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THE SOUNDS OF SUMMER: RECOGNIZING HEARING LOSS

Ah, the sounds of summer – the splashing in the pool, the sizzle of the barbecue and the boom of fireworks. While summer is one of the most carefree times of the year, it is also perhaps the most detrimental to your hearing.

An article was published recently on summer hearing health!

[Read the entire article by clicking here](#) and navigating to page 52.

HEARING RESOURCES FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY

Do you or someone you know struggle to hear on the telephone, perhaps avoiding it all together? If you answered yes, then know you are not alone.

There are more than 55 million individuals in the United States currently experiencing some degree of a hearing loss and 700,000 right here in Arizona. Although it can be frustrating, there is good news. You or your loved ones can improve the ability to communicate on the phone with the help of the Arizona Telecommunication Equipment Distribution Program (AzTEDP). [Continued on Page 2](#)

Upcoming Events

40th Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference: "The Evolution of Rural Health"
Aug. 20, 5 – 7 p.m.
Aug. 21, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Prescott Resort and Conference Center
1500 E. State Route 69
Prescott, AZ 86301

SRPMC 6th Annual Disabilities Conference
Aug. 23, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Talking Stick Resort and Casino
9800 E. Indian Bend Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

Our Happiest Hour Wellness Event
Aug. 24, 11:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts
7380 E. 2nd St
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Phoenix Mercury Game
Aug. 31, 7 – 10 p.m.
US Airways Center
201 E. Jefferson St
Phoenix, AZ 85004

[See complete list on page 4](#)

HEARING RESOURCES FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY

CONTINUED FROM COVER

WHAT IS AZTEDP?

Since 1986, TTY's have been available to individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing so they could access the public telephone system. Today, AzTEDP has grown to become one of the most comprehensive telecommunications loan programs in the nation, offering free telecommunications equipment to qualified applicants in Arizona who have trouble hearing or speaking.

The program is administered by the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing, a government agency that provides a variety of assistive services to qualified individuals who have difficulty hearing on the telephone.

WHAT KINDS OF EQUIPMENT ARE AVAILABLE?

- * Volume control telephones
- * TTY's
- * Visual alerts and flashing devices
- * Hands-free phones
- * Cap-Tel phones
- * Amplified phones

INTERESTED IN APPLYING?

To apply, individuals must print and complete an official application completed by an AzTEDP certified professional and submit supporting documents, including proof of United States Citizenship and Arizona residency to the main AzTEDP office. For more information or to download the application, visit <http://www.acdhh.org/home/aztedp>.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) 23RD ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Friday, July 26 marked the 23rd anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) Act. The ADA act was a huge step for our country in ensuring equal opportunity for all. The celebration event was hosted by the Arizona Disability Advocacy Coalition and was held at the Disability Empowerment Center.

The following individuals and organizations were honored at **the event**:

- * Governor Jan Brewer
- * State Representative Heather Carter
- * State Senator John McComish
- * State Senator Lea Landrum Taylor Deanna Baker, Realtime Captioner
- * Michael Traylor and the Arizona Department of Housing
- * Tony Di Rienzi
- * Virginia G. Piper Sports and Fitness Center (SpoFit)

See additional photos from the event by [clicking here](#).



Sherri Collins and Michael Traylor

CAPTIONED TELEPHONE SERVICE (CTS)

Did you know that Arizona Relay Service offers Captioned Telephone Service (CTS)?

Captioned Telephone Service uses a special type of telephone that displays written, word-for-word captions of everything that is being said on the other end of the line.

CTS allows users to both listen to and read the other party's words during telephone conversations. It works using a phone line and a confidential captioning service that visually displays everything the other party says during a conversation on the screen of a captioned telephone. The captions allow the user to read along with the spoken words and engage in natural conversations with others, helping those with hearing loss maintain their independence.

CTS services work a little differently than Voice Carry Over (VCO) and is similar in concept to captioned television, is available to Arizonans with hearing loss and can help individuals reconnect to the world via the phone.



SPANISH RELAY

TALKING ON THE TELEPHONE IS A REGULAR EVERYDAY ACTIVITY FOR MOST PEOPLE. BUT WHAT DO YOU DO IF YOU HAVE HEARING LOSS AND SPANISH IS YOUR PRIMARY LANGUAGE?

Arizona Relay Service provides bilingual Communication Assistants who are specially trained to relay conversations in Spanish. Spanish Relay Service is for people who are deaf or hard of hearing who wish to communicate in Spanish (through text or voice) with an individual who uses a standard telephone. To use the Spanish Relay Service, dial 711 and indicate that you would like a Spanish-speaking Communication Assistant, or dial 1-800-842-2088. Arizona Relay Service provides Spanish-to-Spanish relay and English-to-Spanish translation relay.

TTY is the most common way that people who are deaf or hard of hearing communicate, and now it is even easier to communicate if Spanish is your preferred language. The approach and actions of using TTY is the same, the Communication Assistant will either translate the conversation to the appropriate person or type the words in Spanish for the convenience of the TTY user.

With Arizona Relay Service, Spanish-speaking Arizonans who are deaf, hard of hearing or have difficulty speaking can continue to experience independence in communicating via the phone.

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

40th Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference: "The Evolution of Rural Health"

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Aug. 31, 7 – 10 p.m.
US Airways Center
201 E. Jefferson St
Phoenix, AZ 85004

SEPTEMBER

Prescott Senior Connection: Senior Resource Conference And Expo

Sept. 20, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Yavapai College Gym
1100 E. Sheldon St
Prescott, AZ 86301

ASBA's 40th Birthday Bash and Annual Open House Expo

Sept. 26, 4 – 7 p.m.,
Arizona Small Business Association
4600 E. Washington St
Phoenix, AZ 85034

MATA-SLM Expo

Sept. 28, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Phoenix Convention Center
100 N. 3rd St
Phoenix, AZ 85004

My Health and Wellness Expo

Sept. 28-29, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Hotel Tucson City Center Inn Suites Resort
475 N. Granada Ave
Tucson, AZ 85701

Arizona's Department of Education 13th Annual Transition Conference

Sept. 30- October 2, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Talking Stick Resort and Casino
9800 E. Indian Bend Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85256

OCTOBER

2013 Pan de Vida Foundation Health & Community Fair

Oct. 12, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Queen Creek Library
21802 S. Ellsworth Rd
Queen Creek, AZ 85142

Arizona Ultimate Women's Expo

Oct. 19 – 20, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Phoenix Convention Center
100 N. 3rd St
Phoenix, AZ 85004

'Salute to Seniors' at Senior Connection Adult Center

Oct. 22, 9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Senior Connection Adult Center
1280 E. Rosser St, Suite B
Prescott, AZ 86301

15th Annual Fountain Hills Business Expo

Oct. 23, 3 – 6 p.m.
Fountain Hills Community Center
13004 N. La Montana Dr
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268

NOVEMBER

Women's Health and Fitness Expo

Nov. 1, 3 – 7:30 p.m.
Nov. 2, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort
5401 N. Scottsdale Rd
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

2013 Deaf Festival

Nov. 2, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Disability Empowerment Center
5025 E. Washington St
Phoenix, AZ 85034