

Sound News

April 2017

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Lane County Plans to Add "Text to 911" Service for Emergencies

By Audrey Weil

KMTR Channel 16, Wednesday, March 1st

<http://nbc16.com/news/local/lane-county-plans-to-add-text-to-911-service-for-emergencies>

This summer Lane County is planning to add a 'Text to 911' service, and it's exactly what it sounds like -- the ability to text in emergencies instead of making a voice call.

One reason given for the addition is keeping up with the times. With the world's latest technology, texting is a logical next step.

Plus, the service will serve one community in particular that's still relying on some old tools.

"I would have to type what I wanted to say and then the other person would type at their end and there would just be one line coming across the screen," explained Rob Poirier, program manager at Central Lane Communication Center.

"I couldn't just pick up the phone and say, 'this is an emergency,' so I would try to use the TTY and too much time went by," said **Andrea Cabral**, president of the Hearing Loss Association in Lane County.

She's describing a teletypewriter that people with hearing and speech impairments use for phone communication. It's old and it's slow.

"It'd be like me telling my teenage granddaughter that she had to get a hold of me by payphone," said Poirier. "She wouldn't even know what that is."

There are a few more modern options, like a caption telephone, but nothing that's really fast or easy to use -- until now.

"With text we'll be able to contact 911 directly. It will be great."

"We just feel it's a good way to expand and improve our service to the community," said Poirier.

Text to 911 is for community members like Cabral.

"Until it happens to you," she said, "you don't think that you need that service." When her husband ruptured his spleen, there was no time for the TTY and she said she's too hard of hearing to communicate in that situation on the phone.

"I went knocking on neighbor's doors to try to get somebody else to call for me while he was here almost dying." That's the problem. "I think Text to 911 is the answer."

"This would just be like another tool," Poirier explained. "It would be a warning that goes off just like when the phone rings and it sends off an audible warning and that call would be picked up and processed like any other."

It started with a pilot project in Portland last year. "The whole state's trying to do this all at once now that the Portland area has proven successful."

Now the three Lane County communication centers are working to launch the same thing on July 1. "Our slogan going through with this will be: 'Call if you can, text if you can't,'" said Poirier.

For anyone who can't talk on the phone because of imminent danger or anyone who can't talk on the phone because of a disability, "it's whatever it takes to get the job done."

Central Lane officials say they're already all set up for this, and it won't require any more money, staff or technology.

They say it's just a matter of organizing with the other two county call centers and then launching the service.



Editors' Notes

We, Lesley and Tim, will be resigning from the Chapter Board effective the end of June 2017. We will no longer be editing this newsletter or doing a number of things we have done in the past.

Lesley has been a member of the chapter and the National HLAA organization for almost 25 years. Even when not serving on the board Lesley has provided computer support for assorted projects by designing forms, signs, diagrams and other skills.

We both were part of the committee that brought the first captioned movies to Eugene in 1997 and tracked sales of Entertainment books. She also was involved in creating a chapter directory in 1998.

She has served on the board two separate terms for over three years each. She was on the Hospital Committee that brought Riverbend Hospital into compliance with the ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) as it was being built for people with hearing loss. That work has also spread throughout the PeaceHealth system. She is also the person who has been making the hospital kits and badges for the chapter and for those mailed out by Karen Swezey that are ordered on line. In 2013 she gave a presentation at the National Convention in Portland about the hospital work.

She has been the director of the ALDS (assistive listening devices) project for many years. Her recent duties have included creating flyers and the general meeting agenda, writing and documenting instructions for different tasks, creating and printing the labels each month for the newsletter and tracking and making the nametags.

Tim retired from full time teaching in May 2015, but continues to teach occasional night classes. When our board secretary moved out of state, Roseana Perry took over that position until Tim took it over and joined the board. As well as those duties he has helped out at meetings, this newsletter and the different things that Lesley can no longer get done alone.

All of the things we have been doing could be divided up among a number of members or teams, but there has been no one willing to **volunteer**. If you are interested in taking on any of these things or helping your chapter help other HOH people, training is available. **Please consider how the chapter has helped you.**

Chapter Newsletter—Last Issue in June

The **last** issue of *Sound News*, the newsletter of the Lane County Oregon Chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America, will be the June 2017 issue. Thus, there will only be two more issues of this newsletter—May and June.

Instead, chapter members will receive the *quarterly* newsletter of the Oregon State Association—*Hear It Is!* If you have been receiving this chapter newsletter, then you should already be receiving the state newsletter.

If anyone would like to take over editing this monthly chapter newsletter, please let us know. We would be happy to train you!

HLAA Webinars

The HLAA National Office sponsors educational webinars on the third Wednesday of each month. There is no charge to attend these through your computer or access past ones. All webinars are captioned. The website is <http://www.hearingloss.org/content/webinars>.

The April 19, 2017 webinar is titled "Message of Hope for Tinnitus Sufferers" presented by Glenn Schweitzer.

- On Saturday March 4th, **Andrea Cabral** attended a HLAA National Workshop on chapter development in Vancouver, WA.
- Andrea also did an interview about 911-see page 1.
- On March 16 Karen Swezey and Lesley Bergquist advised Willamalane Center on their purchase of new assistive devices.

