



**Hearing Aid
Systems, Inc**

FALL 2017

SoundBites

FUNNY BONE

"A cheerful heart
is good medicine ..."

A funny thing happened on the way to better hearing...

My siblings and I have been helping our mother prepare to move for months, but the close of escrow has been repeatedly delayed and we're still waiting. The plus side of this is we have all been together more often, and since Mom is recently needing to wear hearing aids, it's been kind of fun(ny) to be involved with her cross conversations.

An example: My brother, Paul, was telling us that his wife's hip surgery is coming up soon, for which we were all happy to hear. In that conversation, he mentioned "the thing that is killing Georgia the most is that she can't even pick up Charlotte now." (Charlotte is their 4-year old granddaughter.) This is what happened next:

Mom: "Can't you just put a chair in there?"

Paul, a little confused: "She's on the couch all the time. A chair won't make any difference."

Mom: "Sure it would. They make special chairs for that. But I'm sorry to hear Georgia's too sick to take a shower now. Wait a minute! How has Georgia been taking a shower on the couch?"

If your conversations are getting couched in confusion and you feel all wet, call us today for a hearing test. It'll be ANOTHER reason for your family to give thanks this year.



Thanksgiving is More Than Turkey

A friend of mine told me a story and I wanted to share it.

Late one afternoon a middle-aged man came into the front desk at one of our manufacturers. He was frantic. His mother's hearing aid had fallen

on the floor and broken. She was in the hospital and he wanted to know if it could be fixed. As he waited for the technician he told the receptionist about his mother being in the hospital and that she was dying. She could only hear out

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Planning Ahead for Holiday Gifts



Top Gift-Giving Ideas for Hearing Impaired

It's nearly impossible to believe but it's time to seriously make our Holiday gift-giving lists for the 2017 holiday season! You may have

family members with hearing impairment, or maybe you'd like to "put a bug in someone's ear" about something you'd appreciate receiving, so here are a few gift ideas.

Silent Vibrating Personal Alarm Clock "Shake-N-Wake"

This handy device is perfect if you have trouble hearing or if you don't want to wake up the person next to you. It

can be worn around your wrist or placed under your pillow to use as an alarm clock or as a medication reminder. The Shake-N-Wake is lightweight, comfortable and is easy to use.

Doorbell & Door Knock Signalers

These products will let you know when a visitor presses the doorbell by sending a signal to the receiver, which will then

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Planning Ahead for Holiday Gifts

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flash or emit a loud sound to notify you that someone is at the door.

Alert Devices

Signaling systems notify hearing-impaired or deaf people when regular household events occur, like a ringing telephone, a crying baby, an alarm clock, if a door or window opens, or when a smoke detector or carbon monoxide detector goes off.

These devices are also handy when used in environments that are noisy like auto repair shops, garages and factories.

Alert systems are sophisticated equipment; they use loud tones in low or high registers, flashing lights and vibrations, with varying levels of sensitivity, to pick up sounds and send a signal to you.

Hearing Protection

Whether or not you are hearing-impaired, you need to protect your hearing, or what hearing is remaining.

U.S. government survey data shows that approximately 5.2 million children ages 6 to 19 already have permanent damage to their ears' hair cells caused by exposure to loud noises.

Concerts, hunting, sporting events, operating equipment for lawn maintenance, farming and construction are examples of when hearing protection is needed.

There are many types of hearing protectors. Ear muffs are available in child and adult sizes. They are also rated for varying degrees of noise reduction.



Ear plugs are available in many styles. You can get custom ear plugs made at our office. 'Generic' ear plugs, reusable or disposable, can be purchased online or at many retail stores.

Whatever type of hearing protection you decide to use will benefit your hearing health in the long run.

Hope and Honor for America's Veterans



Each November, Americans officially honor our military veterans on the 11th day of the month. The eleventh falls on a Saturday this year so the "observation" date for Veteran's Day 2017 is set for Friday, November 10th.

In sincere gratitude to all of our military personnel, we thank every past and present member of the armed forces for your selfless acts of service to our country. Your courage

and sacrifices made it—and still make it—possible for U.S. citizens to enjoy liberties not known by most other countries around the globe.

Following are a few ways our Troops can be honored for their patriotic service:

- The **"Forever GI Bill"** was signed into law by President Trump last August. This extension now gives veterans unlimited time to make use of VA educational benefits to enhance or redirect the skills needed to pursue a dream for their future. Read about this revised benefit at <https://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/veap.asp>

- **Homes for Our Troops** is dedicated "to build and donate specially adapted custom homes... for severely injured... Veterans..." <https://www.hfotusa.org/>

- **The Semper Fi Fund** provides immediate financial assistance and lifetime support to post 9/11 combat wounded, critically ill and catastrophically injured members of all branches of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families, ensuring that they have the resources they need during their recovery and transition back to their communities. Go to <https://semperfifund.org/>

- **Fisher House Foundation** gives free lodging to military families so they can live close to their military loved one hospitalized during illness, disease and/or injury. For details, visit their website at <https://www.fisherhouse.org/>

If you or a loved one have served in the U.S. military, we thank you for the personal risk and untold sacrifices you make each day that we may live free.

