

# BEST HEARING CENTER NEWSLETTER

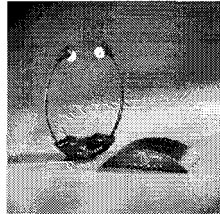
[www.besthearingcenter.com](http://www.besthearingcenter.com)

FALL, 2006

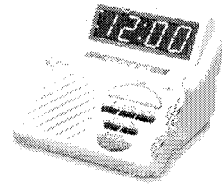
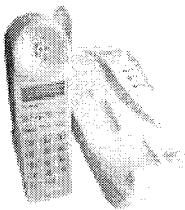
## ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES

Assistive listening devices (ALDs) include a wide variety of devices designed to improve hearing in specific listening situations. Some are designed to be used with hearing aids, and others are designed to be used alone. All of them are designed to emphasize the one signal you are interested in hearing. That sound might be a faraway voice or a signal nearer to you that gets lost in the noise.

A popular ALD is a television amplifier. Many people hear well with this type of device because it brings the TV signal directly into their ears bypassing any room interference like others talking, furnace noise, etc. Our most popular TV amplifier consists of a base that plugs into your television with a wireless headset that picks up the signal. The television volume can be turned to a comfortable level for others in the room to hear well or the volume can be muted. You can try it out in our office!



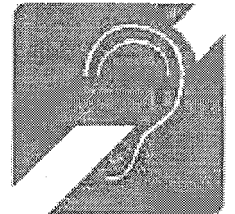
The telephone can be a difficult experience for some with hearing impairment. There are amplified telephones that not only make the speech louder, but they can also amplify certain frequencies to help with word clarity. Some amplifiers can be used with your current telephone. The "captioned telephone" is a phone that provides written words (like closed captioning on TV). There are also devices available to make your telephone ring louder. Amplified answering machines for your phone can make the message louder, and there is even one that can play back the message at a slower rate.



Have you ever not heard your alarm clock go off? That is a common occurrence with people with hearing loss. An alarm clock is available that is much louder than normal, allows you to vary the tone of the alarm, can be hooked up to a lamp to flash a light when it goes off, and/or can have a vibrating attachment that you can put under your pillow or mattress. This alarm clock can also be used to wake up deep sleepers.

There are other alerting devices available to let you know that someone is at the door or a baby is crying in the other room.

Most movie theaters and play houses have devices you can borrow for free to amplify the voices. Look for this sign or a similar one by the ticket window. These devices are some type of headset that picks up the voices directly from the speaker system; so that, other disturbing audience sounds are not amplified.



Churches and other large auditorium events should also have similar devices. The Yorktown Theater in Lombard also has a captioning device that can be used at your seat.

People who use behind-the-ear hearing aids can often add a cord (called direct audio input) to plug into a device like a CD player, iPod, microphone, or computer speakers and make the sound go through their hearing aids. Some of these devices are now wireless.

There are many more types of alerting devices and personal or group systems. At your next visit, ask Anna or Dr. Freeman if any of these devices might be useful for you.

4959 FAIRVIEW AVE., DOWNERS GROVE, IL 60515 AND  
10706 31ST ST., WESTCHESTER, IL 60154  
708-387-7570

## VACATION



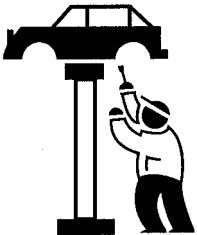
Dr. Freeman and her husband, Brian, will be taking a break from the business and going on a trip from Sept. 7 - 15, 2006. Anna, our office

manager, will be in the office on business days while they are gone, except for Friday, Sept. 8th. Anna will be able to schedule appointments and be in the office to help you purchase batteries or Assistive Listening Devices.

## Check-Ups

Have you been forgetting your check-ups?

Check ups on your ears and hearing aids are FREE at our office. All you need to do is make an appointment time. During the check-up, Dr. Freeman will vacuum the microphone, receiver, and other parts of your hearing aids; clean the battery contacts if needed; and place the aids in a dryer machine. She will also inspect your ear canals for wax and dry skin. If you are not on strong blood thinner medication, she can clean your ear canals for you.



Just like tune ups and tire rotations are good for the maintenance and functioning of your car, check-ups on your hearing aids can make them last longer and work better.

## HONORS

Best Hearing Center's goal has always been to provide quality hearing health care. We are happy to announce that we were nominated for a Downers Grove Service Award, and we were recognized by the Better Business Bureau last year for having no complaints filed.



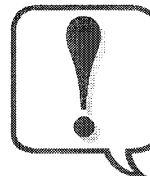
## NEWSPAPER ARTICLES



Dr. Freeman and her husband have been writing newspaper articles for the Liberty Suburban papers in the area. These articles are published once a month in each of our area newspapers. Past publications have included: Hearing Loss Myths, Auditory Deprivation, Common Signs of Hearing Loss, Why Delay Getting Help, The Impact of Hearing Loss, Assistive Listening Devices, and Is Your Hearing Loss Impacting your Job Performance.

If you missed any of the articles and would like a copy, please give our office a call.

## REMINDER



Clean your hearing aids weekly to ensure many years of good hearing. If you're not sure how to do this, please ask Dr. Freeman during your next appointment.