



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

October 2014

Meeting Location

Long Island Jewish Hearing & Speech Center is located on the grounds of the Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

Enter the grounds from LAKEVILLE ROAD and it is the first building on your left. Free parking is available behind the hearing and speech building: first entrance to parking lot after building. DO NOT go into the main parking building. Go to the Conference room on the Lower Level 270-05 76th Avenue New Hyde Park, NY 11040.

If you are in doubt as to whether there is a meeting, or if you'd like further information, please call Sal: 718-479-1098.

FYI

Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) are provided at our meetings. Headphones are available in the back. This room is Looped, so those who have hearing aids/cochlear implants can put on their T-coil switch.

Meeting News

Wednesday, October 15, 2014

Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm.

Meeting begins 7:00pm.

Topic: That Noise In Your Ears

Tinnitus is a noise or ringing in the ears. It is a common problem effecting 1 in 5 people. Most often this problem cannot be treated. There are virtually no drugs available. Join us to learn how Tinnitus Retraining Therapy can help.

Our Speaker: Dr. Melanie Herzfeld is an audiologist who runs the Hearing & Tinnitus Center in Woodbury. She began working with Tinnitus patients after learning about Tinnitus Retraining Therapy, She trained with the Drs. Jastreboff, and as a result decided that instead of saying "Learn to live with it," or even "pray," she began gathering a toolbox of "toys," that might benefit her patients and actually has done so. She has published several articles and most recently presented "Effects of Widex Zen Therapy—An Integrated Program Addressing Tinnitus Distress" in a poster session at the 2014 annual meeting of the Academy of Audiology.





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Chapter Planning Committee

*HLAA North Shore
Chapter of L.I.*

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*HLAA of North Shore Long
Island does not necessarily
endorse the opinions of our
speakers, goods & services.*

Our Chapter

We got off to a great start for the new year at our chapter. The September speaker, Dane Bowers from Phonak Hearing Aid, gave a great presentation on new technology by Phonak, including a host of devices that are wireless, Bluetooth, and streaming. You would have to either get to meetings or read a lot of information to learn what is now available to us. There is so much new technology in assisted listening devices and hearing aids, you really need to understand it in order to make educated decisions on what would be the best devices for you. **Come to meetings, Come to Meetings, Come to Meetings.** Got the message?

We are attracting new members to our group through both word of mouth, and with notifications included in local publications. If you know of someone you think would benefit from what we do and the information we have to share, please let them know about us and invite them to a meeting, or tell them to go online to our web site (www.hearingloss-longisland.org) for more information. If you never visited the web site, today might be a good time to do so. We have lots of information and a direct connection to the national HLAA website.

By the time you get this newsletter the WALK4HEARING will have happened (Sept 28th). This is the major fundraiser for both the National Organization and our chapter, to raise funds to enable us to operate. If you haven't already donated to the walk it is never too late! You can still go online to WALK4HEARING and donate to our chapter (North Shore Sandals) or send a check to me made payable to WALK4HEARING (my address appears on the last page of this newsletter).

The form for membership dues also appears on the last page. If you haven't already paid your dues for this new membership year, please do so as soon as you can.

See you all at the next meeting.

Sal Sturiale

Note About Dues

The membership year has changed, and is now from September through August. The cost remains the same, at \$15.00 per year. We will start collecting dues at the September meeting, and by mail from those of you who receive our newsletter by mail or email. Please make your check out to: HLAA North Shore of LI.

Please note that you must be a paying member to continue receiving our newsletter! And remember: your membership is tax deductible.

Do you think hearing aids should be covered by Medicare?

If so, please sign this online petition asking Congress to pass HR 3150:

<http://bit.ly/1q5nPVd>

Ask your friends and family to sign, too!

Utah Girl Inspires Marvel Comic Featuring Deaf Hero

By <http://www.ksl.com>

Hawkeye landed time on the big screen with Marvel's recent Avengers movies, but some fans may not know the arrow-wielding hero historically experienced severe hearing loss in the comic books.