We invite you to reach out to these and other organizations for these love offerings of well-deserved assistance.

— LOONEY LAW —

In some cases, a law itself isn't "looney". Some laws are "looney" simply because some people are looney, therefore sometimes a "looney" law needs to be established. For example: In China, it's the law that only intelligent people can attend college.

— POTPOURRI —

**DON'T FORGET: SET YOUR
CLOCKS BACK!**

**DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME
ENDS AT 2 A.M. ON SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER 5TH!**

A Million Thanks

Many soldiers are away from home and loved ones for the holidays. During this Holiday season, if you would take a few minutes to share a simple note of gratitude with just one person in the military, it would be sincerely appreciated by the recipient. Visit: AMillionThanks.org/send_a_letter.php Or mail a note to the address below and they will ensure your message is received:

A Million Thanks
17853 Santiago Blvd, #107-355
Villa Park, CA 92861

**SACRIFICE
TRIBUTE SOLDIERS
REMEMBRANCE
POPPY DAY**

— FUN FACTS —

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln declared the final Thursday in November as a national day of thanksgiving but it wasn't until 1941 that Congress finally made Thanksgiving Day an official national holiday.



Thanksgiving is More Than Turkey

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of one ear and this was the hearing aid that went in that ear. She couldn't hear anything at this time.

His friend came out to look at the hearing aid. Then told the bad news, "No one can fix this. But I do have a technician that can scan the pieces and perhaps build something for her so she can hear. It's a long shot, but give me a couple hours."

When the man returned, the technician told him they had pulled off the impossible. They had made a custom hearing aid for her. The man was so happy. He paid and left.

Thy didn't hear back from him until a year later. No, his mom did not live that long. It was his first time back in the area. He wanted to tell them what happened.

He took the new hearing aid back and Mother could hear better than she had in years. He took her to lunch the next day and they talked for hours. She said, "It's a beautiful day!" They

talked of memories, funny stories, and old places they had lived.

It was the best time they had in years.

He took her back to her room, she kissed him and again said, "It's a beautiful day!" He helped her get into bed and she went to sleep....forever.

The man said, "If anyone ever says they are too old, or it's too late to hear better, tell them this story."

Every moment is precious. Don't miss your moments.



Answers to Thanksgiving Pictogram' Puzzle

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- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. Pumpkin Pie | 5. Corn Bread |
| 2. Wish Bone | 6. Left-Overs |
| 3. Tofurkey | 7. Mayflower |
| 4. Apple Pie | 8. Gravy |



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Now 'Ear This from the Expert

WHEN ARE YOU TOO OLD TO HEAR?

ANSWER: NEVER!

Seems like a silly question, doesn't it? Yet, it's something we hear often. A patient comes in because they're experiencing an increase in hearing loss or have lost a hearing aid, or they need to repair the one they have.

When we suggest a new hearing aid for better hearing, some say: "I'm too old to spend that kind of money on a new hearing aid. I don't know how much longer I have to live."

I have an underlying fascination with this objection. Patients start saying this at 65 years old! Many are in their 80's, more in their 90's. That's understandable, right? Not really. We have a number of patients who reach 100 years old and more.

Hearing has no age boundaries. It doesn't care if you're 9 or 99. And, age doesn't matter because I tell

everyone the same thing: you need to hear the best you can, for as long as you can. Our All-Star patient was 106 when he purchased his new hearing aids! He said he heard better than ever and was thrilled that he could hear his son (86) much better!

Arguably, the older we get, the more valuable conversations become. The limited time we have with our social circle is priceless! What do most of us have left in our autumn and winter years that is more important to us than the communication we have with our family and friends? (See related article, page 1.)

Don't let age be a barrier to better hearing. If you're not hearing as clearly as you used to or should be, call us today for a review of your hearing. You're worth it—and so are your loved ones.

THANKSGIVING PICTOGRAMS

Answers on pg. 3

Complete this Thanksgiving Pictogram Puzzle using only the pictures (and words) as clues to create a word. For example, a picture of a pumpkin + 'spice' = 'pumpkin spice'.

1.  +  _____
2. WISH +  _____
3.  + FUR +  _____
4.  +  _____
5.  + BREAD _____
6.  + OVERS _____
7. MAY +  _____
8.  + Y _____