

May 2018



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, May 16, 2018

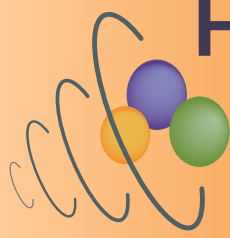
Refreshments and Social Time begins 6pm.

Meeting begins 6:30pm.

Topic: The Future Face of Our Chapter

Come join us for our special meeting while we talk about The Future Face of Our Chapter. Modern technology is advancing at a rapid pace. Our assistive hearing devices from hearing aids and cochlear implants to blue tooth and captioning programs on our smart phones are all improving faster than ever before. Let's talk about bringing our chapter into this modern world. A Facebook page and other social media would expand our reach and get information out faster. Bring your suggestions for speakers for next year and topics of interest. If you are tech savvy come down and help us set up our social media. Do you have leadership ability or just time to spare? Join our planning board and help direct the future of our chapter. We'll talk about it all and more. The future of our chapter depends on you.





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

Trudie Walker

MaryAnn Weeks

Claudia Block

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.

Deaf Therapy Dog Able to Learn Sign Language

By Andrea Castillo, StarTribune.com

As Lothair, a white Sheltie therapy dog, walks tall and proud into the hospital for his weekly visit, he is greeted with a hug from a receptionist at the front desk.

Lothair continues on, carrying himself like royalty, appropriate for a dog named after a French monarch. From the time he was a puppy, he had a proud, dignified air about him, said his owner, Melanie Paul, who became deaf at age 12. "He was beautiful," she said. "He was like a king."

Lothair's interactions with patients at United States Air Force Hospital Langley in Hampton, Va., don't reveal that he has been deaf since birth. "Deafness is an invisible disability," Paul said via e-mail.

Lothair learned American Sign Language from Paul and began serving as a therapy dog—providing emotional support to patients in hospitals, nursing homes and other settings. He is registered with New Jersey-based Therapy Dogs International, which has dogs in all 50 states and Canada. Along with tests required by the organization to become a certified therapy dog, deaf dogs must also undergo a startle test. During the test, someone will come up behind the dog and pet and touch its rear quarters, and the dog must not be startled or react negatively, TDI's website states.

Paul has had therapy dogs for more than 15 years. She started a pet therapy program at Sentara CarePlex Hospital in Hampton more

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Deaf Artist Expresses What She 'Hears' Through Painting

By JoAnne Klimovich Harrop, Triblive.com



The darkness in these paintings represents the quiet.

Bright colors portray loud sounds.

The dots show sound being transferred...sometimes broken up ...between the inconsistent noises.

Artist Andrea Echavarria, who is deaf, has a cochlear implant, an electronic medical device that replaces the function of the inner ear and provides sound signals to the brain. It's allowed her to explore another world when it comes to her paintings.

Recurring shapes in her art signify the cochlear implant, which allows her to hear things after spending most of her life in silence. She's now hearing loud sirens, dogs barking and the calm of her mother's voice, which has inspired her ideas for artwork to help her express what she hears.

She's created a collection of these expressions—"The Art of Hearing: Works by Andrea Echavarria"—for a show from 6 to 9 p.m. April 13 at 448 Studios, in Etna. The 30 pieces will be for sale.

"I want to let people know that deaf people can do many things," Echavarria says via Eileen Noble, a certified American Sign Language interpreter from Harmarville. "I can express myself through my art. It really feels awesome inside. It's my passion."

Echavarria says she couldn't do it without the assistance of artist Tom Mosser, whose work has been featured at sports venues across the U.S. He was her first art teacher. Mosser describes himself as part mentor, eccentric uncle figure, goofy friend, buddy, part life coach, speech coach, big brother and fellow artist. He often writes inspiring messages to her on the studio walls and works daily on learning sign language.

"Any time I'm bumming out over a sore knee, or a sore elbow or something, I only have to look across the studio floor and I see what hurdles she overcomes daily," Mosser says. "I've had a giant metal ruler for years. Every so often it will fall on the floor with a huge crash. Before the implant, Andrea would never move. Now, when it happens, she kind

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If You're New, This is for You!

