

MONTHLY COMMUNICATOR

May 2014

www.nj.gov/humanservices/ddhh/home/index.html

Vol. 35 No. 5

Chris Christie, Governor

Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner

David Alexander, Director

More Than 120 Turn Out for NJDEAF's Spring Conference



by Celeste Bonfanti

The sun shone on NJDEAF, Inc. (New Jersey Deaf Education Affiliates) as we celebrated our 15th anniversary at our annual spring conference. This year's enterprise, entitled "Meeting the Needs of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students with Additional Disabilities", was held on Saturday, March 22, 2014 at our usual venue, the Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission in Piscataway, a lovely facility that drew positive comments from more than 120 conference attendees.

The day began with breakfast, after which Dr. Candi Mascia-Reed, co-founder (with Melanie Phillips) of NJDEAF, welcomed participants and thanked all involved, including the NJDDHH for providing communication services. The morning passed quickly as the conference was addressed by six excellent guest speakers.

Continued on page 3

	inside
2	Director's Corner
4	Intro to Auditory Processing Disorder
6	June Events Set for HLAJ-NJ Calendar
9	DSAT Train the Trainer Session a Success



NJ Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day
Six Flags Great Adventure
Saturday, June 7, 2014

Director's Corner



By David Alexander, Ph.D., Director,
Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH)

Enhanced Disaster Preparedness

I am pleased to announce that the division has applied for grant funding from the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) that will be used to enhance disaster/emergency preparation for people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. Research indicates that this is a critical area of need. Deaf and hard of hearing individuals often are not only underserved, but also particularly vulnerable, in preparation for, responding to, and recovering from disasters.

The NJOEM grant, when approved, will permit DDHH to offer three projects to improve disaster preparedness to people who are Deaf and hard of hearing. The first project proposes to provide training in emergency management for American Sign Language Interpreters. This will enhance the preparation of interpreters to effectively provide interpreting services when called upon during times of disasters. For the second project, DDHH proposes to produce three public service announcements (PSA's) accessible to people who are Deaf and hard of hearing. PSA's will

include topics such as Building an Emergency Kit, Sheltering in Place and Evacuations. The third project is to develop a cadre of Deaf and hard of hearing trainers and to update curriculum materials for peer to peer training and education in disaster preparedness.

Up-to-date information on disaster preparedness is life-saving and the time to prepare is before it happens. DDHH, in collaboration with the New Jersey Association of the Deaf, New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf and other community based organizations, is pleased to be leading efforts to ensure that people who are Deaf and hard of hearing are prepared and informed in all aspects of emergency management.

David C. Alexander, Ph.D., Director
**NJ Division of the Deaf and
Hard of Hearing**



Monthly Communicator

State of New Jersey
Department of Human Services



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We Welcome Your Articles and Ads

The Monthly Communicator is published 11 times per year. Deadline for submissions for the June issue is May 1 and should be e-mailed to: monthlycommunicator@dhs.state.nj.us.

The deadline for the **Monthly Communicator** is **the first of the month for the next month**.

Kindly follow these guidelines for submissions:

- Should be less than two pages
- Plain font, such as NYTimes #11 or similar
- Type flush left, no tabs
- No art imbedded within
- Send as Word attachment or an e-mail itself
- Art, logos, photos may be sent as attached JPG
- Submissions are not normally repeated
- Content should be of interest to readers, events should be accessible to people with hearing loss, no direct selling products, but educational info about new technology is acceptable
- Editor has discretion regarding editing, without final approval of submitter

NJDEAF's Spring Conference...continued

- **Carol Ukstins**, program specialist at the Bruce Street School for the Deaf, began by reviewing the legislation, which ensures a free and appropriate education for deaf children with additional disabilities. She then highlighted their newly-created program for auditorily impaired/multi-disabled children, some of whom are recent arrivals in the US and come to the program with no prior educational experience at all. The program began three years ago with grades 3-5, expanded into kindergarten-grade 2, then into grades 6-8 and next year will include high school. All the teachers are dual certified and supported by highly-qualified classroom assistants and paraprofessionals. The program is supported by various consultative services and instructional technology, and includes community-based instruction for practical follow-up to multi-sensory lessons.
- **Robert Mortorano**, principal of the Woodridge Transition Center at Bergen County Special Services, addressed participants on the services the center provides for students in grade 5 through age 21. Existing services were recently expanded to include deaf and hard of hearing students after Robert was approached by Dr. Mascia-Reed. Elements include ASL instruction, interpreted and multi-sensory instruction, deaf awareness training, teacher of the deaf consultation and technology, and once students reach age 19, they are assigned a 1:1 job coach. The new students have had a positive impact on their hearing peers, many of whom are learning ASL. A slide show depicted students in their supported placements at many community businesses, including Shop Rite, TJ Maxx, McDonald's and Home Goods.
- **Maura Zaldivar-Garcia**, the parent of a 5th grader at the Union Street School for the Deaf, Bergen County Special Services, described the complexities, joys and challenges of raising a



