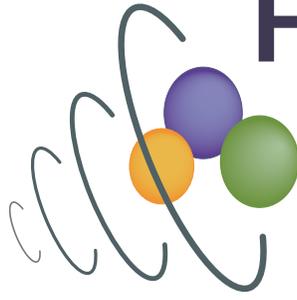


January 2017



Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

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: 516-331-0231.

Meeting News

Wednesday, January 18, 2017

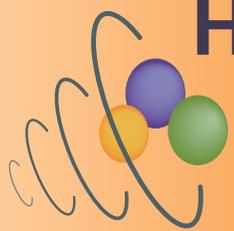
**Refreshments and Social Time begins 6:30pm.
Meeting begins 7:00pm.**

Topic: Inspect that Gadget

Was it difficult to hear during your holiday celebrations? Resolve to make your New Year better by attending this meeting.

Learn from our members as they share the tools that make it easier to survive the day - and the evening, too. From hearing aid programs to mobile apps, there's one that fits your lifestyle!





Hearing Loss Association of America

North Shore of Long Island Chapter

Chapter Planning Committee

HLAA North Shore Chapter of L.I.

Sal Sturiale

Charlie Kantor

Rosemarie Mignogna

Trudie Walker

MaryAnn Weeks

Claudia Block

Lincoln Center Gets Loopy

We're happy to announce that Lincoln Center recently installed an Induction Loop for assistive listening in the Mitzi E. Newhouse Theater, in addition to the one previously installed in the Beaumont!

This means that if you wear an assistive listening device with a telecoil switch, you don't need a headset at all to access the clean, clear sound from the Induction Loop. Just toggle your T-switch for the signal.

If you don't have a telecoil-equipped device, you can still use a headset (available in the lobby) to try out the new system.



Quote of the Month

Voice: 516-331-0231
<http://hearingloss-longisland.org>
hlaalongisland@gmail.com

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

Remember: The louder you yell, the more people become hard of hearing...and the softer you speak, the harder they listen.

Captioning Will Soon Be at a Movie Theater Near You!

By *HLAA.org*

On June 10, 2010 the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM), "Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Disability by Public Accommodations – Movie Theaters; Movie Captioning and Audio Description." Six-and-a-half-years later, the DOJ has issued a Final Rule on the ANPRM.

In their Final Rule, the DOJ requires movie theaters to:

- have and maintain the equipment necessary to provide closed movie captioning and audio description at a movie patron's seat whenever showing a digital movie produced, distributed, or otherwise made available
- provide notice to the public about the availability of these features, including on communications and advertisements at the box office, and other ticketing locations, on websites, mobile apps newspapers and via telephone. Third party websites are not required to provide that information.
- ensure that theater staff is available to assist patrons with the equipment before, during, and after the showing of a movie with these features.

We are thrilled to see movie captions recognized and required as an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). However, we must make sure these new rules work. Don't be afraid to complain if you don't get the accommodations you need. And don't forget to compliment the theater on a job well-done. Your input is more than important; you can be a driving force behind making movies truly accessible to those with hearing loss!

You can find more information on the Final Rule on the ADA website: https://www.ada.gov/regs2016/movie_captioning_rule_page.html



Image source: Wikimedia Commons

Getting to Know: Service Animals

By Deaf News Today

What is the legal definition of a service animal? *Therapy Animals are not legally defined by federal law but there is a legal definition for service animals in the Americans With Disabilities Act. Service animals are specifically trained to help the disability-related needs of their handlers and are not considered 'pets'.*

Is using a service animal protected in public places? *Federal laws protect the rights of individuals with disabilities who are accompanied by their service animals in public places.*

Does a guide dog have to be certified by the State to be an "official" guide dog? *No. Any guide dog, signal dog, or other animal individually trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability.*

Can a business owner insist on proof of state certification before letting a service animal into the business? *No. Certificates, licenses or other physical proof that a dog qualifies as a service animal.*

What can a business owner ask the service dog handler? *If the dog's function is not apparent, then the ADA permits only two kinds of questions. The business owner can ask, "Is this dog required because of a disability?" and "What specific assistive task or tasks has the dog been trained to perform?"*

Under what conditions can a service animal be excluded from a facility? *Under ADA law, an animal can be excluded if it is a direct threat to the health or safety of other people or will disrupt the regular operation*

Continued on Page 8

Parkside *Memorial Chapels, Inc.*

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Dade County: (305) 864-3774

Broward County: (954) 472-2821

Palm Beach County: (561) 655-6844

Bipartisan Bill Planned to Make Hearing Aids More Accessible and Affordable

By far the most frequently asked question into the HLAA national office is: “How do I afford hearing aids?” The most frequently viewed page on our website is the Financial Assistance page. Clearly there is a need for more affordable and accessible hearing devices.

