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# Access New England

A publication of the New England ADA Center

January 2012

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Eli Wolff

### Advocate Eli Wolff: The Disabled Athlete Is Still Siloed and Segregated

Eli Wolff, who is the director of the Institute for Human Centered Design's (IHCD's) Inclusive Sports Initiative, recently attended the 2011 Ivy Sports Symposium at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. Wolff, who was a member of the United States Paralympic Soccer Team in the 1996 and 2004 Paralympic Games, spoke to *Knowledge@Wharton High School* about his experience as a disabled athlete and the issues that disabled athletes confront as they strive to participate and compete.

[Read the full story.](#)



## Stories from Around New England

Disability Rights Web Course

ADA Employment Web Course

ADA Audio Conferences

[Planning a trip: What you need to know about making hotel reservations - February 21, 2012](#)

Stay Connected:



## REELAbilitiesBoston Film Festival premieres in February 2012

Text courtesy of the Boston Jewish Film Festival

Six films from around the world about people with disabilities will highlight the first REELAbilitiesBoston Film Festival being held Feb. 2-8.

My Spectacular Theatre, a Chinese film from Director Yu Lang, will be the opening night film on Feb. 2, 2012 at the Perkins School for the Blind in Watertown.

Other films in the REELAbilitiesBoston Film Festival include War Eagle, Arkansas (Canada/England/US); Shooting Beauty (USA); Snow Cake (Canada/England/USA); Warrior Champions (China/US); and Anita (Argentina) as the closing night film.

"We are excited to be part of the inaugural REELAbilitiesBoston Film Festival," said Boston Jewish Film Festival Managing Director Jaymie Saks. "This will enable the public to see films about the lives, stories and art of people with disabilities from around the world."

"REELAbilitiesBoston is a unique experience for us because the films are not necessarily Jewish in content," Saks said. "Disabilities are universal. They affect people in all communities. We want to unite the entire community around this issue through film."

For more information, visit [www.bjff.org](http://www.bjff.org) or call 617-244-9899. All films are handicapped accessible. Closed captioned films: War Eagle, Arkansas, Shooting Beauty, Warrior Champions.



Coolidge Corner Theater

## Helping Dementia Patients Restore Memories with Classic Movies at the Coolidge Corner Theater in Brookline, Massachusetts

*Meet Me at the Coolidge...and Make Memories* is an interactive event designed specifically for people with memory loss, their families and care givers. Four times a

year Artz: Artists for Alzheimer's, the I'M STILL HERE Foundation and the Coolidge Corner Theater screen short clips from classic films from the 1930's through 1960's followed by audience discussion guided by a moderator. The program demonstrates how film can be a form of treatment for some of the symptoms associated with memory loss, Alzheimer's disease and related

dementia. Admission and popcorn are free.

The next two scheduled dates are Thursday, March 22nd, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and Thursday, June 14th, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Exhibition areas at the theater are accessible by elevator and all theaters have assisted listening broadcast equipment. For more information contact the Coolidge Corner Theater at 617-734-2501.



## Micro-Funders Sought for New England Regional "Whole Community" Emergency Management Conference

A group of organizations and agencies in the New England region including enableUS, FEMA Region I, NH Council on Developmental Disabilities, RI Department of Health, MA Office of Disability and New England ADA Center are partnering together to produce an educational conference for emergency management, disability and public health stakeholders throughout the region. This conference will focus on creating and fostering collaborative community relationships in emergency management so that the needs of the "whole community" are met in a disaster. We are seeking underwriters and sponsors for this conference so that over 200 attendees from throughout the region can attend this worthwhile event. We are asking for assistance from micro-funders of approximately \$1,000-5,000 to help us to make this conference a reality. If you are able to assist us in any way, please contact Brian Lake from enableUS at 703-894-7414 or [brian.lake@enableus.org](mailto:brian.lake@enableus.org) to discuss ways that your agency or organization can participate.



## January's Most Popular Stories from the [@NewEnglndADA](https://twitter.com/NewEnglndADA) Twitter Feed

Steven Bassett, IHCD's Accessible ICT Specialist and Social Media Coordinator, has compiled a list of January's most popular stories from the New England ADA Center's Twitter feed. Click on the links below to learn more!

National initiative to make disability history public and accessible. "It's Our Story" video series. <http://ow.ly/88eKq>

"It's Our Story is a national initiative to make disability history public and accessible; we've collected over 1,000 video interviews from disability leaders across the country. Now, we're making this critical aspect of American history public, accessible and interactive."

Accessibility Video on Alternative Text: <http://ow.ly/8kT4v> #a11y @w15y

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The civil rights issue we need to talk about - The Washington Post <http://ow.ly/88632>

"Jay Ruderman is president of the Ruderman Family Foundation, which focuses on the inclusion of people with disabilities into daily life in the Jewish community in greater Boston and Israel. The foundation also seeks to lead the community through philanthropic partnerships and innovative competitions."

