Hearing Loss Association of America
Washington State Association

E-NEWS FROM HLAA-WA

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October is National Audiology Awareness Month and National Protect Your Hearing Month

This is also the month of our annual meeting. In the content below, you will see articles in the news, opportunities to comment on the state Alzheimer's Plan, and more.

Fall Issue of *Sound Waves* Now Online

The Fall 2017 issue of ***Sound Waves***, HLAA-WA's quarterly newsletter, is now available on the HLAA-WA website at http://hearingloss-wa.org/sound-waves-newsletter/. This issue includes a report on the donation that HLAA's Whatcom County chapter has made to Western Washington University to assist in establishing a hearing aid bank to benefit income-restricted people with hearing loss. Also, Larry Wonnacott writes about his impressions of the HLAA 2017 Convention in Salt Lake City.

Sound Waves also reports on the Keystone Award presented to Cheri Perazzoli, HLAA-WA Director of Advocacy, at the 2017 Convention, and we have updates on the legislative initiatives that HLAA-WA has been supporting. HLAA-WA President Warren Weissman writes about the approval of federal legislation calling for the FDA to create a new category of hearing aids sold over-the-counter and also writes about developments in "Made for iPhone" hearing aids and the benefits he is enjoying from his new "Made for iPhone" hearing aid.

In the News

Some articles about hearing loss that appeared in the news this last week:

- *The New York Times*, "Why are Hearing Aids so Expensive?", here
- *Hear News*, "More studies show relationship between hearing loss and dementia", here
- *UPI* , "Hearing loss can challenge relationships", confirms what many of us know already, here

Washington Senior Lobby Fall Conference

Several members of the HLAA-WA Board attended the Senior Lobby Fall Conference in Tacoma last week. Karen Utter staffed an information table with support from Cheri Perazzoli, Warren Weismann and Diana Thompson.

Clockwise from top left: Spencer Norby, Hearing Loop NW, again provided hearing loops throughout the conference room and spoke to explain the loops to participants. Diana Thompson consulted with Warren Weissman. Walt Bowen, President of WA Senior Lobby with Bob Leroy, Executive Director, Alzheimer's Association, who was Master of Ceremonies for the conference. State Senator Karen Keiser, left, talking with Irene Stewart, Age-Friendly Seattle Project Manager, City of Seattle, both of whom are very strong supporters of HLAA-WA. Photos by Rita Robison.

The Washington State Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ODHH) has an e-news and asks that if you would like to be included on their mailing list for that e-news, you contact them at ODHH@dshs.wa.gov.

Affordable Care Act - Exchange Enrollment Coming Soon

Enrollment for 2018 for coverage under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) starts November 1 and ends December 15. The executive branch of the federal government has reduced by 90% the funds for advertising when people can enroll. Please help by getting the word out and ensuring that people who need access to ACA through the Health Care Exchange can get it. For more information about coverage in Washington State, go to the HealthPlanFinder here.

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"Engaging Aging" Forum to Focus on Women, Equity, and Optimal Aging

Agewise King County has announced "Engaging Aging", a forum on **November 6**, where participants can explore questions such as, "What do you know about women and aging? Are there differences between how older men and older women live?" Sponsored by Age Friendly Seattle—a new City of Seattle initiative to make Seattle a great place to grow up AND grow old, the forum's keynote speaker is LueRachelle Brim-Atkins, The Diversity Collaborative, who will address "The Triple Whammy: Ageism, Racism & Sexism." In addition, eight lightning talks will set the stage for roundtable discussions by all participants.. Get much more information about the forum here. No charge for participating, but a reservation is required. Make your reservation here.

Planning for the next HLAA Convention has begun

If you are interested in presenting a workshop at HLAA2018, go to the Call for Papers, which is now open. The deadline for submitting papers for consideration is Friday, December 1, 2017.

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Alzheimer's Town Halls

Learn about the State Alzheimer's Plan

Free

Sequim WA – October 24, 2017, 10:00 – 11:30 am
Shipley Center
921 E. Hammond St., Sequim, WA 98382

Bremerton WA – October 24, 2017, 2:00 – 3:30 pm
Norm Dicks Government Center
345 6th Street, Bremerton, WA 98337

Everett WA – November 1, 2017, 10:00 – 11:30 am
Carl Gipson Senior Center
3025 Lombard Ave., Everett, WA 98201

Bellingham WA, November 1, 2:00 – 3:30 pm
Bellingham Senior Activity Center
315 Halleck St., Bellingham, WA 98225

Tacoma WA – November 14, 2017, 9:30 – 11:00 am
People's Community Center
1602 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA 98405

Yakima WA – November 15, 2017 3:00 – 4:30 pm
Harman Center
101 N 65th Avenue, Yakima WA, 98908

Wenatchee WA – November 15, 2017, 5:00 – 6:30 pm
Aging & Adult Care of Central WA.
50 Simon Street SE, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

See the State Alzheimer's strategic plan here.

For More Information, Contact
Peter Newbould
206.529.3867, pnewbould@alz.org

Hearing Loss Association of America
Whatcom County Chapter

2017 SATURDAY MEETING CALENDAR

November 18 — *"Treatment of Hearing Loss: Then, Now, and Tomorrow"*
David Olson, M.D, Otologist, Bellingham Ear, Nose & Throat

December 16 — *Annual Christmas Potluck* - Celebrating the Season Together

The Hearing Loss Association of America Whatcom County Chapter meets at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2600 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month.