boisterous son who was born with multiple disabilities and received his first surgery at 11 months of age. She related the frustrations of discrimination and the reality that children are so much quicker than adults to accept differences unconditionally. She described her own personal journey toward full understanding of her son's communicative needs and Deaf identity. Although he has a unilateral cochlear implant, Maura shared, "His eyes are now his ears and his hands are his voice... and that's OK by me."

- **Robin Godshalk**, president of the Board of Directors for Hands & Voices, briefly addressed the assembly to announce that the NJ Chapter is now official, hosting varied social events and outings and welcoming all deaf and hard of hearing children and their families, regardless of communication philosophy. In addition to families, Hands and Voices welcomes teachers, interpreters and other involved professionals to help develop the NJ Chapter.
- **Lori Timney**, NJ outreach specialist for NJ Relay & CapTel, highlighted the numerous options available to deaf and hard of hearing people with regard to communicative access. Gone are the days when phone calls had

to be placed through a hearing friend or family member! Instant independence is available through mobile devices as well as land line and computer via technology such as the CapTel 840i and 880i. Services are also available for Spanish language users. A CapTel can be purchased for as little as \$75 and plugs in like a regular phone. The NJDDHH can provide a free CapTel to anyone who meets the designated criteria.

- **Special Guest Speaker Christian Markovic**, owner of Fuzzy Wuzzy Designs, shared his story as an alumnus of the Summit Speech School, the Clarke School, Governor Livingston High School, NTID and the Savannah College of Art and Design. He succeeded with the support of interpreters and note takers and was awarded a BFA, but despite sending out 300 resumes was unable to land a job in his field. His solution was to start his own business! Fuzzy Wuzzy Designs features greeting cards, clothing, tote bags and other items. Christian benefitted from tactile sign, computer and independent living training at the Helen Keller National Center and cited healthy living and a strong spirituality as supports on his way to success.

Continued on page 8



Auditory Processing Disorder: An Introduction

By Traci Burton, DDHH Field Representative

On Saturday March 8 Cherry Hill Township hosted its Free Conference for Professionals and Parents of Children with Special Needs. Approximately one hundred attendees benefitted from two workshops, one being Auditory Processing: Understanding Its Role in Life and Learning. The conference focused on children, though the information Maxine L. Young, CC-A, FAAA shared in this workshop can be applied to anyone who has this disorder.

Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) is often misdiagnosed and is a deficit in processing auditory input, including spoken language. A person with APD may have what is considered “normal” hearing, but the problem is in the processing of language in the brain. Both sides of the brain are used in processing language with the phonemes being processed in the left side and melodic intonations in the right. APD co-exists with other learning and speech disorders, particularly ADHD, but other disorders may not include APD.

Some of the warning signs and symptoms of APD are similar to those of hearing loss. Individuals with APD and/or hearing loss may not wish to attend social functions, there are misinterpretations/misunderstandings, and localizing sounds can be difficult. A person with APD also may be easily awakened, not appreciate rhymes, does not like to be read to and has trouble following oral directions. Similar to one with a hearing loss, someone with APD will pay strict attention to the speaker watching body language, facial expressions, as well as lip reading. When the brain gets tired from listening so raptly it needs to take a break and that can result in blank facial expressions or looking away. Often this waxing and waning attention is misdiagnosed as ADD. The brain is simply taking a break and the appearance of “being out of it” is not a frontal lobe issue.

For people with normal hearing, listening is not a chore and necessary

adjustments are made easily. Those with APD, on the other hand, take longer to adjust to different tones, speaking styles, accents, etc. so listening to several speakers in one day is tiring. Consonants begin to lose their crispness and become muddled for every two feet that exists between the speaker and listener and, therefore, become more difficult to process due to the APD. People with normal hearing are also able to “block” unwanted sounds, a neurophysiological change occurring around the age of 14. The brain hears the planes that fly over head, but the sound is deemed unimportant. The listener with APD, however, may not be able to ignore the planes’ roar.

