

**All in-person
HLAA Albany
events are on
a "NY Pause".
We are still
planning a
July 26th
picnic at The
Crossings in
Colonie.**

LINKS YOU CAN USE! Compiled by Margie Litwin and other Planning Board Members

hearingloss.org Website of HLAA (National) with free public information and links. Membership allows access to the bi-monthly news magazine, online Webinars, "Hearing Life" e-news, select supplier discounts and online discussions. Online access membership is free for all U.S. Veterans.

livingwithhearingloss.com A website blog with hearing loss information and strategies, written and compiled by Shari Eberts, hearing health advocate and Board Member of HLAA (National).

katherinebouton.com A website blog and discussion with weekly entries written by Katherine Bouton, author, advocate and educator for those with hearing loss and deafness. She is President of HLAA of NYC and on the Board of Trustees for HLAA (National). A former editor for the NY Times, she spoke at an Albany chapter meeting in June of 2017.

hearinghealthfoundation.org A free resource for "updates on research and treatments for hearing loss, tinnitus, and related disorders.

hearinghealthmatters.org Editor: Gael Hannon A compilation of information sourced from "practitioners, researchers, manufacturers, educators, and, most importantly, hearing-impaired consumers and those who love them." The site includes an interactive discussion blog and a sign-up for a weekly e-mail updating all articles.

MAKE HEARING LOSS AN ISSUE OF NATIONAL CONCERN

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Each May, Better Hearing & Speech Month (BHSM) provides an opportunity to raise awareness about communication disorders and the role of American Speech Hearing Association (ASHA) members in providing life-altering treatment.

For 2020, the theme is "Communication at Work."

With virtual meetings becoming a critical tool for U.S. workers in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, people with—and without—hearing loss may experience new communication challenges. ASHA provided the following on their website:

Hearing Loss and Remote Work: Advice for Effective Communication During Virtual Meetings



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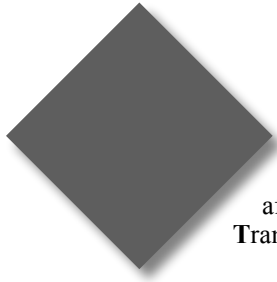
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VIDEO CONFERENCING!

Are you finding yourself on Zoom or Google Meet or GoToMeeting almost every day? Do you wish you could afford CART (Communication Access Real-Time Transcription) for every meeting?

Shari Eberts, the hearing health advocate and founder of LivingWithHearingLoss.com, initiated a change.org Petition "[Provide Free Captions for People with Hearing Loss on Video Conferencing Platforms](http://change.org)". Google has responded that they will make Google Meet available for free, with auto-captioning, to everyone soon.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, citizens can change the world." - Margaret Mead

With our without captioning or CART, many of us find that we are using video-conferencing much more often now. Some free options include: Cisco Webex Personal - meetings can run as long as you like and have 100 participants; Google Hangouts - anyone with a Gmail account can host a videochat for free with no limit on duration; Microsoft Teams provides unlimited chat for up to 50 people on a video-conference call and Zoom Basic has a 40 minute duration limit.

I have found with my iPhone and MAC that I can use Zoom and caption using Otter for free, to provide auto-captioning - it's not as accurate as CART but it's not too bad. Others have found LiveTranscribe to be useful for Androids with Zoom. There are other options as well if you search Google or YouTube. If you are interested in learning more, check out the HLAA Albany Website under "Tips for Communicating."

MaryKate Owens

TECH CORNER

HEAR NEWS is a newsletter of the Hearing Loss Association of America Albany Chapter (HLAA) We are a not-for-profit self-help group for individuals who are deaf, have hearing loss and/or impairments. Any mention of opinions, products or services does not mean endorsement, nor does the lack of mention mean lack of endorsement.

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- Donna Wayner, Ph.D and Professional Advisor
- Nancy Williams

We welcome your input! Please send notes, articles and inquiries to the attention of the Editor at the address above.

Please become a member of HLAA Albany Chapter; see the form on the final page of the newsletter.

And Go NATIONAL. Join the Hearing Loss Association of America HLAA
7910 Woodmont Avenue
Suite 1200
Bethesda MD 20814

It's SURVEY Time.

Help us get to know you better!

We sent out a survey via e-mail, but you may not have received it and completed it.

If not, please complete the survey on the next page, fold and post it to HLAA - we need to hear from you! Give us your e-mail too!

