

**Hearing Loss
Association of America
and YOU!**

More than 30 million people in the U.S. have a hearing loss which can hinder daily communication! That translates to one in ten people. 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, co-workers and everyone with whom they interact. Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) believes people with hearing loss can participate successfully in today's world. The mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy, and support.

**Hearing Loss Association of America
(HLAA)**

is the largest international consumer organization dedicated to the well-being of people who do not hear well.

If you are not a member of HLAA, you are encouraged to join. Membership includes the bi-monthly journal, **Hearing Loss**, an outstanding information resource.

Dues are \$25 for USA individual/family, \$50 for Professionals. Make checks payable to "HLAA" and mail to:

**Hearing Loss Association of America
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200
Bethesda, MD 20814
V/301-657-2248
TTY/301-657-2249
www.hearingloss.org**

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Current Smoke Alarms Unable to Wake Millions of Hard of Hearing People

According to the June 2007 study, "Waking Effectiveness of Alarms for Adults who are Hard of Hearing," the typical audible signal used by smoke alarms failed to wake up 43 percent of tested subjects with mild to moderately severe hearing loss despite the fact that all were able to hear the 3100 Hz tone when awake. Strobe lights woke up only 27 percent of the hard of hearing subjects. In contrast, a specific audible multiple frequency signal consisting of a 520 Hz square wave [1] successfully alerted 92 percent of the subjects at the benchmark level of 75 dBA and alerted 100 percent at 95 dBA.

The study, authored by Dorothy Bruck and Ian Thomas of Victoria University, Australia, estimated at least 34.5 million people in the United States have partial hearing loss and projected that this number would increase due to the aging of the baby boomer generation.

The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) has long suspected that people have died in fires because they could not hear or wake up to the high-frequency smoke alarms, but government investigations of fire fatalities have not inquired into whether the victims had hearing loss. Neither audible smoke alarms nor strobe lights were specifically tested with hard of hearing people during stages of deep sleep until the twenty-first century. The finding of this study indicate that millions of people with hearing loss will not be awakened from deep sleep by audible alerts which use only one tone in the high frequencies rather than a range of frequencies beginning at approximately 500 Hz.

"This study shows there is a critical need for emergency warning systems to be redesigned or supplemented as soon as technically feasible", said Terry Portis, Executive Director of HLAA. "Millions of people do not and will not know that they will not wake up to the high-pitched tones used by most emergency alerts. We call upon manufacturers of emergency alerting equipment, such as smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, and weather radios, to provide solutions that recognize this reality as soon as possible.

The study evaluated the performance of six different signals for waking up hard of hearing people from deep sleep and found the 520 Hz square wave to be the most effective of all the signals. Bed and pillow shakers awoke 80 percent of the subjects at benchmark levels, awaking the majority very quickly, but did not wake up 100 percent of the subjects even at higher levels of intensity.

For people with more severe hearing loss, the authors recommended studying the effectiveness of two or more different signals, such as a 520 Hz square wave audible signal with a tactile alert and/or a strobe light.

Brenda Battat, Associate Executive Director of HLAA, said: "Operators of hotels, motels, college dormitories and many other facilities with sleeping areas must ensure that they provide equally effective communication access for people with hearing loss to the building alarm system, which is required by Title II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Many deaf or hard of hearing guests have been provided portable alerting systems with a bed shaker, but these systems have typically not provided effective alerting when the building alarm system is triggered and have only been activated by smoke within the guest's own room, which is too late for optimal notification."

This publication is the
official newsletter for

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*This newsletter is
published 3 times a year. Submit
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January 1, 2008 to:*

**Hearing Loss Association
of Michigan**

PO Box 4808

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Web-site:

www.hearingloss-mi.org

E-mail:

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For information about
Programs, call:

517-487-2583 V/TTY

*Opinions expressed in this
newsletter are those of the person
submitting the information
and not necessarily of
Hearing Loss Association of Michigan.*

*Mention of goods or services
does not mean endorsement by
Hearing Loss Association of Michigan,
nor should exclusion
suggest disapproval.*

Children's Special Health Care Services

Funding is Available for Many Health Conditions Including Hearing Loss

Children's Special Health Care Services (CSHCS) is a program within the Department of Community Health. It is for children and some adults with special health care needs (including hearing loss) and their families.

