eyes-301651355.html), a platform that provides live audio and visual support for blind and low vision consumers, by incorporating QR codes on the packaging of ten of Barilla’s most popular classic pasta offerings. The new QR codes will roll out starting this month on boxes of Barilla Classic Penne, Spaghetti, Farfalle, Rotini, Rigatoni, Tri-Color Rotini, Thin Spaghetti, Fettuccini, Angel Hair and Linguine.

# **New Products on Seeing AI**

Microsoft has announced [a new Seeing AI feature that will read out detailed information](https://www.engadget.com/microsoft-seeing-ai-app-scan-read-out-drug-haleon-accessibility-230047595.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9sLmZhY2Vib29rLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAAGl_mDoqmh8OjroFO22CiuMV6MVFZc-OseV0OaHyUa0vq-iNBbGRFTUoNf5fbyuni_VO2cwbFSY2zBc5rrkZjJX8mkEQMeFoy1wKUA2eNtIXONRAqATTgqt534i3BA7cFkVWxSJvfNQiupHpVUvCDzSSBBVgSHmQHW8CkB8Rhk8b&fbclid=IwAR3oMNpd28J5q6WIk7EPpunN3dliibqU22M4NtKbnIsTZ4ImLMmNSFpu7gc) when users scan the barcodes of more than 1,500 products by healthcare company Haleon. Use the app to scan products like Emergen-C, Sensodyne, Centrum, and more to receive product information, instructions, ingredients and other crucial details.