



## DELAWARE HEARS NEWS!!!!

### SUMMER EDITION 2022

This a periodic summary of news and information for Delaware Deaf, hard of hearing children and adults, their families and friends!

Our mission in “Delaware Hears” is to keep both consumers, families and others with the latest events, information, news and resources to help children and adults in Delaware and those in Delmarva regions with hearing loss! This is a publication of the Hearing Loss Association of Delaware(HLADE). The mission of HLADE is to give help and hope to deaf and hard of hearing children and adults with hearing loss!”



#### **DELAWARE NEWS!**

**HLADE “Circle Chats in Newark and Kent/Sussex(Dover) will not be meeting this summer!!**

**See you in September on the first Tuesday in Dover at Modern Maturity Center at 1pm and at the Newark Senior Center at 10am on the second Thursday of the month! Happy Summer Everyone!**

#### **Delaware Legislature ends session!**

There were 2 bills proposed in the session ending 6/30/2022 that impacted people with hearing loss. One was HB364 to create a “Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf” that HLADE and numerous others **opposed**.

The primary sponsors were Representatives Heffernan, Poore and Cosponsors were Rep Ennis, Bolden, King, Longhurst, Mitchell and Osienski. As soon as HLADE learned of this bill, we wrote a position paper and talked with Kyle Hodges, SCPD consultant for the SCPD “Deaf and Hard of Hearing Workgroup.” We wrote a policy position, suggesting a licensing bill and numerous changes but the State Council on Persons with Disabilities still tried to get it passed! HLADE and other groups advocated and were successful in killing the bill for now! HLADE is open to creating a licensing bill that will involve a grassroots coalition effort with deaf and hard of hearing people across the state that will make sense and serve our constituents well! Thanks to all who helped our effort!:)

SB272 to Allow Delaware to Join the Audiology and Speech Language Pathology Interstate Compact.

This bill would weaken licensing requirements for speech pathologists and audiologists and accept people to come from other states to practice. HLADE recommended that this bill be **tabled** this year for further study.

#### **Deaf Seniors Meet at Newark Senior Center!**

Grace United Methodist Deaf Ministries Partners with Newark Senior Center! You are invited to attend this meeting of deaf and hard of hearing seniors on the third Wednesday of every month from 10am -2pm for Bingo and other activities including lunch! This is a good opportunity to practice or learn some sign language too! See the flyer below for contact info and more!



Governor Carney signed a Proclamation recognizing Deaf-Blind Month in June!! Thank you Governor Carney!

### **NATIONAL NEWS AND RESOURCES**



Did you ever think about donating your brain for scientific research?

This helps researchers learn more about hearing, vision, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's or other brain disorders?

[https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/brain-donation-gift-future-generations?utm\\_source=nia-eblast&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=caregiving-20220630](https://www.nia.nih.gov/health/brain-donation-gift-future-generations?utm_source=nia-eblast&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=caregiving-20220630) Check out this link to learn more!



**"Whatcha gonna do this summer"?**

A December 2021 article from the national council of aging lists 10 activities for seniors with hearing loss! Which ones will you do? Here is a list: Art, music, movies, live theatre, crafts, reading, swimming (don't forget to wear custom swimplugs!), gardening, home improvement, object restoration, games and meditation! For more info, go to <https://ncoa.org/article/10-fun-activities-for-seniors-with-hearing-loss>

**Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids due in Drugstores and other places this fall!**

Stay tuned to hear more about Over-the-Counter (OTC) hearing aids this fall as we expect the Food and Drug Administration to issue final regulations for these new class of hearing aids in August or the fall! They are not for everyone, but may be ok for some people with mild and moderate hearing loss! The cost may be between \$300 - \$800 and the Hearing Loss Association of America and others have long advocated for these OTC hearing aids!



**Know a hard of hearing or deaf girl?**

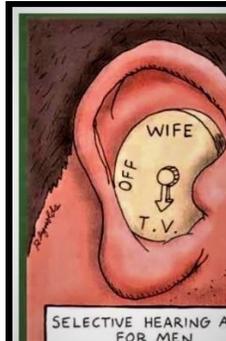
American Girl now has its first doll with hearing loss!! After a 33 year history of diversity and inclusion, American Girl has a doll that wears hearing aids!! There are several skin tones and other features available. To learn more go to [www.americangirl dolls.com](http://www.americangirl dolls.com)

**Hearing Aids Can Slow or Prevent Dementia!**

Researchers at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians and Surgeons has found that even the earliest stage of hearing loss, when hearing is considered normal-is linked to cognitive decline! Only 14% of adults in the U.S. wear hearing aids. For every 10db of hearing loss, there was a significant decrease in cognitive ability! Further study is needed, but if that is the case, preventing or treating hearing

loss could reduce dementia incidence by more than 9%! For more info, go to <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/11/19114115922.htm>

HEARING FUNNY!!



Got News or Information to Share?

Send your news to HLADE by email to [hlade@comcast.net](mailto:hlade@comcast.net). You can find HLADE at [www.hlade.org](http://www.hlade.org) and we are reconstructing our website! "Delaware Hears" news is a publication of the Hearing Loss Association of Delaware (HLADE) and is responsible for vetting and authorizing all content submitted.

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The End! Happy Summer!!!