A free, on-line course that explains CSHCS is available through the Department of Community Health free online courses Titled "What is Children's Special Health Care Services".

<http://training.mihealth.org/>

CSHCS is a part of Title V of the Federal Social Security Act.

CSHCS helps persons with chronic health problems by providing:

- ▶ **Coverage and referral** for specialty services based on the person's health problems
- ▶ **Family centered services** to support you in your primary role as caretaker of your child.
- ▶ **Community based services** to help you care for your child at home and maintain normal routines.
- ▶ **Culturally competent services** which demonstrate awareness of cultural differences.
- ▶ **Coordinated services** to pull together the services of many different providers who work within different agencies.

Who is eligible for CSHCS?

Several factors decide whether a person is eligible for CSGCS.

Residency: Must be a Michigan resident.

Citizenship: Must be a US citizen or documented non-citizen admitted for permanent residence or a non-citizen legally admitted migrant farm worker (i.e. seasonal agricultural worker).

Age: Children must have a qualifying medical condition and be 20 years old or under. Persons 21 and older with cystic fibrosis or certain hereditary blood coagulation disorders commonly known as hemophilia may also qualify.

Qualifying medical condition: A MDCH medical consultant reviews each case to determine eligibility. Severity and chronicity of the person's condition as well as the need for treatment by a specialist are factors considered. More than 2,500 diagnoses are potentially eligible.

How to apply for CSHCS

The first step is to ask your specialist to submit a medical record less than one year old. This information can be in the form of a letter or report that fully describes the condition and treatment plan.

Your specialist will need permission to send the medical information to CSHCS.

For more information go to:

http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4911_35698-15087--,00.html

Call the CSHCS Family Phone line at: 1-800-359-3722

E-mail to: cshcsfc@michigan.gov

BIONIC EARS HERE

Ed Note: Along with the new electronic format of the HLA-MI NEWS, we are happy to feature a new regular column in the newsletter. BIONIC EARS HERE will focus on Cochlear Implant (CI) topics. This initial column is authored by Ruth Ilean Fox, who celebrated 20 years of her CI journey in May of 2007. Ruth is the current leader of the Westshore (Muskegon) Chapter and a long time member of HLAA.

There is an exciting world of sound for the CI recipient who ventures beyond their CI processor into the infinite offerings of assistive technology. On their journey, they will find audio books, music, lecturers, ministers, teachers, professors, movies, TV shows, friends/family over the telephone and conversation in noisy places much easier to hear and enjoy.

The place to start using assistive technology with a CI is the kit, which is provided with the processor and contains some of the auxiliary equipment available from the manufacturer. Catalogs for additional equipment are available either in the kit or on the manufacturers' web site.

Audio cords are provided by CI manufacturers for audio equipment such as CD and MP3 players, FM/Infrared systems, televisions, stereo systems, computers and even telephones if the equipment contains a headphone jack. These cables have a 3.5mm plug on one end to be placed in the head phone out jack, and a plug on the other end for the CI user's specific processor. Adapters can be used to change the plug size, and switch between mono and stereo, if the audio device jack and the cord plug are not the same. Each processor model has a unique way in which the audio cables are connected to them and activated. User manuals that come with the processors provide step by step information as how to do this. These manuals also offer information in mixing or deactivating the processor microphone for when audio devices are attached, so that the CI recipient can chose to listen only to the audio device, without the distraction of environmental sound, or hear both the audio device and sounds in the environment.

