



### HEUSER STUDENTS SHOP WITH A COP

The program Shop with a Cop provided Christmas to some families from Heuser Hearing & Language Academy and Englehard Elementary. On Tuesday, December 15, 2015, Santa Claus and several policemen carrying gifts and pizza arrived at Heuser to surprise the children. Happy faces waited in anticipation to hear their names called by Santa. Each child received a large bag filled with clothing, shoes, and toys! After the gifts, the families were invited to lunch with the policemen, then off they went with their wonderful bag of goodies.



### FOODS THAT PROMOTE HEALTHY HEARING

We've all heard the saying, "An apple a day keeps the doctor away..." Or, eat carrots for better eye sight? But did you know that there are also foods you can eat to benefit your ears? Researchers have discovered that there are many foods that promote healthy hearing.

Age, infections and noise are among the causes of hearing impairment. Constant exposure to loud music can also impact your hearing. According to The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders (NIDCD), exposure to high decibel noise can stimulate damaging free radicals to cause the destruction of sensitive inner ear hair cells. You can reduce this damage by adding foods with folic acid and antioxidants. Foods loaded with these are eggs, spinach, asparagus and nuts. Also dark chocolate and oysters are beneficial to hearing health because they contain zinc and a lack of zinc in the body has been connected to age-related hearing loss.

Other beneficial foods are potatoes, artichokes and bananas that are rich in magnesium and can help protect the hearing of people who work in intense noise settings. Additionally, fish such as salmon or trout contain Vitamin D and Omega 3 fats that can help reduce age-related hearing problems. And, foods such as tuna and anchovies can help you hear better in your later years.

### FABULOUS FINDS MAKES GENEROUS HOLIDAY DONATION

Christmas came early for the Heuser Hearing and Language Academy! On December 15th, HHLA was presented with a check from the sale of Fabulous Finds, the consignment store founded in 1993 by Carla Sue Broecker and JoAnn Gannon. The \$500,000.00 check arrived just in time for the holidays and will go towards supporting the school and its various programs. The shop closed its doors in October and has raised over \$1.8 million for philanthropic giving to more than 150 students over the last 23 years.



(pictured above: Jeanne Headlee, HHI board president, Carla Sue Broecker, & Brett Bachmann)

### WELCOME OUR NEW TEACHER Staci Montgomery



We would like to introduce the newest member of the Heuser Hearing and Language Academy teaching staff, Staci Montgomery. She has joined our team all the way from Oklahoma where she received her degree in Deaf Education in 2009. Staci taught first, second, third, fifth, and sixth grades over the last 5 years at the Oklahoma School for the Deaf where she was also named Teacher of the Year in 2014. Staci has joined our teaching staff and will be shaping the young minds in Heuser's Kindergarten program.

The staff at Heuser Hearing and Language Academy welcomed her into "the family" with open arms. "Even in just the few short months that I have been here, I have seen a community who advocates for the needs of the children above all else. Educators, administrators, and support staff alike are all working together to provide an environment without barriers, an environment of opportunity, an environment for success! What a joy it is to share in this vision of access to language and learning!" said Staci Montgomery.

### DR. BRANDI MCGRAW A Profile of a Clinical Audiologist

Dr. Brandi McGraw is from Natchez Mississippi. She graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi where she received her Bachelors of Science in Communication Disorders. She attended graduate school for Audiology at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, LA.

When I started college, I was a Special Education major. I was enjoying that path until one of my friends, a Communication Disorders major, told me about her program. I decided to switch majors and have never regretted that decision. From the moment I stepped into the world of Audiology it was something I knew I wanted to do. My parents were more hesitant because that meant an additional four years of school after college but they supported me through it all and I feel very blessed to be where I am today.



My hearing is something that I tend to take for granted. Working with patients with hearing loss is something I find to be very rewarding; I not only get to help others, but it helps me put things into perspective for my life. I have recently begun focusing on working with the pediatric population where I see firsthand the difficulties in managing a child with hearing loss, but it is something I truly enjoy doing. Technology is an amazing thing and getting to see a child grow and develop as a result of proper amplification is my favorite part of my job.

### HEUSER NEWS

#### ► Donate your Birthday to Heuser!

Don't feel like getting older? Donate your birthday to Heuser Hearing Institute's Cochlear Implant Program and start changing lives. You can pledge your birthday by matching your number of years with a monetary pledge. HHI will use 100% of the money donated to fund cochlear implant products and services for patients in need. Our campaign will maintain a digital history for you to watch just how much your funds make a difference to those patients in need.



**For more information, or to enroll, visit our website at [www.thehearinginstitute.org](http://www.thehearinginstitute.org), or call 502.584.3573.**

► Be sure to check out our new website at **[www.thehearinginstitute.org](http://www.thehearinginstitute.org).**

### HEUSER EVENTS

**February 14, 2016**  
HHLA Valentine's Party  
hosted by The Women's Club  
of Louisville  
2:30 p.m. - Downtown campus

**March 25, 2016**  
Easter Egg Hunt  
hosted by Young Women's Club  
of Louisville  
(TBA)

### WORDS FROM CEO Brett Bachmann



Where did the year go? I'm reminded of just how fast time flies as I get older and I watch times and events go by so quickly.

We are ending the year on a high note as we just completed our annual fundraiser, "Sound Beginnings Breakfast," featuring Teddy Abrams with emcee and board member, Shannon Cogan. If you didn't attend, you missed a wonderful event filled

with emotional testimonies from some of our most enduring families. Special thanks to Brad Broecker for spearheading this fundraiser and working with the HHI staff to make it happen.

Our December will begin and end with our partnership with The Galt House Hotel as we once again are the "charity of choice" for this year's "Christmas at The Galt House," which is in full swing until December 27. We encourage each of you to go out to the event, stop by the updated Heuser Hearing booth and go into the Gingerbread House Village to vote for our wonderful entry created by in-house artist Jill Hedges and our HHLA students. We end the year with more holiday cheer as the volunteers of The Butterfly Society will decorate Christmas gifts for the HHLA students on Monday, December 14 at 10:00 a.m. And finally, on December 18th our students, staff and faculty will celebrate the holidays before they go away on break.

Lastly, I want to update you on our recent media highlights. WDRB's Keith Kaiser spotlighted our programs once again on November 17 with four segments that focused on programs, our classrooms our teachers, and our services. And, for the first time in a long while, WDRB donated a full 8-minute segment on our Lyrical hearing aid on November 13. We even had two TV stations - Wave3 News and WDRB - cover our Sound Beginnings Breakfast. We have been quite fortunate to be able to promote our name in the community this way!

Please help me usher in the New Year of 2016 by closing out 2015 on a high note and bringing in the year with thanks to my staff for their dedication and hard work throughout this year. Please remember that my door is always open to you! I wish each of you a safe and fulfilling holiday season and a Happy New 2016!

*-Brett*