

OCTOBER 2019



News from Audio Journal | Serving Central Massachusetts Since 1987



## Mary Frandsen Takes the Helm at Audio Journal

**A**udio Journal's Board of Directors selected Mary Frandsen to succeed Vincent Lombardi as Executive Director. Her efforts in that role began on October 1, 2019.

Mary joined Audio Journal in the fall of 2017 as a contract grant writer. In February 2018, she was hired as Director of Development/Operations. Shadowing Vince for nearly two years, along with 19 years working in nonprofit organizations, has prepared her for the Executive Director position.

"I look forward to the challenges ahead of me and to continuing Vince's legacy of devoted service to visually impaired and print disabled residents of Central Massachusetts."

If you haven't met Mary, please stop by the office or contact her using the method easiest for you.

Email: [mary@audiojournal.org](mailto:mary@audiojournal.org)

Or call: 508-797-1117

## The Women are Winning!



**J**oin the **Audio Journal Pocket Change Challenge** by bringing your change to Audio Journal and placing it in the appropriate jar (MEN or WOMEN). At first it was going to be a challenge to see which jar filled first. Well, thanks to volunteer reader, Betty Martinelli, the women's jar filled quickly. Now it is a contest to see who can raise the most money. Even some bills are falling into those jars.

The Challenge will end soon, so please bring in your change. No matter the size, every donation counts.

## White Cane Day



**O**n October 21st, Mary and Board of Directors member, David Flick, attended White Cane Day at the State House in Boston. Visually impaired individuals shared stories of vision loss and becoming white cane users. Some resisted the cane at first, and now appreciate it as tool of independence. They also talked of the obstacles they must manage on sidewalks, the challenges caused by quiet electric cars, and the times motorists did not stop for them.

White Cane Day in Worcester was held on October 16th. Six dignitaries were blindfolded and walked through the City by sighted guides. Many who were blindfolded commented on the challenge of truncated domes (yellow tactile paving often found at crosswalks), which actually are designed to aid visually impaired persons.

**Massachusetts White Cane Law** states that **all motorists**, when they see a pedestrian who uses a guide dog or a white cane at a street crossing, **must come to a complete stop**.

**Fundraising Event at Briarwood  
November 22 and 23 at 7 p.m.**



**H**ave some laughs. Please come and help support Audio Journal. Invite your friends, spread the word! Two live performances both evenings.

1. ***WCV Radio*** written and performed by Sally Cragin and Jeff Amburgh.
2. ***You Can't Take It With You*** by George Kaufman and Moss Hart. Performed by Audio Journal's Radio-Active Theatre.

Briarwood, 65 Briarwood Circle, Worcester  
Tickets \$20.

Available at the door or email [info@audiojournal.org](mailto:info@audiojournal.org), or call 508-797-1117.

## Audio Journal is no longer .net Now we are .org

**I**f you research nonprofit organizations online, you will notice that most website addresses and emails end in .org. In fact, some donors rely on .org as confirmation that an entity is a nonprofit and their donation may be tax deductible. To better represent our nonprofit status, Audio Journal changed its website URL and email addresses to .org

<https://audiojournal.org>  
[mary@audiojournal.org](mailto:mary@audiojournal.org)  
[jim@audiojournal.org](mailto:jim@audiojournal.org)  
[info@audiojournal.org](mailto:info@audiojournal.org)

Special thank yous go to those who helped Mary through the process:

- Jean Theurkauf, website and database expert, who volunteers her time for Audio Journal
- Sam at Pair Networks
- Bob at WireReady

Don't worry. If you forget and type .net, you still will find our website and we will receive your email.

# Help Audio Journal Raise Funds on Giving Tuesday

#GIVING  
TUESDAY

**J**oin the global movement to raise funds for nonprofit organizations on **Giving Tuesday, December 3, 2019**. Encourage your relatives and friends to support Audio Journal by creating what is called a peer-to-peer campaign. It's easy and there are three methods you can use.

1. [Facebook](#)
2. [Give Lively](#)
3. Email your friends and tell them to **Text BLIND to 44321**

Contact Mary if you would like some help getting started.  
[mary@audiojournal.org](mailto:mary@audiojournal.org)  
508-797-1117

## Volunteers Needed

**A**udio Journal relies on volunteers to do almost 100% of our reading and broadcasting. We always need more **readers**, so please contact Jim ([jim@audiojournal.org](mailto:jim@audiojournal.org)) if you are interested in learning more.

We need volunteers to help **develop more locally produced programs**. And listeners, please send your suggestions for new programming to [info@audiojournal.org](mailto:info@audiojournal.org), or call 508-797-1117.

Programming ideas, and topics in the works:

**Live Recordings** – Are you out and about often? Well, most of our listeners are not. We can expand listeners' experiences of the local area by attending events and recording the audio. For instance, go to a Candidates Forum, stART on the Street, or a Lions Club event. We'll edit and broadcast later.

**Gardening** – Do you love to garden? Well, so do many of our listeners. Share the colors and blooms in your garden with our listeners.

**Diabetes** – Many of our listeners lost their sight due to complications from Diabetes. Updates on the latest treatments and technology will be appreciated by our listeners.

**Pets/Service Dogs** – Almost everyone has had a pet at one time or

another. Read your favorite pet magazine. Interview someone from NEADS or Canines for Disabled Kids.

**Cars** – Do you belong to a local car club? Are you refurbishing an antique? Do you read every issue of *Car and Driver*?

**Mindfulness** – Jill Cofsky and Mary Lou Quinlan share a personal interest in this topic and will be broadcasting soon.

**Poetry** – The Worcester County Poetry Association is organizing a program that we hope will start in January.

**Yesterday's News** – Audio Journal and the American Antiquarian Society will collaborate to read stories from the past on topics of interest today.

**Stranger than Fiction** – Jim is looking for people to identify content and read.

**Another Point of View** – Longtime organizers Tom Moore and Jack Wertheimer “retired” from the program and Lou Camardo and Mike Hauck stepped up to keep it going. (Thank you to all!)

If any of these topics appeal to you, please let us know. Or think about your special interest that you want to share with our listeners?

Before you convince yourself that you don't have time to come to Audio Journal to read or record, or you think the one recording/production studio is too busy, please know:

- Soon we will have recording equipment you can take home.
- We successfully broadcasted programming recorded on an iPhone.
- We are raising funds to create another recording/production studio in the office.

We also need volunteers willing to take on **other responsibilities** including:

- Audio editing – Jim will teach you
- Printing newspapers from websites
- Preparing thank you letters to donors and other office tasks

Please let us know how you would like to help. **Our volunteers are our lifeblood. We are grateful for what you do every day!**

## Ways to Listen to Audio Journal Broadcasts

[Listen Live](#)

[Stream Live from our website](#)

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On your phone through Zeno Media - Call [614-974-1026](tel:614-974-1026)

Local Cable TV Station - Check our list to find your town.

[Listen with Cable TV](#)

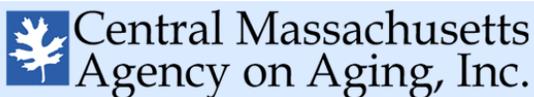
A special receiver tuned to Audio Journal's frequency that we supply at not cost to our listeners. Need one? Give us a call at [508-797-1117](tel:508-797-1117) or email [info@audiojournal.org](mailto:info@audiojournal.org)

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## Thank you to our funders!



## Hoche-Scofield Foundation

And many other local foundations, corporations, and individuals.  
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