HTML5 and Accessibility: Informative Presentation from @jfoliot <http://ow.ly/8nm5M> #html5 #web #a11y



Are you @Ready\_Boston? Learn about how to be prepared for people with disabilities: <http://ow.ly/8gWym>



**Stories from Other States**



Donna Nangle

## In Memoriam: Donna Nangle

Donna Nangle, who worked at NIDRR since 1997, passed away December 21, 2011 in Petersburg, Virginia, where she had lived since retiring in 2010.

Ms. Nangle began her Federal career in 1978 and spent many of those years in OSERS.

Donna leaves, to quote a NIDRR grantee, a great legacy for NIDRR to feel so good about-always so pleasant and professional, just a delightful ambassador to the thousands of people who called to NIDRR-and a staunch advocate for individuals with disabilities.

Donna is survived by her husband, Paul, and her mother, Lois. She will be interred in Cheshire, MA, in the spring. Condolences may be registered with Morriss & Son Funeral Home & Cremation Service at [www.jtmorriss.com](http://www.jtmorriss.com).

[Read Donna Nangle's obituary that first appeared in The Washington Post.](#)



## ESPN to provide Sign Language Interpreters for *College GameDay* at the University of Missouri February 4

Text adapted from an ESPN press release

When ESPN's basketball *College GameDay* comes to the campus of University of Missouri, February 4, sign language interpreters will be part of the show.

Imagine that you're a deaf fan of ESPN. You love *College GameDay*. You have watched it on TV on Saturdays before, accessing the content via closed captioning. Now, ESPN and Mizzou are working together to provide sign language interpreters for *GameDay* so more fans can dress up, come out and enjoy the experience in person!

It all started with the football version of the *College GameDay* show on October 9, 2010 in Columbia, S.C. The University asked ESPN if there was a way to have interpreters at the site, and ESPN immediately said yes. Since that day, there have been interpreters at the majority of college football *GameDay* sites, and now, all college basketball locations as well. Thanks to the dedication and cooperation of the schools, sign language interpreters are becoming a common sight at *GameDay* locations.



## ADA Requirements for Places of Lodging go into Effect March 15

In an effort to make hotels, motels and other places of lodging more accessible to (and usable by) people with disabilities the Department of Justice's revised Title III regulations include several requirements that go into effect March 15.

Places of lodging must:

1. Ensure that people with disabilities are able to make reservations for accessible guest rooms during the same hours and in the same manner as others;
2. Identify and describe accessible features of the facility and the guest rooms offered through its reservations service in enough detail so that people can assess whether the facility or guest room meets accessibility needs;
3. Reserve accessible guest rooms or specific types of guest rooms and ensure that the guest rooms requested are blocked and removed from reservations systems;
4. Guarantee that the specific accessible guest room reserved through its reservations service is held for the reserving customer, regardless of whether a specific room is held in response to reservations made by others; and
5. Make some of their accessible guestroom available to third-party services, such as Orbitz and Expedia (if they use such services) and provide information about accessible features to the third-party services.

Customer service staff need to know about accessible parking, entrances and routes to and through the facility; details about the configuration of accessible guest rooms and bathrooms; the availability of equipment such as bath benches, and visual alarm and alert devices for guests; and the accessibility of common spaces such as meeting rooms, lounges, restaurants, swimming pools and fitness centers. We recommend that information, including photos or other drawings, be posted on websites and included in brochures.





## Government Sets March 15, 2012 Compliance Date For Vending Machine Side Reach Requirements

Story courtesy of vendingmarketwatch.com

The compliance date set forth in the revised Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) rules is March 15, 2012, the National Automatic Merchandising Association (NAMA) reported. NAMA has prepared a "frequently asked questions" document that addressed many of the issues related to these new rules. A copy of this document can be found on the [NAMA website](#).

The new regulations change the reach range requirements for vending machines. They provide that the side reach range must now be no higher than 48 inches (instead of 54 inches) and no lower than 15 inches (instead of 9 inches). The side reach requirements apply to operable parts on accessible elements, to elements located on accessible routes, and to elements in accessible rooms and spaces.

The regulations apply to "public entities." "Public entities" include any federal, state or local government. It also applies to private entities that operate public accommodations. If an operator provides several banks of machines at one location, at least one of each machine type (snack, food, beverage, coffee) must be ADA compliant. Operators will not have to replace existing machines with new ADA compliant machines at a location, unless the location undergoes alterations or new equipment is brought in. The requirement applies to "fixed equipment." For more information, contact [Sandy Larson](#).



New England ADA Center is a project of the  
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