At some point a decision was made to write Hawkeye's hearing loss out of the storyline, but a girl from Utah provided the inspiration needed for the comic's current author to write it back in. Hawkeye 19, which was released July 30 and depicts the hero as being deaf, was dedicated to 17-year-old Leah Coleman.

Rachel Coleman, Leah's mom, worked with Marvel writer Matt Fraction on the issue. She created the program "Signing Time" to teach families American Sign Language after learning Leah was deaf, a program Fraction used with his hearing children for early communication.

Coleman said she and her daughter were surprised to see the comic dedicated to a "Leah" on the final proof and quickly sent the author a message asking if it was for her.

"He wrote back and said, 'Absolutely, that is your Leah. If it weren't for her, I wouldn't know any sign language. Leah being deaf is the reason this is included in this issue. She introduced our family to sign language,'" Coleman said.

Coleman first met Fraction when she was in Portland for a "Signing Time" concert in 2012. He told her he loved ASL because of how similar it is to his media, comic books, since it is visual. The topic of Hawkeye came up and Fraction said he thought it was a shame the character's hearing loss had been written out and forgotten, Coleman said.

They kept in touch, and last year Fraction contacted Coleman to tell her he had found the right opportunity to put Hawkeye's hearing loss back into the story. He asked for her help to bring ASL to the comic book audience.

Organizations Unite to Address Inadequate Communication Access for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Inmates

By <http://nad.org>

The National Association of the Deaf (NAD), Helping Educate to Advance the Rights of the Deaf (HEARD), and the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (RID) filed a letter with the Director of the Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC), Colette S. Peters, demanding that ODOC immediately suspend its recruitment and use of inmates to serve as American Sign Language (ASL) interpreters within its Inmate Work Programs.

NAD, HEARD and RID became aware of the recruitment efforts at the correctional facility via a newsletter dated April 15, 2014, from Superintendent R. Angelozzi, through members of the deaf community, interpreters and advocates.

According to Talila A. Lewis, Executive Director of HEARD, "At a minimum, use of prisoners as 'interpreters' places deaf prisoners at risk of abuse and exploitation. This practice raises serious concerns about conflicts of interest, confidentiality and impartiality that necessarily arise in the course of 'interpreting' for activities, events, staff-inmate interactions, and educational programs, as outlined in the April 15 newsletter."

For instance, Lewis shared that one inmate acting as an "interpreter" recently expressed grave concerns about his ability to effectively interpret for a deaf prisoner, but shared that his fear of reprisal from corrections officials at his prison prevented him from disclosing this which resulted in the deaf prisoner not receiving full access to important information. In other situations, deaf prisoners have been assaulted by prisoners for reporting that inmate interpreters are not qualified. Yet, other deaf prisoners report being afraid to report unqualified inmate interpreters for fear of the withholding of any interpreter or of retaliation.

"We strongly believe using hearing inmates to interpret for deaf inmates would be devastating to the health, safety, and welfare of deaf inmates in Oregon. Using hearing inmates as ASL interpreters for deaf inmates raises two grave concerns: non-compliance with federal laws and regulations; and placing deaf and hard of hearing inmates at great risk through state-sanctioned, forced reliance on other inmates," states Howard A. Rosenblum, Chief Executive Officer of the NAD. "None of these concerns or others would arise if a neutral, qualified interpreter is provided pursuant to federal disability rights laws and ODOC's policy on Effective Communication."

Inmate interpreters can never be "qualified interpreters" for at least two reasons: acquisition of American Sign Language is a labor-intensive process requiring extensive education, practice, and exposure to the larger deaf community; and the very nature of inmates negates the important element of being able to "impartially" interpret pursuant to federal regulation and ODOC policy. The April 15 newsletter advertisement states, "Inmates will be tested on their knowledge of American Sign Language." RID has over 40 years of experience in evaluating and certifying interpreters. Additionally, both the NAD and HEARD are intimately familiar with the need for comprehensive training and testing of interpreters. Collectively, we are deeply concerned about the effectiveness of the assessment advertised in this newsletter.