Of great importance, in order to prevent accidental damage to the implant, only a special cord provided by the CI manufacturer can be used when directly connecting to any device that is powered by an electrical outlet. Cochlear's CI recipients are provided with a TV/HiFi cable for interfacing AC powered equipment. Advanced Bionics and Med El direct their CI recipients to consult with their audiologist or manufacturer for an appropriate cable. **Note: NEVER** connect your CI to an AC device during an electrical storm.

Advanced Bionics Auria and Harmony processors, and Cochlear's 3G and Freedom processors have boot capability for the Phonak Microlink Personal FM system. The Microlink offers wireless interface to TV, telephone, and

stereo, as well as having a microphone that can be given to a speaker or companion.

There are t-coil options available to all CI recipients for using hearing aid compatible telephones, room/auditorium loop systems, neck loops and silhouettes. Advanced Bionics' Harmony processor and Cochlear's 3G and Freedom processors have internal t-coils that can be activated by the audiologist. The remaining processors all have the option of using a t-coil that is placed on the end of a cord which is connected to the processor attached in a similar manner as the audio cables.

All three manufactures provide auxiliary microphones permitting flexibility in microphone placement. Some are very unique like Advanced Bionics' T-Mic that is placed at the ear canal, and Med El's TeleMic, containing a microphone and t-coil. The use of auxiliary microphones can bring the speaker's voice closer or overcome excessive background noise in the same manner that a person might use an assistive listening system like the pocket talker.

Creative use of assistive technology can maximize a CI recipient's listening experience. Each person is unique in what works for them; therefore, continuously looking for better options is important.

Ed note: For more details or suggestions, contact author, Ruth Fox at: muskegon@hearingloss-mi.org

HLA-MI Cochlear Implant Chapter Meeting Information

This is a unique "mobile" chapter that meets in 3 different locations throughout the year. For chapter contact information please see the contact information on Page 5.

***Ann Arbor (April, July, October)*
*Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living
2568 Packard
(Located in the Georgetown Mall Complex)***

***Grand Rapids (May, August, November)*
*4th Reformed Church
1226 Union Ave. NE***

***Mt. Pleasant (March, June, September)*
*Central Michigan University
Health Professions Building
(Corner of E. Campus Dr. and Preston)***

Hearing Loss Association of Michigan

Chapter Activities

By: *Marla Schindler and Barbara Quart*

Everyone is always welcome at the local chapter meetings regardless of hearing ability. Some of the most rewarding experiences attendees have had were the results of family members or friends coming to the meeting in support of the person with hearing loss.

That kind of support can reverse years of hearing loss related isolation and frustration and make great strides toward an improved quality of life.

Take a look at these pages and consider attending a local HLA-MI meeting. You won't be sorry!

No local chapter in your area?

Please contact HLA-MI at: info@hearingloss-mi.org for help in establishing a local chapter.

Liz Kobylak and Brenda Stimson are ready to help you reach that goal.

Chapter Meetings

If you do not already belong to an HLAA Chapter, we hope you will find one near you and plan to attend meetings. Programs benefit not only those with hearing loss but also their families and friends. Everyone is welcome at all Hearing Loss Association functions, regardless of hearing ability.

Please contact the individual chapters listed on these pages, or visit www.hearingloss-mi.org for further meeting information.

The street addresses provide meeting locations.

ANN ARBOR CHAPTER

Meets 1st Monday of the month

7:00 PM

Turner Senior Resource Center (Sun Room)

2401 Plymouth Rd., Ann Arbor 48105

Contact: info@hearingloss-mi.org

We are working with a local foundation and Screenline, LLC, in offering demonstrations of remote CART to all HLA-MI chapters. Costs of providing remote CART are covered by the foundation grant for up to 2 demonstrations per chapter.

We continue to answer requests for information on looping local conference rooms and churches. We covered nine inquiries over the past 18 months and know of 4 loops that have been installed.

BIRMINGHAM CHAPTER

Meets 2nd Thursday of the month

12:30 - 2:30 PM

Birmingham Area Senior Citizen Center

2121 Midvale Avenue, Birmingham 48009-1509

Contact: birmingham@hearingloss-mi.org

No meetings until after January 1.

