

Spring 2017

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Tune in to the Special Olympics winter games next month!



*Apple Watch now tracks wheelchair workouts.*

## TV Guide: Special Olympics World Winter Games

For the first time in history, the Special Olympics Winter World Games will be televised across the U.S. and other countries next month. The international sporting event featuring athletes with intellectual disabilities will kick off in Austria with an opening ceremony on March 18th, which will air on ABC. The following games and related coverage will then be broadcast on ABC, ESPN, and ESPN2. ESPN's coverage will be available in about 200 countries.

The Austria games - expected to involve more than 2,600 competitors from over 100 countries - will display participants' athleticism in skiing, figure skating, hockey, snowboarding, and other favorite winter sports. The international television coverage is a significant step toward inclusion for athletes with disabilities.

As Special Olympics CEO, Mary Davis, expressed, "Thanks to ESPN, Special Olympics athletes will be showcased to the world for everyone to witness and appreciate their gifts, talents and courage. Our athletes are often forgotten in sports, and in many aspects of life, so the attitude-changing coverage ESPN will provide will help us get that much closer to achieving our vision of creating inclusive communities all over the world."

For more information about television coverage, or about Special Olympics, visit <http://www.specialolympics.org>. And be sure to tune in next month!

## Wheelchair Fitness Tracking on Apple Watch

Many people make new year's resolutions related to health and exercise. This winter, Apple Watch wearers who use wheelchairs will have an easier time tracking their fitness. Apple recently announced that it has made updates to its popular smart watch's built-in Activity app that now allows wheelchair users to track their activity levels, similar to step tracking on many fitness tracking devices. Apple Watch also allows wheelchair users to set fitness goals for movement and stretching, track workouts, and calculate the number of calories burned.

Find more information about wheelchair activity tracking on Apple Watch here: <http://www.apple.com/accessibility/watch/physical-and-motor-skills/>.

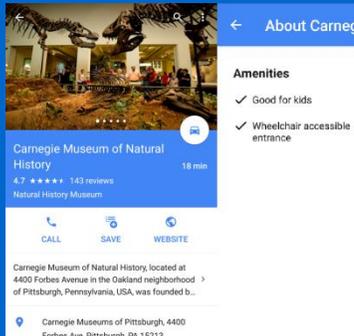
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## Entrance Accessibility Info Added to Google Maps

Google Maps is the most widely-used navigation app for smartphone users. Whether driving, walking, or using public transportation, Google Maps provides turn-by-turn directions to a specific address or destination. Beyond directions, the app also lists key pieces of information about a business destination - for instance, a storefront or restaurant's general description, hours of operation, and contact information.

Recently, the Google Maps app has also begun listing if a business entrance is wheelchair accessible. The data, when available, is provided in the "Amenities" section of the business description. Wheelchair accessibility information is gathered by Google's Local Guides users, and information about more businesses across the country are being added each day.

While restaurants, storefronts, and other businesses that are open to the public are required to be accessible according to the Americans with Disabilities Act, many businesses in older buildings have a difficult time modifying the architecture to make it completely accessible. The accessibility data now being provided in the Google Maps app will be helpful for many customers - including those who use wheelchairs, other mobility devices, and even parents who push strollers - who wish to take advantage of what a business has to offer.



*Entrance accessibility info now listed in Google Maps smartphone app.*



*The Kangaroo No-Spill Cup.*

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## Product Spotlight: Kangaroo No-Spill Cup

When 9-year-old Lilly Born noticed that her grandfather often knocked his drink over and spilled it due to uncontrollable movements from Parkinson's Disease, she decided to create a spill-proof cup that he could use. The uniquely designed Kangaroo Cup has 3 legs for stability, preventing it from tipping over. Each support leg acts as an easy-to-grip handle, and the cups are made from break-resistant materials.

While originally designed to accommodate for tremors, it can also be a good solution for toddlers and for individuals with arthritis or hand pain.

For more about the creator's story, or to purchase a Kangaroo Cup, visit <http://www.imagiroom.com/>.

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**Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania  
Assistive Technology Program**  
118 52<sup>nd</sup> Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Adrienne Tolentino

Accessibility, Assistive Technology, & Assessment Coordinator

412-632-1877

[adrienne.tolentino@goodwillswpa.org](mailto:adrienne.tolentino@goodwillswpa.org)

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