

# HLAA-NJ NEWS, VIEWS & DATES – APRIL 2015

*By Joel Strasser, APR, Fellow PRSA, Trustee and Public Information Officer,  
Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey (HLAA-NJ)*

## **May 1 HLAA-NJ Scholarship Deadline Looms As New \$1500 Grants Await Apps by 2015 NJ HS Seniors with Hearing Loss**

HLAA-NJ's **May 1** deadline for this year's scholarship grants looms as applications now funnel in from across New Jersey from high school seniors with hearing loss. With funding made possible in part by the successful Garden State Walk4Hearing in October, up to four \$1,500 scholarships are being offered to successful candidates. HLAA-NJ's scholarship program encourages and supports young students by publically celebrating their successes and achievements with hearing loss. Aligned with the HLAA-NJ goal to bring awareness to life challenges of hearing loss, the application requires a thoughtful essay on how hearing loss has impacted the student's life, and how its challenges have been met.

Winners will be announced in May, and an award ceremony and celebration open to all will be held in June (TBA). Students with these qualifications are encouraged to apply: 1) high school senior between the ages of 17 and 20, 2) New Jersey resident, 3) wear hearing aids and/or cochlear implants, 4) acceptance into a college, university or vocational school by June 1, 2015. The official application is posted online at [www.hearingloss-nj.org](http://www.hearingloss-nj.org), and can only be submitted online. Application deadline is **May 1, 2015**, and late applications will not be accepted. Questions about the application forms or process are welcome and may be sent to Alice J. Glock, HLAA-NJ Scholarship Chair at [alice.glock@hearingloss-nj.org](mailto:alice.glock@hearingloss-nj.org)

## **HLAA Newark Essex County Chapter Meets April 4**

Hearing Loss Association of America – Essex County Chapter meeting will be held **Saturday, April 4, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. at the Union Public Library 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 1980 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ (next to City Hall and Dunkin' Donuts)** The general public as well as all interested persons with any level of hearing loss in the Newark area are invited to attend and join. Please contact [Latisha.porter-vaughn@shu.edu](mailto:Latisha.porter-vaughn@shu.edu) to add your information to the chapter's mailing and distribution list.

Meeting's guest speaker is **Tony Vaughn**, whose impressive career in entertainment, travel and luxury, and as former radio personality and prominent DJ, is now Ambassador of Tiffany & Co, at its Wall Street location. With his extensive background in communication, he understands the complexities hearing loss can bring to the individual, their family and social lives. Having lived with his wife's hearing loss for 19 years, he understands that hearing is a significant part of communication throughout every aspect of daily life. For further information about HLAA-Essex County Chapter, contact Shelly Simpson at [richelles007@yahoo.com](mailto:richelles007@yahoo.com).

**South Jersey Chapter** will meet **Thursday, April 16** to share information, beginning at 6 pm, at Cape Regional Medical Center, 2 Stone Harbor Blvd., Cape May Court House, NJ 08210. GSP to Exit 10.

**Middlesex County Chapter**, which meets every 3rd Tuesday each month from September to June, except July or August, meets next on **Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**, 7:30 pm, First Baptist Church of South Plainfield, 201 Hamilton Blvd., South Plainfield, NJ 07080. At March meeting, Scott Ferrante demonstrated ClearCaptions new captioned telephone ensemble. Scott is district director for ClearCaptions in New Jersey and New York, and advises that all can get the app for any Android or iPhone and bring captions to their cell phone. Chairperson has used it on her phone since the DC HLAA Convention. Their April meeting will also cover the 2015 Walk4Hearing, and the Middlesex Chapter's team.

**Morris County Chapter** will meet **Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>**. HLAA Morris County meeting from 10:00 AM to 12:30 at the Madison Community House, 25 Cook Avenue, Madison. Program will be on Aural Rehabilitation. But group will also be recruiting for 18 - 35 year olds to come to meeting and then spin off into their own group.

**Ocean-Monmouth Hearing Loss Support Group's** next meeting is **Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>** at 1:30pm at the Manalapan Library, Manalapan. Special guest will be Debby Schaser, owner and founder of Canine Hearing Companions, Inc., of Vineland, NJ. She has been training hearing dogs for the past 22 years, with the active help of local federal prison inmates, and can also talk about therapy dogs who help returning war veterans suffering from PTSD and also make hospital visits, clinical dogs, crisis dogs and others. She usually brings one of her trained dogs to demonstrate what they can do. Mark your calendar prominently for this special program on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**For More Information** about HLAA-NJ, contact Joel Strasser at [jjas888@aol.com](mailto:jjas888@aol.com), or [Joel.Strasser@hearingloss-nj.org](mailto:Joel.Strasser@hearingloss-nj.org)

#####