

May is Better Hearing Month

Hearing loss and your safety

In past issues we've discussed the connection between hearing loss and dementia, falling, diabetes and heart disease. This month we're going to talk about personal safety, specifically fire safety. We often get questions about smoke alarms and other alerting equipment. If your smoke alarm went off in the middle of the night, would you hear it? Think about that. You can test this by asking another person to trigger the alarm when you are sleeping. If the alarm does not wake you, you should get a smoke alarm with a strobe light.

If you don't hear your smoke alarm, let us know. Call either Debby or Fred at 561-366-7219.

Smoke Alarms



Working smoke alarms save lives. However, people who are deaf or hard of hearing may not be able to depend on the traditional smoke alarm to alert them to a fire.

for People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Install smoke alarms in every bedroom. They should also be outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. For added safety, interconnect all the smoke alarms. If one sounds, they all sound. This gives people more time to escape.

SAFETY TIPS

- Smoke alarms and alert devices are available for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.
- Strobe lights flash when the smoke alarm sounds. The lights warn people of a possible fire.
- When people who are deaf are asleep, a pillow or bed shaker can wake them so they can escape. The shaker is activated by the sound of a smoke alarm.
- When people who are hard of hearing are asleep, an alert device that uses a loud, mixed, low-pitched sound can wake them. They may find a pillow or bed shaker helpful. These devices are triggered by the sound of the smoke alarm.
- Research the products and select the ones that best meet your needs.

WHERE TO FIND EQUIPMENT

Search home improvement store websites or use a general search engine to look for strobe light smoke alarms. BRK/First Alert, Gentex, and Kidde brands offer this type of smoke alarm. Find smoke alarm accessories such as pillow or bed shakers, transmitters, and receivers at lifetonesafety.com, safeawake.com and silentcall.com. Choose devices that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory.

FACT

Home fire sprinklers keep fires small. This gives people more time to escape in a fire.

AND DON'T FORGET...
Test all smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Your Logo

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May Event Schedule

Health Fair season is winding down and so most of our events are our normal phone distribution dates.

May 1: King's Point Plaza; phone distribution; RSVP required

May 2–6: Debby at a conference; Fred will be in and out of the office

May 3: Temple Shaarei Shalom; phone distribution; RSVP required

May 8: Patch Reef Park; phone distribution; RSVP required

May 17: Presentation: Palm Beach Gardens; **Office Closed**

May 18: **Office closed**

May 22: Patch Reef Park; phone distribution; RSVP required

May 28: Jupiter Community Ctr; phone distribution; RSVP required

**All dates and times subject to change; please call for an appointment



Due to increased costs (of everything) we cannot continue to mail supplies with no shipping fees. Beginning May 1, all supplies mailed first class will have a \$3.00 shipping charge. Any items mailed priority mail will have a fee of \$7.90. We apologize for the extra fee but we cannot continue mailing at no charge.

Hearing aid maintenance

Hearing aid stopped working? Don't panic!

- Check your battery
- Did the hearing aid charge?
- Clean the earmold or dome
- Change the filter

Also because of increased credit card processing fees, we would appreciate cash or checks for small purchases.

Thank you for your understanding

When all else fails, call the office 561-366-7219

**Future dates to remember:
June 17-24: Fred will be on vacation**

July 4-16: Debby will be on vacation

July 18-Aug 4: Fred will be on vacation