HLAA Albany Survey

1. Which type of event is most useful to you? Check one or more.

- Presenters at Meetings
- Group Discussions
- Social Events (holiday party, picnic)
- Company of other Hard of Hearing (HOH) individuals
- Other, please specify: _____

2. How long have you been a member of HLAA Albany? _____ years

3. What or who inspired you to be a part of HLAA Albany? _____

4. What was your hearing status when you joined HLAA Albany? _____

5. What does HLAA Albany provide that you find useful or valuable? _____

6. Which topics would you like addressed at a future event? Check one or more.

- Dealing with First Responders
- Equipping my home for HOH
- Learning new technology
- Ask an Audiologist
- Other, please specify _____

7. Are you a member of HLAA National? Yes No

8. What do you think HLAA Albany could do to reach more people or help people in more ways?

9. How could you support HLAA Albany? Check one or more.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Greeting at Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____ |

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INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

(Note: See www.hearinglossalbany.wordpress.com for more details)

- Hearing Loss Association of America — www.hearingloss.org
- Hands and Voices — www.handsandvoices.org
- Hearing Like Me — www.hearinglikeme.com
- Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center —
- National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes — nationaldeafcenter.org
- Albany Law School Civil Rights & Disabilities Law Clinic — www.albanylaw.edu
- Office of the NYS Attorney General, Civil Rights Division — www.ag.ny.gov
- Young Adults - www.hearingloss.org/content/young-adults-and-hearing-loss
- American Tinnitus Association — www.ata.org
- Career & College Advice for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students — www.affordablecollegesonline.org/college-resource-center/deaf-student-college-career-advice

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- Madison & Saratoga Hearing Ctr, 414 Maple Ave, Suite 800, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866 (518) 584-0578
- Madison & Saratoga Hearing Ctr, 81 Miller Road, Suite 700, Castleton, NY 12033 (518) 689-0792
- Resource Center for Independent Living, 347 W. Main St., Amsterdam, NY 12010 (518) 842-3561
- Center for Better Hearing, 318 Ridge Street, Glens Falls, NY 12801 (518) 798-4800
- Resource Center for Independent Living, 401 East German St., Herkimer, NY 13350 (315) 866-7245
- HearUSA, 2200 Burdett Avenue, Troy, NY 12180 (518) 272-7323

Patronize These Accessible Venues When We Are Able!

And...if you know of other venues, please share them with us!

- AMC Loews (amctheatres.com) — Rotterdam — Captioning
- Bowtie Cinemas (bowtiecinemas.com) — Schenectady, Saratoga, Wilton — “cup holder” Captioning
- Regal Cinemas (regmovies.com) — Clifton Park, Crossgates, Colonie Center, East Greenbush, Wilton Mall and Aviation Mail — Captioning and Captioned Glasses
- Capital Repertory Theatre (capitalrep.org) — Loop
- Proctors Theater — Loop in the Main Stage and the Addy
- Delmar Reformed Church (drchurch.org) — Loop
- Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady (uuschenectady.org) — Loop
- St. Mary's Crescent Catholic Church Clifton Park (www.stmaryscrescent.com) — FM System
- Our Lady, Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Princetown Road, Schenectady, NY (www.olqprotterdam.org) — Loop
- Christ Our Light Catholic Church, (christourlightchurch.org) Loudonville, NY — FM System
- First Presbyterian Church (firstpresalbany.org) 362 State Street, Albany—perimeter Loop on the right side of the sanctuary
- Barrington Stage (Barringtonstage.org) —first six rows of Main Stage are looped
- Spectrum 8 (landmarktheatres.com) — Infrared and CCR-100 Captioning
- Loudonville Community Church (www.lcc.org) — FM Receivers
- Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, (www.gslcl.org) 510 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville, NY 12211 — Loop
- St. Mary's Catholic Church, Hamilton, NY— Loop
- Schenectady Light Opera Company, Schenectady, NY—FM Assistive Listening System
- Universal Preservation Hall (<https://universalpreservationhall.org>) Saratoga Springs, NY loop

Hearing Loss Association of Albany Membership Registration

- **Hearing Loss Association of Albany operates on a calendar year basis, and chapter registration fees are due on January 1 of each year.**
- Persons who would like to 'try us out' can opt to receive a trial newsletter for three months by checking "Trial Registration" on the form below.
- Registration fees collected are used for operating expenses, including this newsletter, and Professional Associates are cited in each newsletter issue.
- We thank you for supporting Hearing Loss Association of Albany, and we hope you will be able to participate.

Hearing Loss Association of Albany Membership Registration Form

Name _____
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Annual Chapter Fee (Calendar Year Basis):

Please indicate your choice:


<input type="checkbox"/> Single: \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Trial Registration
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron: \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> Donation : \$ _____ (tax deductible)
<input type="checkbox"/> Family: \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Professional Associate:
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news

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**April/
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