DEARBORN AREA CHAPTER

Meets 3rd Wednesday of the month

1:00 - 2:00 PM

NEW LOCATION: Oakwood Common

16351 Rotunda, Dearborn (phone 313-943-2412)

Contact: dearborn@hearingloss-mi.org

DOWNRIVER AREA CHAPTER

Please email for exact day and time for monthly meetings.

Speechreading practice and social time before each meeting. Future meeting topics to include information about the latest in hearing technology, our rights, accessibility, concerns, and responsibilities in purchasing hearing aids, preparation for this year's Walk4Hearing and DASC, reports on community outreach efforts.

Ford Senior Center

6750 Troy St, Taylor 48180-1633

CART accessibility at all meetings

Contact: taylor@hearingloss-mi.org

GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month (*except July & August*)

7:00 - 8:30 PM except as otherwise noted

Metropolitan Hospital (West Conference Room)

1919 Boston SE, Grand Rapids 49506

Contact: grand-rapids@hearingloss-mi.org

October Tour of new Metro Health Center with a focus on the built-in hearing assistive technology.

November Dr. Hollander will present a program on hearing loss.

December A local music conductor will present strategies on learning how to enjoy music more.

January A technical specialist from Phonak will present the latest and greatest technologies.

GRAND TRAVERSE CHAPTER

Meets 2nd Sunday of March, April, June, September, October and November

1:30—3:30PM

Traverse Area District Library

610 Woodmere Ave, Traverse City 49686

Contact: traverse-city@hearingloss-mi.org

231-882-7063 voice, 231-946-0229 leave brief TTY message. P.O. Box 393, Beulah, MI 49617

Future meeting topics include hearing access at the national parks, access, advocacy, and challenges from a wheelchair user, how our pets make our lives more interesting especially related to hearing and vision loss, Humorous Swerves Coursing through the Hard of Hearing/Deaf Lane. Please send us your real life stories via email or snail mail.

GREATER FLINT AREA CHAPTER

Meets 4th Tuesday of each month, 6—7 pm.

ELGA Credit Union Community Conference Center

2305 S. Center Rd.

Burton, MI 48519

Contact: flint@hearingloss-mi.org

Meetings are the 4th Tuesday each month

KALAMAZOO AREA CHAPTER

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month
7:00 - 9:00 PM

First Congregational Church

129 S. Park St., Kalamazoo

Corner of W. Michigan & Park St.

Contact: kalamazoo@hearingloss-mi.org

October 10 Dr. John Tecca, Hearing Service and Systems, will be speaking on *New Hearing Aid Technology for Severe-Profound Loss*, and there will be a special report on the National Convention in Oklahoma City.

November 14 Nancy Gallihugh from Constance Brown Hearing Centers will be the speaker.

December 15 1:30 PM Annual Christmas lunch at Theo & Stacy's Restaurant located near airport on Portage Road. Bring a \$5 gift to exchange.

January 9 Clifford Tallman will make a powerpoint presentation on the *Michigan Rights Handbook* by the Division on Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

LANSING AREA CHAPTER

Meets 1st Tuesday of the month (new meeting date)

6:30 PM social, 7:00 PM Program

Foster Community Center, Room 110

200 N. Foster Ave., Lansing 48912-4104

Corner of W. Michigan & Foster St.

Contact: lansing@hearingloss-mi.org

October Noise Related Deafness

November MSU Deaf Education Program

December Christmas Party

January Helen Keller Video—Shining Soul

MACOMB COUNTY CHAPTER

Meets 4th Thursday of the month (except July & August)

1:00 - 3:00 PM

Knox Presbyterian Church

25700 Crocker Blvd., Harrison Township

Contact: macomb-co@hearingloss-mi.org

All meetings include speech reading practice and a Q&A with group discussion.