For those with mild to moderate hearing loss, there is good news: U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.) and Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) announced that they will introduce the Over-the-Counter Hearing Aid Act of 2016. The bipartisan legislation would make certain types of hearing aids available over the counter (OTC) and remove unnecessary and burdensome requirements that currently create barriers for consumers who could benefit from hearing aids. Approximately 30 million Americans experience age-related hearing loss, yet only about 14 percent of those with hearing loss use assistive hearing technology, often because they cannot afford costly hearing aids.

Senator Grassley’s office reached out to HLAA for input and we will work with them to ensure that language concerning consumer protection measures and consumer education is included in the bill. We are also happy that legislation is being considered, that the need for an affordable option to high cost hearing aids for so many people is being taken seriously.

Read more on Senator Grassley’s website: <http://bit.ly/2hWcHJ6>

Enjoy the Cinema!

By Trudie Walker

The Cinema Arts Centre in Huntington has installed a new hearing and visual assistive system which includes full ear headphones and separate captioning glasses. The Center shows independent and international films. Information and schedules are available at <http://cinemaartscentre.org>



7910 Woodmont Avenue, Ste. 1200
 Bethesda, MD 20814-7022
 Phone: 301.657.2248 • Fax: 301.913.9413
 Email: membership@hearingloss.org
 Website: www.hearingloss.org



HLAA opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support, and advocacy. HLAA is a 501(c)(3) organization.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

I'd like to: Become a member of HLAA Renew my membership Give a gift membership

My Membership/Renewal

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

Chapter I belong to: _____

How did you learn about HLAA? _____

Gift Membership

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____ - _____ - _____

	Annual USA Membership Fees	Annual Non-USA Membership Fees
Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35 (1 year) <input type="checkbox"/> \$95 (3 years) <input type="checkbox"/> \$140 (5 years)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year)
Couple/Family	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55 (1 year)
Professional	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year)
Library/Nonprofit	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75 (1 year)
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 (1 year)	N/A
Corporate	<input type="checkbox"/> \$300 (1 year)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$325 (1 year)

My membership fee is \$ _____

Plus I'm adding a tax deductible donation of \$ _____

My total is \$ _____

3 Ways to Join, Renew or Give a Gift Membership

1. Return this form to your chapter with your check made payable to HLAA.
2. Mail or fax this form to the HLAA office at the address above with your credit card information.
3. Visit www.hearingloss.org/content/join and use your credit card online. (this is a secure website)

Credit Card Payment Information: American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Name: _____ (as it appears on card)

Signature: _____ (Include your billing address if different than membership address above.)



Fact: Over 5,000 Hearing Care Clinics referred CaptionCall to their patients last year!

Learn why.



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*Certification of hearing loss by a hearing-care or healthcare professional is required to participate.

Hearing Aid Recycling



Donation Information

HAAA Lakeland Chapter in Florida is sponsoring a Hearing Aid Recycling Program. The purpose of this program is to collect new/used hearing aids, clean/repair them, and offer them (at no cost) to those who are financially challenged in our community.

Hearing aids can be shipped in a small box. Carefully wrap the hearing aid in cotton, bubble wrap or other soft material, or put in a pill container.

First, fill out the form here: <http://www.hla-lakeland.org/donate/hearing-aid-donation> and print out the receipt you will get. Then mail the hearing aid(s) and the printed receipt to:

**Hearing Loss Association – Lakeland Chapter
Hearing Aid Recycling Program
3020 Lakeland Highlands Rd.
Lakeland, Florida 33803**

Trudie Katz Walker

Attorney at Law

225 Old Country Rd.
Melville, N.Y. 11747

twalker@walkerlegaloffices.com

Tel. (631) 361-8737
Fax (631) 361-8792

Getting to Know: Service Animals, Continued from Page 4



Image source: Wikimedia Commons

of the business. Handlers of service animals must obey local leash and vaccine laws and must have their dogs under control at all times. An example of an animal being a direct threat to public safety would be if the service animal was eating at tables or sitting on chairs meant for patrons.

Can businesses hold service animal owners responsible for damage done by the animal? *Yes. Service-dog handlers are responsible for property damage just like other patrons.*

Can businesses require the owners of service animals to pay “pet fees” or segregate them into “animal-friendly” areas?

Because service dogs are not pets, the U.S. Justice Department, which is the ADA’s primary enforcement authority, businesses

cannot subject them to “pet fees” or segregation in “animal-friendly” areas.

Does an animal have to be able to do anything to be a service animal? *Yes. A dog must be able to perform specific tasks that relate to a person’s disability.*

Are therapy animals protected in the same way? *Therapy, emotional-support, and companion animals are considered pets and do not fall under the regulations provided by the ADA.*