Shane H. Feldman, Executive Director of RID, adds, "Unfortunately, this is not a situation unique to Oregon. There is widespread and systemic denial and underuse of qualified and certified

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Continued from page 4

interpreters in correctional facilities across the country. The RID vision—that interpreted interactions between and among individuals who use signed and spoken languages are as rich as direct communication—should not be compromised when an individual is in custody of a correctional facility. All deaf and hard of hearing individuals have a right to qualified and certified interpreters.”

A copy of the letter to Director Peters was sent to the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP), and the Oregon Governor to ask that these government entities also become involved to ensure that communication access is provided to all inmates through the utilization of qualified AND certified interpreters.

Walk4Hearing



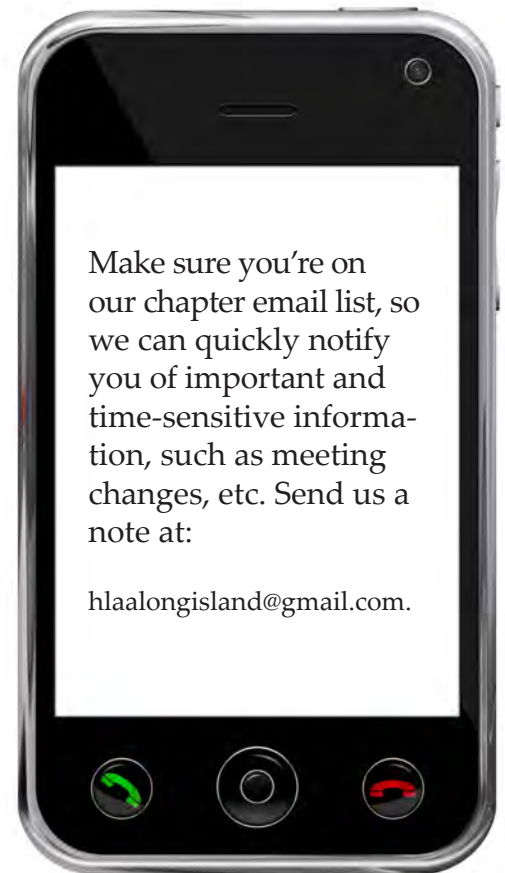
“North Shore Sandals” were all smiles as they joined in the NYC Walk4Hearing. A heartfelt thank you to all our donors for helping us attain 75% of our goal.

A Real Superhero: El Deafo!

The first graphic novel from deaf artist CeCe Bell is getting some traction in the media. The Washington Post calls the story of her alter ego "funny..beautiful and utterly engaging." El Deafo! includes Bell's memories of childhood from the meningitis at age 4 that left her profoundly deaf to her battles in school where she was mainstreamed.

Read an interview with Bell in the Washington Post here: <http://goo.gl/DqMm01>

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We Welcome All Donations

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Be sure to designate who to acknowledge for your donation. For example: "this donation is: In Memory of; or In Honor of; or Happy Birthday; or Congratulations to..."

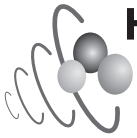
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Thank you!

Support Group for Parents of Hearing Impaired Children

Meets at the Hearing and Speech Center of LIJ Hospital

For more information:
Contact Dr. Linda Glazer at
(718) 470-8631 or e-mail
lglazer@nshs.edu



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Sal Sturiale
80-38 212 Street
Hollis Hills, NY 11427

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Membership Dues

Stay abreast of pertinent news and information. Send in your dues today.

Dues include Newsletter.

Make check to:

HLAA of North Shore Long Island

Dues: \$15.00 (for the year)

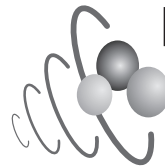
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