October 25 Coping strategies for those with hearing loss

December 13 Christmas Potluck Social

MID-MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Meets 4th Monday of the month

7:00 - 8:30 PM

1447 North Harrison, Saginaw 48602

Contact: saginaw@hearingloss-mi.org

MI COCHLEAR IMPLANT CHAPTER

This is a "mobile" chapter, meeting in 3 different locations throughout Michigan.

Contact: ann-arbor-ci@hearingloss-mi.org

grand-rapids-ci@hearingloss-mi.org

mt-pleasant-ci@hearingloss-mi.org

October 14 1:00 pm meeting at the Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living, *Cochlear Implant Experiences*.

November 11 1:00 pm meeting at Grand Rapids Reformed Church, *The "A" of Cochlear Implants—Using Assistive Devices*.

Demonstrations will be presented by three cochlear implant companies.

ROYAL OAK CHAPTER

Meets 4th Tuesday monthly (except July & August)

6:30 PM social, 7:00 PM meeting

1st Presbyterian Church

529 Hendrie Blvd., Royal Oak 48068

Contact: royal-oak@hearingloss-mi.org

October 25 Demonstration of the latest in assistive technology

November NO MEETING

December Annual Christmas Potluck

January 22 A Royal Oak police officer will speak

SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN CHAPTER

Meets 1st Thursday of the month

7:30 PM

The Chapel

4250 Washington Ave., St. Joseph 49085

Contact: St-Joseph@hearingloss-mi.org

This is Michigan's newest chapter!

WATERFORD CHAPTER

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Former Leggett School

3621 Pontiac Lake Road, Waterford 48328

Contact: waterford@hearingloss-mi.org

Each meeting includes speech reading practice.

WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY CHAPTER

Meets 2nd Wednesday of the month (except July & August)

6:30 - 8:30 PM

Garden City Hospital

6245 Inkster Rd., Garden City 48135-4001

Contact: wayne-co@hearingloss-mi.org

October 10 There will be a speaker from Hear Clear

WESTSHORE IN MUSKEGON CHAPTER

Meets 2nd Monday of the month

10:00 AM

First Baptist Church

1070 S. Quarterline Rd., Muskegon 49442

Contact: muskegon@hearingloss-mi.org

November 12 Coping With Hearing Loss During the Holidays

December 10 Christmas Potluck

January 8 Hearing Aids: What You Always Wanted to Know

February 12 So You Need a New or Different Hearing Aid

***SUCCESS IS NEVER FINAL,
AND FAILURE IS NEVER FATAL...
IT'S THE COURAGE THAT COUNTS!***

George F. Tilton

**Make courage count...
take charge of your hearing health care!**

Captioned Movies in Michigan Theaters

By: Janet Haines

Have you been fortunate enough to view a captioned movie in a theater? It's a wonderful experience! Imagine watching the same movie as your family and friends and understanding the film in its entirety. No more guessing about what has taken place. Captioning helps you to know what's going on at the same time as everybody else.

There are a few ways films are captioned at a theater. "Open captioning" is when the words are displayed on the screen and everyone sees them. This type of captioning is in the film itself so it goes where the film goes. Rear Window Captioning (RWC) is when the words are not on the screen but rather on a small, clear plexiglass that is placed right in front of you. Some of the components for displaying RWC are built into the theater auditorium so the captioning is separate from the actual movie.

A theater complex will usually only have one auditorium that has rear window captioning, so it's important to check ahead of time to see what film is playing in the auditorium that has the rear window system. With rear window it's necessary to stop at the service desk to pick up the glass screen that allows you to see the captions. After you are done, return the screen and pick up your ID. Be sure it's your ID and not someone else's.

Thanks to the MoPix projects there are several theaters in Michigan that offer rear-window captioned films. Currently there are six theaters in Michigan:

- ▶ AMC Forum 30, Sterling Heights
- ▶ AMC Livonia 20, Livonia
- ▶ Celebration Cinema Lansing, Lansing
- ▶ Studio 28, Grand Rapids
- ▶ National Amusements Showcase Cinemas Ann Arbor in Ypsilanti
- ▶ Flint-West in Flint

To find more about the MoPix projects visit www.mopix.org. This web site allows you to find a listing of the theaters that have rear window captioning in any state.