Medications do not help APD. In some cases, an assistive listening device may be beneficial as it will help the person focus, make the language sound more clear, or augment the sound should there indeed be a hearing loss. There are programs for the computer, such as Fast Forward, that train the brain on processing time and shores up the auditory and language neurons in the brain. Should your child have APD, be sure to include such things as Flexible Homework in the IEP to ensure



their scholastic success.

As with some types of hearing loss, there is no cure for APD. Should you recognize a friend or loved one – perhaps even yourself! – in this article, discuss the possibility of having APD with your doctor. There is help available; it’s just a matter of finding the correct path for you to follow.

Cherry Hill’s Free Conference for Professionals and Parents of Children with Special Needs was made possible by Mayor Chuck Cahn, the Ombudsman for Disabled Citizens, and the Cherry Hill Alliance.

For more information on Auditory Processing Disorder please contact Maxine L. Young, AuD, CCC-A/SLP at myoungaud@comcast.net.

Candles Belong on the Dinner Table, Not in Your Ears

May is **Better Speech and Hearing Month** and there’s no better time than the present to think about protecting the hearing we do have. An estimated 750,000 people in New Jersey are living with hearing loss; about half this number are senior citizens. Hearing loss is permanent, but there are measures you can take to protect your hearing. One such measure is to be smart about any treatment to maintain your hearing health. Holistic approaches to healthcare may be attractive, but be sure to do your homework prior to any procedure. Your instincts are trying to advise you. The February 13, 2014 www.healthyhearing.com news emission discusses coning as method to remedying the issue of earwax.

Continued on page 5



Maybe you've heard of ear candling, otherwise known as thermal auricular therapy or ear coning. Proponents say that it can improve hearing by drawing out earwax, and that it is also an effective technique for treating sinus infections by removing what's causing that "stuffy" feeling.

But if you're suspicious of a technique that involves lighting a cone-shaped, 10-inch long hollow candle before placing the opposite end in your ear, you are right. Though people say that the heat from the flame creates suction that makes your earwax "melt" out through the candle, much evidence and many experts refute this idea saying that, in fact, ear candling is both extremely dangerous and ineffective.

Risk for Injury

According to Dr. Eric Mann, the Food and Drug Administration's clinical deputy director of Ophthalmic, Neurological, and Ear, Nose, and Throat devices, not only is ear candling unsafe but it is ineffective:

"FDA believes that there is no valid scientific evidence or any medical benefit from their use," Mann said. In contrast, he warned of various potential risks - all very serious - to using candling:

- Puncturing the eardrum by inserting candles. People should never insert anything into their ear canals.
- Burns to the ear canal, eardrum, middle ear and face.
- Injury to the ear from hot, dripping wax.
- Starting a fire
- Having ears plugged by candle wax
- Bleeding
- Not getting proper treatment for the underlying medical condition, such as hearing loss, sinus and ear infections, tumor,

earwax buildup or TMJ disorders (temporomandibular joint, or jaw joint)

Phony Science

So-called "candlers" claim that their practice is based on the laws of science, physics and the human body. However, none of this is true. Here are some common claims by proponents of candling, as well as why their statements are false:

Connections in our head allow us to drain everything through the ear.

This is completely false. While arteries, lymph systems, veins and neural networks all connect throughout our bodies, there are no open passages that allow fluids from the sinuses to pass through the ear drum.

Oxygen from a lit candle creates a vacuum to draw out wax.

In fact, this isn't possible; there isn't enough force for a vacuum. Ear wax naturally works its way toward the outer ears very slowly on its own.

Ear Wax Buildup

If you have earwax buildup, also called a cerumen blockage, the best thing to do is to avoid putting anything in your ears, including cotton swabs. Instead, visit an audiologist or another hearing health care professional who is skilled at removing ear wax. He or she can also provide you with information on maintaining ear and hearing health and what to do if you have ears that produce more wax than others. Remember that ear wax is actually beneficial in keeping debris and skin cells away from the ear drum. In most cases, there is no reason to actively remove ear wax from your ear canal.

Traci Burton, Field Representative can be reached at 609-588-2648 or traci.burton@dhs.state.nj.us.