Out and About

Hearing Loss Assoc.-Lane County Oregon information calls are taken by Andrea Cabral, 541-345-9432

Sound News is published monthly for members of Hearing Loss Association of America Lane County Oregon Chapter. Annual chapter fee of \$10.00 can be mailed to HLAA-LC, PO Box 22501, Eugene, OR 97402. The date on your address label is **when your chapter fee is due.**

Officers

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Article Deadline: Second Thursday each month
Newsletter Editors Lesley & Tim Bergquist
Typesetting & Design Lesley & Tim Bergquist

National website: www.hearingloss.org
Oregon website: www.hlaa-or.org
Chapter website: www.hearinglosslane.org

Amendment to Chapter By-laws

The Board has approved the following amendment to the Lane County Oregon Chapter By-laws and recommends it to the membership. ***It will be voted on at the general meeting in April*** because the membership needs at least two weeks notice before voting.

Proposed change in bold text

Article XI – Financial

D. In the event that the chapter dissolves or ceases to function, the Board shall after determining that all liabilities have been paid, or that provisions have been made for paying said liabilities, donate all remaining funds to Hearing Loss Association of America, **Oregon State Association.**



Original wording

Article XI – Financial

D. In the event that the chapter dissolves or ceases to function, the Board shall after determining that all liabilities have been paid, or that provisions have been made for paying said liabilities, donate all remaining funds to Hearing Loss Association of America, Bethesda office.

Chapter Changes ...

Due to a lack of volunteers, the chapter board is discussing several options: (1) transferring all operations to a Steering Committee, (2) moving to quarterly meetings, and (3) stopping the monthly chapter newsletter (members would get chapter news in the quarterly state newsletter). If you have a concern about any of these issues, please contact a board member (see email addresses on page 2) ***or come to our next board meeting April 4th.***

At the Eugene Public Library!

New Survivor's Manuals

- FREE to Anyone

They keep 2 copies to check out on the second floor. We supply the free ones. *Donations appreciated.* Cost to mail copies is: \$4 each or 20 for \$35
PO Box 22501, Eugene, OR 97402



Disclaimer

Opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual author(s) and are not necessarily those of the HLAA Lane County Oregon Chapter. Mention of products and services does not mean endorsement, nor should exclusion indicate disapproval. Personal experiences and diverse opinions are welcome for publication, and should be sent to the chapter at the address shown on page 2. Unless otherwise noted, readers interested in duplicating or distributing any or all material in the *Sound News* have permission to do so. Please credit the source when using such material.

3:30– 5:00pm

Members: if you have **changed your e-mail** address, please notify Karin Smith of the change at: karinsm@efn.org



Memorial/Honorarium or Special Donations

I enclose a donation of: ___\$10 ___\$20 ___\$50 \$___

This gift is In Memory of: 

In Honor of _____
____ Birthday _____ Anniversary
____ Holidays _____ Marriage
____ Survivors' Manual _____ Other

Please send notification of this gift to:

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

This gift is from:

Name _____

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City/State/Zip: _____

Join National! - They *advocate for us* on a national level. Annual membership in HLAA is \$20 student, \$35 individuals, \$45 couple/family, \$60 professional. It includes the award-winning bi-monthly magazine, *Hearing Loss*. Write HLAA, 7910 Woodmont Ave., Ste. 1200, Bethesda, MD 20814; 301-657-2248 (Voice); 301-913-9413 (Fax) or www.hearingloss.org.

Hearing Loss Assoc. of Lane County Chapter Fee and National Membership Form

Please fill out this form /survey and turn in at the general meeting or mail to HLAA - Lane Co., PO Box 22501, Eugene, OR 97402.

I have enclosed: **Chapter fee** _____ \$10.00 per person,

Chapter Donation of \$ _____

National dues _____ \$35.00 (regular), _____ \$20 student, _____ \$45 couple, _____ \$60 professional*

Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Preferred phone: _____

Address: _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Occupation (*former occupation if retired*): _____

Why are you joining us? _____

What most interests/puzzles you about hearing or hearing devices? _____

Are you interested in volunteering? What would you like to do? _____

How did you learn about us _____?

Would you like to be on our e-mail news list: _____ Yes _____ No

*Donations to either the national, state organizations or our local chapter are always welcome and are tax deductible. (We do not share our information lists with anyone else. Receipts will gladly be provided.)

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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- This copy is free -
- please feel free
- to take it.

If the month & year on your mailing label have already passed, it's time to renew your membership! Please use the form on page 3 to pay your chapter fees today!



HLAA-LC
General Meeting!
Thursday 7-9 pm

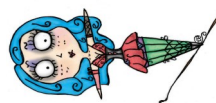
April 13, 2017

2580 Hilyard St., Eugene, OR

What happens in your ears besides hearing? Come find out!



Kenji Carp, PT, OCS, ATC, founder of the clinic and Eugene local, has 20 years of clinical experience and over a decade of management experience. Kenji began his career as a Certified Athletic Trainer and recently served as the Head Physical Therapist/Athletic Trainer for the IAAF World Junior Track and Field Championships. Kenji is Board Certified in Orthopedic Clinical Specialty through the American Physical Therapy Association. He is also Advanced Competency Certified in Vestibular/balance therapy. A writer and medical illustrator, Kenji has co-authored multiple texts and journal articles and teaches continuing education courses in the field. He has a Bachelor of Arts in Kinesiology from the University of Colorado and a Master of Physical Therapy from Carroll College. Kenji enjoys snowboarding, cycling, and drift boating with his wife and daughters in their spare time.



There is more to your ears than sound!

Calendar

**April Board Meeting
Tuesday April 4th,
3:30 to 5 pm**

Members Welcome
Hilyard Community Ctr.
2580 Hilyard St , Eugene

For more information, contact: lesleyb@earthlink.net.
Please put "HLAA-LC Meeting" in the subject line.

General membership meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7 pm. They are accessible for all degrees of hearing loss by amplification - loop assistive listening systems.

**Real time captioning by CC Reporting
(Debby, Chris, Jan and Sara)**