For links to movie production company web sites go to: http://www.ohsoez.com/captioned_movies.htm

Once you find a web site it can be difficult to find the designation that tells which movies are captioned. If you are having trouble, the best way to find out is to email the theater using a 'contact us' link to ask how to find it. If they do not have it listed, your inquiring will help them realize they need to make this information more readily available.

You can also use the Fomdi search at <http://www.fomdi.com/>, but Fomdi might not find all of

the captioned theaters.

Another useful site is www.movietickets.com. It's not necessary to sign up for an account for this site in order for it to be helpful. Find your theater, save the link to it and then it's only a click away when you want to know what movie is showing in the RWC auditorium.

What's the Meaning of All This?

Useful information about access in movie theaters

Rear Window Captioning: Patrons check out a Plexiglass panel from theater staff, then adjust the panel at their seats to allow them to simultaneously view the movie screen and read text on their panel.

Open Captions: Text is displayed on the screen and is seen by all viewers. (Closed Captions on your TV, on the other hand, can be turned on and off.)

Assistive Listening Systems (ALS): These are wireless systems that bring the movie's audio directly to a listener's volume controlled receiver. The ALD (Assistive Listening Device) is the receiver component of this system and is either worn as a headset or is coupled with a listening accessory.

- ▶ *If you do not have hearing aids, your listening accessory can be a headset, earbud or earphone.*
- ▶ *If you have a hearing aid or cochlear implant with a telecoil, your listening accessory will be a neckloop or silhouette.*
- ▶ *If you do not have a telecoil, you may be able to use a patch cord and "boot" the receiver directly into your hearing aid or cochlear implant processor.*

Due to the variety of hearing aids and cochlear implant processors, you must provide your own patch cords (and boot, if it is a hearing aid). If you don't have a patch cord, you can experiment with a headset, earbud, or earphone to find an acceptable location on or near your ear that works for you.

It's a good idea to call ahead to make sure the theater has captioning or a type of ALD that will work with your hearing aids or cochlear implant, and to make sure their ALS is working. The ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) requires that theaters provide ALSs, so don't be reluctant to ask!

Ed. Note: Reprinted with permission from *Sound Waves*, Summer 2007 issue. This information was submitted by The Listen for Life Center at Virginia Mason.

For Your Information!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2008 Walk-4-Hearing

**May 3 - Kensington Metro Park,
June 14 - Metro Health Village, Wyoming, MI**

Two Michigan locations will host Walk-4-Hearing events in 2008.

Check out the next newsletter issue as well as the HLA-MI website for updated information.

www.hearingloss-mi.org

2008 Day at the State Capitol

May 21 - Lansing, MI

This annual event promotes awareness of the communication needs of persons with hearing loss and provides an opportunity to advocate for improved communication access with elected officials.

Find the registration form for this popular event in the next newsletter issue. The form will also be available online at: www.hearingloss-mi.org

2008 Hearing Loss Association of America National Convention

**June 12-15
Grand Sierra Resort and Casino
Reno, Nevada**

The HLAA Convention is a highly interactive and accessible event for all people who are affected by hearing loss. The program includes dynamic speakers, dozens of instructive workshops, and an informative research symposium. Plus, our Exhibit Hall hosts a range of hearing loss related products, services and information. Don't miss it! Find out more at: www.hearingloss.org

Advocacy in Action

The American Legion, Department of Michigan is considering a resolution that requires all American Legion convention corp. to require CART be included in all bids for conferences and conventions of the American Legion.

The resolution was placed on the floor for consideration by HLAA and American Legion member Brett Holt of Saginaw, Michigan.

The resolution has been held up for financial concerns but is expected to pass at a conference in February 2008.