The Bergen Country Deaf Seniors

meet at the

**Northwest Bergen Senior Activity Center 46-50 Center Street
Midland Park, NJ 07432**

every Thursday.

Seniors 60 and over are welcome.

Phone 201-445-5690. Fax: 201-493-8911 or

email - parslanian@co.bergen.nj.us.

(new email)



Bergen County Deaf Seniors Calendar of May Events.

May 1: Bingo at 1:00 p.m.

May 8: We invite deaf seniors who have ipads and are interested in sharing information and tips at 12:30pm. Other seniors may choose to play "Rumikub" or other games at 1:00 p.m.

We welcome your suggestions.

May 15: Dingo at 1:00 p.m., followed by Birthday Party about 3:00 p.m.

May 22 : Enjoy LCR games at 1:00 p.m.

May 29: Social Worker Sheila Brogan assisted by ASL interpreter Lauren Margolin will provide information and referral assistance to individuals. Please call for appointment. Sheila gave an informative talk to deaf seniors on March 27th on when to worry about your diminishing short term memory.

Coming attraction June 26: Seniors were both concerned and relieved as the subject of "Memory: Should I be Worried?" was discussed. Seniors unable to attend want Sheila to communicate this again on June 26. Please join us for this valuable presentation. Phone or email if you want to reserve our \$1.25 lunch.





HLAA-NJ News and Views

A Monthly Column from The Hearing Loss Association of NJ
By Joel Strasser, APR, Fellow PRSA, Trustee, HLAA - NJ, Public Information Officer

Scholarship Awards Reception, Board Meeting Set as May, June Events to Highlight HLAA-NJ Calendar



about hearing loss issues, or learn more about HLAA-NJ activities, feel free to attend, especially if you are not able to attend one of our local chapter meetings closer to home.

Also, planning for our next meeting on October 19, 2014 is just getting started, so if you'd like to get involved with the Walk's early planning or operation, now would be a good time to join the effort. We always welcome new members and find ways they can lend their special skills or talents. Meetings are usually looped, sound-augmented, and/or otherwise aided by CART captioning, so potential attendees need not worry about understanding meeting proceedings. For more information on this quarter's meeting agenda, or to add to or review this meeting's program, contact Linda Schaab, HLAA-NJ president, at: lms365c@gmail.com.

Governor Christie Appoints/Reappoints Five HLAA-NJ Members to DDHH Advisory Council

The governor's office has announced the appointment or re-appointment of five HLAA-NJ members to the State's Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's Advisory Council for three-year terms. Along with HLAA-NJ's appointees, five others also are appointed from the NJAD. HLAA-NJ's appointees are:

- **Wayne Roorda** - co-founder of HLAA-NJ, Walk4Hearing Chairperson, HLA-NJ board member - bilateral cochlear implant user.
- **Judy Ginsberg** - former HLAA-NJ president, former DDHH Advisory Council Chairperson - bilateral cochlear implant user.
- **Marie Nordling**, president of the Middlesex County Chapter, HLAA-NJ board member - hearing aid user (retired nurse).
- **Linda Schaab**, president of HLAA-NJ - hearing aid user.
- **Arlene Romoff**, co-founder of HLAA-NJ, past president HLAA-NJ, former co-chair of DDHH Advisory Council, author of two books - bilateral cochlear implant user.

This spring is shaping up to be an active one for HLAA-NJ as dates and locations for two key happenings have been set for the next 60 days.

Scholarship applications continue to filter in as HLAA-NJ's Scholarship Reception moves into the planning and presentation stages for Saturday, June 7, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Madison Community House, 25 Cook Ave., Madison, N.J. This venue provides a good size parlor room with large windows, making it quite suitable and inviting for this annual event during which HLAA-NJ's newly-minted 2014 college scholarship winners will be announced and introduced to New Jersey's hearing loss community. The public is invited to attend, meet our new scholars and enjoy our enthusiastic and motivated speakers and unusually delicious refreshments as we launch our newly-knighted scholars to their respective campuses to embark on their college or post-secondary educational endeavors.

Also, HLAA-NJ's next quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held Saturday, May 3, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., at the East Brunswick Public Library. As usual, all board meetings are open to the public, so if any of our readers would like to meet board members, ask questions

South Jersey's Wayne Roorda to Receive Rocky Stone Award



Wayne L. Roorda of Voorhees, New Jersey, will receive the *Howard E. "Rocky" Stone Humanitarian Award* at the HLA A Convention 2014 in Austin, Texas, during the Fiesta Banquet, on Saturday, June 28.