More than 48 million people in the US have a hearing loss, which can hinder daily communication. By age 65, one in three Americans has a hearing loss. This invisible condition affects the quality of life of the individuals with hearing loss, as well as family, friends, coworkers and everyone with whom they interact. HLAA believes people with hearing loss can participate successfully in today's world.



Information - Education - Support - Advocacy

Founded in 1979, the mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support and advocacy.

HLAA is the nation's foremost membership and advocacy organization for people with hearing loss. HLAA publishes the bimonthly *Hearing Loss Magazine*, holds annual conventions, a Walk4Hearing, and more. Check out: www.HearingLoss.org

The North Shore Chapter is a dynamic group of individuals working together as a team. To join, please fill out the Membership Form in this newsletter. Welcome!

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than a decade ago and created the same program at Langley Air Force Base about five years ago. She usually brings Lothair and another therapy dog to Langley once or twice a week and makes regular visits to local hospitals and nursing homes.

Paul decided to acquire a deaf dog as she prepared to retire from Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind in 2009 after a 30-year career in education, intending to use the dog to help deaf children improve their literacy skills, she said.



She ended up taking in Lothair as a 3-month-old puppy. Both of his parents are Blue Merle Sheltie champion show dogs, and breeding them together increases the likelihood at least one of their puppies will be deaf or deaf and blind, she said.

Paul, who became deaf after incorrectly being diagnosed with an illness and being prescribed the antibiotic streptomycin, said there tends to be some hesitation among some deaf people to have a deaf dog, as they end up relying on the dogs to hear for them. However, because her husband as well as her other dogs can hear, that wasn't an issue for her.

Read More: <http://strib.mn/2FBJUFF>

Deaf Artist Expresses What She 'Hears' Through Painting, Continued from Page 3

of jumps. And that makes me smile. I'm a much better artist and person for having been around her and her family."

"Tom has been a blessing to her," says Andrea Echavarria's mother, Laurel. "She would never have expanded who she is as an artist without him. He pushes her in a kind and loving way. He tells her not to be afraid to make a mistake."

Read more here: <https://bit.ly/2Hyi1Rv>

This Leader Is Making It Easier for Members of the Deaf Community, Continued from Page 8

started to expand opportunities for the deaf community. This has meant retooling the organization with scalable impact in mind. His group's innovation center in Austin, Texas is leveraging technology, even developing a key marketplace to better match interpreters with deaf people.

To learn more about Soukup and how he's scaling CSD, read the full transcript here: <https://bit.ly/2qdtUUq>



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: _____

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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.)



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



Donating Hearing Aids to the Lions Club

By Michelle Gross

If you have used hearing aids to donate, please address the package to:

John McNamara, Au.D., Ontario Hearing
2210 Monroe Ave., Rochester, NY 14618

Put on the lower left corner of the package:
"Finger Lakes Region Lions Club"

(Cleaning tools, cases, most accessories, etc. have virtually no value and are discarded.) Aids that are usable are cleaned and checked and made ready for sending to the Lions Club for qualified recipients.

You can obtain a receipt for your donation (for tax purposes) but **you must request it**. And, thanks for considering donating your used aids.

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



North Shore of Long Island Chapter

<http://hearingloss-longisland.org>

Sal Sturiale

271-10 Grand Central Parkway

Apt 10G

Floral Park, NY 11005

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

This Leader Is Making It Easier for Members of the Deaf Community to Start Their Own Businesses

By DeafNewsToday.blogspot.com

Chris Soukup understands the frustrations the deaf community faces. He's seen deaf children put in schools that isolate them and deaf adults struggling to get work. A third-generation member of the deaf community, he knows the unexpected roadblocks that can emerge during any task—from placing a phone call to even applying for a loan.

But Soukup also understands what's possible—and he's working to make a global impact.

In 1975, Soukup's father launched Communication Service for the Deaf, a nonprofit dedicated to supporting people with hearing loss. Today, as CEO, Soukup is working to build on what his father

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