The resolution will then move to the National convention of the American Legion at Phoenix, AZ in August 2008 for a floor vote of the delegates. Once passed, Real Time Captions will be required to be provided at all confer-

ences and conventions of the American Legion in all 50 states as well as in Mexico, Germany, France, the Philippines and Puerto Rico.

The suggested idea was made a reality by Executive Order by National Commander, Paul Morin. CART was available at the convention floor of the American Legion August 2007 in Reno, NV.

The overwhelming opinion of the 4000 people in attendance was that it was a useful tool for all and a huge success for hard of hearing Legionnaires.

Information Resources

To check out a website that is brimming with useful information for Hard of Hearing and Deaf persons in Michigan visit:

www.michdhh.org

You will discover a well developed information source written and maintained by persons who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing that includes:

- ▶ Information About Hearing Loss
- ▶ Calendar of Upcoming Events
- ▶ Communication Accommodations
- ▶ Civil Rights and Laws
- ▶ Careers and Jobs
- ▶ Health Care
- ▶ Interpreters
- ▶ Learn More (Classes and Training Programs)

Remember to regularly visit the websites for HLA-MI and HLAA national. The very latest information on state and local topics for persons interested in hearing loss issues can be found at:

www.hearingloss-mi.org

and

www.hearingloss.org

Great Gift Idea!

An HLAA membership makes a wonderful and thoughtful gift for family members and friends. The annual membership cost is only \$25 and members receive the award winning bi-monthly magazine, *Hearing Loss*. Topics include important issues such as coping strategies, technological innovations and public policy. The magazine features articles written by people who have personally experienced hearing loss.

www.hearingloss.org

Continued on Page 8... See FYI

ALARMS... continued from Page 1

to file complaints under the Americans with Disabilities Act if they are not provided effective alerts to the building alarm system by ADA-covered entities.”

HLAA thanks the Fire Protection Research Foundation for commissioning this research study, and Drs. Bruck and Thomas for their intensive work on this study. The study is available online at:

<http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files//PDF/Research/hardofhearing&alarms.pdf>

[1] A 520 Hz square wave signal contains multiple harmonics of the fundamental 520 Hz frequency, becoming a multiple-frequency signal which is thus more likely to be heard by people with sufficient hearing at one or more of the frequencies in the signal.

FYI... continued from Page 7

HLA-MI Board of Trustees

A reminder that annual HLA-MI elections will take place at the January, 2008 meeting in Lansing. Persons interested in applying for a position on the Board of Trustees (BOT) are encouraged to contact Ann Liming for further information. Ann can be reached at:

aliming@hearingloss-mi.org

All applications must be received by 5PM on November 30, 2007.

Travel Concerns?

The upcoming holiday season will again produce record numbers of air passengers. To reduce the chance of delays at airport screening checkpoints, travelers are encouraged to prepare for their trip by reviewing the latest Transportation Security Administration (TSA) regulations and guidelines.

The TSA has established a program for screening of travelers with disabilities and their associated equipment, mobility aids, and devices. This program covers all categories of disabilities (mobility, hearing, vision, and hidden). All disability-related equipment, aids, and devices continue to be allowed through security checkpoints once cleared through screening.

Additionally, the TSA permits prescription liquid medications and other liquids needed by persons with disabilities and medical conditions.

Complete information is available online at:

<http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/index.shtm>

Or contact the TSA Call Center:

Toll-free: 1-866-289-9873

E-mail: tsa-contactcenter@dhs.gov

I Support HLA-MI Programs!!!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail: _____

▶ Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ in support of the outreach programs of **Hearing Loss Association of Michigan (HLA-MI)**. Donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in the next issue. A receipt for your records will be mailed to the address provided above.

___ I wish to remain anonymous.

Checks should be made payable to HLA-MI and sent to:

**HLA-MI
PO Box 4808
Troy, MI 48099-4808**

Hearing Loss Association of Michigan is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your donation is deductible within the limits of the law.

Thanks!

Our most sincere thanks to the following donors:

Joan Morris

Anonymous - 3