The Howard E. "Rocky" Stone Humanitarian Award was established in 1990. The recipient of this prestigious award is elected by the Board of Trustees to honor an outgoing or past trustee for his or her extraordinary

contributions toward the furtherance of the objectives and personal exemplification of the philosophy envisioned by Howard E. Stone, founder of Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH). In 1979, Stone founded SHHH, which is now known as the Hearing Loss Association of America.

The Board selected Roorda as the 2014 recipient at its February 28, 2014, Board meeting in Bethesda, Maryland.

Wayne Roorda has been a member of the organization since 1983 and has served two terms on the Board of Trustees (1986-1990 and 2005-2008). In his first term he served as treasurer and, since 1986, has given continuous service on the Finance Committee of the Board. He had the pleasure of working with Founder Rocky Stone for many years. He started the first chapter in New Jersey and is a founding member of the New Jersey State Association and currently serves as secretary. Roorda also has been a two-time chair of the New Jersey Walk4Hearing.

Selected by his peers, Roorda is described as: "...self-effacing, not one to write his own press releases. Few know the extent of time he has given to HLA A and to people with hearing loss. He serves as a peer mentor for those interested in receiving cochlear implants. He is a staunch advocate and has made more than one trip to Capitol Hill to advocate for such issues as the hearing aid tax credit bill. At home, he frequently is asked to conduct training sessions in places such as the Department of Defense, libraries, and community places. As a federal employee, he promotes workplace giving to HLA A through the Combined Federal Campaign. Few can rival his integrity, devotion or loyalty to HLA A and its mission.

"The word 'humanitarian' (one who seeks to promote human welfare) can readily be used to describe Wayne Roorda. Spend a little time with him, and you soon will know that his only agenda is for the good of HLA A and those who have hearing loss. He doesn't just talk about it. His 31-year membership, along with his unbroken service to the HLA A Board since 1986, is proof of his actions backing up his beliefs."



HLAA Names Edward Ogiba, Sarasota, Florida as New Director of Chapter Development

HLAA has appointed **Edward F. Ogiba** of Sarasota, Florida, to be its new director of chapter development with the primary charge of helping current chapters to grow

and to build new ones through strategic development, best practices and leadership training. The post entails providing HLA A's state organizations and chapters around the country with the direction and support they need to deliver the organization's acclaimed education, support and advocacy services to open the world of communication for those with hearing loss. Ed joined the HLA A national office staff effective April 21, 2014.

He has served as president of the HLA A Sarasota Chapter for the past five years, been the HLA A Florida state chapter coordinator, and a board member of the HLA A Florida State Association for the last two years. He is entering his fifth year as a board member of the Ear Research Foundation.

In the last five years, the HLA A Sarasota Chapter's membership under Ed's leadership has grown significantly by offering a wider range of new education and support services, with a high-powered outreach program that has had the chapter averaging some six to eight meetings and events in the community each month.

Ed has been a local advocate for hearing loops and has been instrumental in drawing in more than 100 local theaters, churches and community venues in Southwest Florida to install hearing loops. The chapter was named Sarasota County's "Best Cause" by SRQ Magazine in 2012, with Ed being pegged as the "Best Visionary."

Ed Ogiba, who wears both a hearing aid and cochlear implant and lost his hearing primarily due to a combination of military service and Ménière's disease, is a case in point. He says that "HLA A saved me from a life of isolation by introducing me to listening and communication skills as well as several assistive listening devices, all of which I desperately needed to return to a normal life and resume my career."



Need More Info on HLA A-NJ?

For additional information about our state association, please contact Joel Strasser at joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org, or telephone 732-415-7556.



Summer Camp Welcomes Deaf Boys

We are thrilled to announce the start of a new program for Jewish Deaf boys - an enriching summer camp in the beautiful surroundings of upstate New York. With a private lake, spacious greens, and a full schedule of fun activities, this is a camp that your son should not miss! Our Deaf camp program will run alongside our regular hearing program. Together with Deaf counselors and sign language interpreters, we will be providing our Deaf campers with a unique Deaf-friendly experience in a Jewish camp setting.

