

Associated Hearing PROFESSIONALS



Congratulations to Tina!

She was recently named an "Academy Scholar" by the American Academy of Audiology! The honor recognizes individuals who exhibit dedication to the field of audiology and commitment to continued professional excellence by completing 50 continuing education hours within a two year period.

If you haven't seen our Clayton office lately, then you haven't seen our Clayton office at all! Come see our renovations!

**Margaret Fritsch Juelich AuD
Tina McWhorter MA
Lesley Schopper**

Prebywhatsis??

Presbycusis is hearing loss that occurs with aging. Approximately 30-35% of adults between ages 65 and 70 have some hearing loss and for those over the age of 75, the percentage rises to 40-50%, according to the National Institute on Deafness and Communication Disorders.

Age-related hearing loss occurs gradually and is due to changes in the inner ear and auditory nerve pathways to the brain. There are other factors

that may compound hearing loss as one ages. These include:

- Hereditary issues, including hearing loss as well as genetic syndromes.

- Other medical conditions, such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure, which all could affect the blood supply to the ear.

- Ototoxic medications, including strong antibiotics or chemotherapy, which

can negatively impact your hearing.

- Noise exposure, such as from industrial work setting, home power and lawn tools, gunfire, music etc. Whether prolonged or impulsive, noise exposure can cause significant and permanent hearing loss.

While there is no cure for presbycusis, there are treatments for this type of hearing loss. Hearing aids and assistive listening devices are very effective for patients. We

can tailor recommendations to the specific hearing loss, listening environments, manual dexterity, vision, and budget of each patient.

Presbycusis is invisible and gradual. Like all hearing loss, if untreated, it can lead to many other health problems, including anxiety, depression, and social isolation. Current hearing aid technology greatly improves quality of life and helps patients to be active participants in their listening environments.

CaptionCall

Captioned Telephone Service is a federally funded program administered by the FCC as part of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Anyone with hearing loss is eligible to participate anywhere in the United States, at no cost.

CaptionCall is an FCC-authorized Captioned Telephone Service provider, and is compensated by the FCC for providing

captioning services. If you have hearing loss, and have difficulty hearing on the phone, even with hearing aids, you are eligible for this service. The captioning telephone is provided at no charge, but does require a high speed internet connection and a standard home phone connection.

Here's how it works:

- Press the "Captions On" button on the

phone to connect to captioning service.

- You will hear the caller's voice over the standard phone line.

- The phone will send the caller's voice to the CaptionCall service via an internet connection.

- A Communications Assistant quickly converts the caller's words to text using voice-recognition technology.

- Captions are sent back to the CaptionCall phone display screen.

To get started, just ask your audiologist for more information. A "Professional Certification Form" signed by your audiologist needs to be faxed on your behalf.



16219 Baxter Rd.
Chesterfield MO 63017
636.778.9232

950 Francis Pl. Ste 200
Clayton MO 63105
314.725.2686

PHONAK
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Proud Provider of Phonak Hearing Instruments



Phonak's newest chip, "Venture", recently became available in their custom line. It is now available in all sizes of custom products and all levels of technology to fit hearing losses from mild to profound. Schedule an appointment now to learn more!

Margaret and Tina attended the Missouri Academy of Audiology conference in September.

Lesley passed the written portion of her state exam, one more step on her road to becoming a licensed Hearing Instrument Specialist.



Websites to Visit

www.howsyourhearing.org
www.turnittotheleft.org

Washington U Students



A'ja Neal is a 4th year doctoral student from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. She is named after the album "A'ja", recorded by Steely Dan. A'ja was with us for one semester as a third year student and now she is doing a full year externship here with us at Associated Hearing Professionals. In her free time, A'ja likes to travel, spend time with loved ones, and try out new restaurants. After she graduates this May, A'ja plans to take a 2 week vacation to discover Europe and then return to St. Louis, a place that she now considers to be home!



Margaret "Molly" Mertens is from Evansville, IN and received her BS in Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Mississippi. She is currently a third year Wash U graduate student. While at Ole Miss she enjoyed tailgating at the Grove and cheering on the Rebels. She also enjoys baking, traveling and hanging out with friends. Molly is so grateful for the opportunity to have learned alongside the great professionals at AHP. She loved meeting each and every patient and listening to their stories., which made her time that much more enjoyable.



Maggie Swindall, a third year Washington U graduate student, completed a B.S.Ed. in Communication Sciences and Disorders and a minor in Spanish at the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia. She is interested in working in a private practice setting. She enjoys working with patients of all ages, but has especially enjoyed getting to know all of the patients at AHP and hearing their stories. Maggie grew up in Louisville, KY and plans to return to the South in the future. Maggie loves spending time with family and friends, traveling, going to concerts, reading and exploring the arts.

October is Audiology Awareness and Protect Your Hearing Month

October is a special month for us because it is designated "Audiology Awareness" month and "Protect Your Hearing" month by the American Academy of Audiology. Of the 36 million Americans with some degree of hearing loss, over half are under the age of 65! An audiologist is a licensed

and clinically experienced healthcare professional who specializes in evaluating, diagnosing, and treating people with hearing and balance disorders. Visiting an audiologist and knowing the signs of hearing loss can help protect your hearing.

You can permanently lose your hearing from exposure to noise, either prolonged or impulsive. Twelve million Americans have hearing loss as a result of noise. This is called "noise-induced hearing loss". It can be caused by music, sporting events, fireworks, power tools, gunfire, etc.