Contact: Charlene MacKenzie charmackenzie@comcast.net Phone: 738-3756
Mike Sweeney spikesweeney@comcast.net Phone: 734-0469

Additional programs offered to our membership in 2017:

HEARING LOSS MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Saturday, October 28th: 9 -12 noon with Charlene MacKenzie
Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2600 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham

In a personal, small group setting -- wearing hearing aids or not -- learn more about your own hearing loss and how to shop wisely for hearing devices. Bring your current audiogram. No cost but a priceless opportunity for our members, friends and the community.

Join the Hearing Loss Association of America or Renew Your Membership

Help support HLAA in Washington State by becoming a member of the national organization. Your membership dues support programs and include HLAA's bi-monthly award-winning "Hearing Loss Magazine." Join our national affiliate, Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), here.

October-November Hearing Accessible Events

- For updated information about **Seattle Town Hall**, see their web site here. Town Hall Seattle is currently undergoing a remodeling and events are scheduled at other venues throughout the city. We're tracking down hearing access details, but no info is yet available. Please feel free to send a note of inquiry voicing your support for the loop at Town Hall and ask what kind of hearing accommodations have been put in place for the neighborhood presentations.
- All **Seattle Repertory Theatre** performances are looped. Captioned performances are offered at the first Thursday show of each production in the Bagley Wright and Leo K. Theatres. Get ticket information here.
- **A Contemporary Theater (ACT)** in Seattle now offers closed captions for Mainstage performances with the Figaro MobiTxt closed captioning system. ACT is showing "The Crucible" in October and early November. Get more information here.

See the Loop Washington website for more hearing accessible events.

Oct 24 Alzheimer Town Hall, 10:00 – 11:30 am, Hear about the WA State Alzheimer's Plan, Shipley Center, 921 E. Hammond St., Sequim, WA 98382.

Oct 24 Alzheimer Town Hall, Hear about the WA State Alzheimer's Plan, 2:00 – 3:30 pm, Norm Dicks Government Center, 345 6th Street, Bremerton, WA 98337.

Oct 28 Hearing Loss Workshop with Charlene MacKenzie, 9 am – Noon, Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2600 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham. Bring your audiogram. No cost., Whatcom HLAA Local Meeting

Oct 28 HLAA-WA Annual Meeting, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm, Everett Library, 2702 Hoyt Ave, Everett, WA 98201. All HLAA members are welcome for the morning session, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. BYO lunch. CART.

Oct 28 "Ragtime", 2:00 pm, 5th Avenue Theatre, Seattle. Open-captioned. Sennheiser Listening sets also available, reserve ticketing@5thavenue.org.

November calendar continued on next page

* Local HLAA-WA Meetings share information, education, and support for people who live with or deal with hearing loss and all those who wish to better understand hearing loss. Visitors are always welcome to attend.

* "Looped" refers to the availability of a hearing loop. When the symbol at left is shown at a venue or event, you may turn your hearing aid to "T-coil" to use the loop.

October-November Hearing Accessible Events, *cont'd*

Nov 1 Alzheimer's Town Hall. Hear about the WA State Alzheimer's Plan, 10:00 – 11:30 am, Carl Gipson Senior Center, 3025 Lombard Ave., Everett. Looped.

Nov 1 Alzheimer's Town Hall. Hear about the WA State Alzheimer's Plan, 2:00-3:30 pm, Bellingham Senior Activity Center, 315 Halleck St., Bellingham, WA 98225.

Nov 6 "Engaging Aging" Women's Equity Forum, 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm.. City Hall Seattle. Free but registration required. Hearing loop, CART and ALDs available. Make reservation here.

Nov 7 Cochlear Americas Chapter meeting, 6:30 pm, Hotel 116, a Coast Hotel, 625 116th Avenue NE, Bellevue, CART.

Nov 10 Renton Chapter meeting, 12:30 pm, Renton Senior Activity Center, 211 Burnett Ave N., Renton. Ampification, FM ALDs.

Nov 11 Tacoma Chapter Meeting, 9:30 am, TACID, 6315 S 19th St, Tacoma (enter through the back door.) amplification, FM ALDs, CART.

Nov 14 Alzheimer's Town Hall. Hear about the WA State Alzheimer's Plan, 9:30 – 11:00 am, People's Community Center, 1602 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA 98405.

Nov 14 Seattle HLAA Local Chapter Meeting, 6:45 pm, Aljoya Conference Room, 450 NE 100th, Seattle. Amplification, CART, looped room.

Nov 15 Alzheimer's Town Hall. Hear about the WA State Alzheimer's Plan, 3:00 – 4:30 pm, Harman Center, 101 N 65th Avenue, Yakima WA, 98908.

Nov 15 Alzheimer's Town Hall. Hear about the WA State Alzheimer's Plan, 5:00 – 6:30 pm, Aging & Adult Care of Central WA, 50 Simon Street SE, East Wenatchee, WA 98802.

Nov 18 Whatcom HLAA Chapter Meeting: "Treatment of Hearing Loss: Then, Now, and Tomorrow", David Olson, M.D, Otologist, Bellingham Ear, Nose and Throat, 9:30am, Christ the Servant Church, 2600 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, WA. Amplification, FM, CART, typewelling; loop at most meetings.

Nov 18 "The Bodyguard", 2:00 pm, Paramount Theatre, Seattle. Open-captioned. Only single seats left, infrared ALDs available at Friends of the Paramount Booth, main lobby.