This year, the camp will take place from August 7 through 18, 2014. We are looking for boys between 8-16 years old. Our camp is attracting an international presence, with campers coming in from as far as Russia and Israel.

For more information, and to sign up, please contact our Deaf representative, Rabbi Yehoshua Soudakoff, by email at yehoshua@campmanachai.com, or call the camp office 718-436-8255 ext. 107. Check out the Web site at www.campmanachai.com. Contact us today to ensure a spot in our camp!

NJDEAF's Spring Conference...continued

A free drawing of five valuable prizes rounded out the morning. During a delicious lunch from Twin Oaks Caterers, conference participants visited the information and merchandise tables of the following vendors:

- ▶ **Fuzzy Wuzzy Design**
www.fuzzywuzzydesign.com
- ▶ **New Jersey School for the Deaf**
www.mksd.org
- ▶ **NJ Relay**
www.njrelay.com
- ▶ **Hands and Voices of NJ**
www.handsandvoices.org
- ▶ **NJ Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program**
www.icanconnect.org/new-jersey
- ▶ **National Cued Speech Association**
www.cuedspeech.org

And in the afternoon, they had their choice of three panel discussions:

- **The Parent Panel** was moderated by Robin Godshalk and featured several parents of special needs Deaf and hard of hearing children: Samantha Altieri, Maura-Zaldivar-Garcia, Beth Lahne, Patty Patton, Dana Siciliano and Michael Mirsky. These parents gave emotional testimonials and highlighted the importance of timely medical assistance, early intervention, genetic counseling, technology and comprehensive support services.
- **The Interpreter Panel**, entitled "Changing 'Hats': Deafness and Additional Disabilities," was moderated by Melanie Phillips. Interpreters answered questions about the incorporation of technology in their service provision, the importance of a supportive, deaf-aware classroom environment, the challenges of their role and the many successes they celebrate every day.
- **The Teacher of the Deaf Panel**, entitled "Classroom Instructional Practices," was moderated by Jeannine Termyna of Union Street School for the Deaf ~ Michele Moreno of Bruce Street School for the Deaf ~ Lisa Spohn of Bergen County Special Services ~ and Jaime Hayer of the Midland Park Program. They shared the benefits of life skills instruction, a hands-on curriculum and the Sounds in Motion multi-sensory approach to foundational literacy as well as the importance of parent involvement, the use of portfolios to quantify student progress and child self-advocacy.

Each element of the day was essential and unique. Yet the chance to connect, catch up and share information and contacts was of equal value. Opportunities to do so are so limited and precious. NJDEAF hopes everyone will join us for next year's conference, which will focus on deaf and hard of hearing children who have recently arrived in America. We are always looking for new members; please visit our Web site at www.NJDEAF.com.



Come Join Happy Hands Camp 2014!

Happy Hands is open to children ages 4-12 who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, CODAs (Children of Deaf Adults), and Siblings of Deaf/Hard of Hearing.

It will be located at Gloucester County Institute of Technology in Sewell, NJ on July 7 to August 7 (Mondays-Thursdays) from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Cost:

Daily Rate: \$51 per day

Weekly (M-Th): \$141

All 5 weeks: \$672

Deadline to apply is **June 13, 2014**. To request additional information, please contact Lorie Cross-Jones at lcrossjones@gcecnj.org.

March DSAT *Train the Trainer* Session a Success

By Jason Weiland, *DDHH Field Representative*



Pam Zellner from RI comments while Heather Niedbala from RI (R) and Mary Malkowski from NJ (L) look on.



Master Trainer Tim Riker discusses Building Self Esteem.



16 potential trainers look on as Mr. Riker discusses the DSAT curriculum

Keeping in line with the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's goal to provide more opportunities for New Jersey's Deaf and hard of hearing residents to learn how to self-advocate, NJ DDHH collaborated with the Northeastern University Regional Interpreter Education Center (NURIEC) and the New Jersey Association of the Deaf (NJAD) to provide a consumer training in which Tim Riker, a master trainer with NURIEC lead 15 consumers in learning how to better advocate for themselves in a variety of settings.

On March 14 and 15, 2014, the three organizations hosted a Deaf Self Advocacy Training (DSAT) Train

the Trainer session at the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf/ New Jersey School for the Deaf in Ewing that attracted 16 attendees from all over New Jersey as well as individuals who represented New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont during the training. The trainees came from various organizations such as ACCESS, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS), NJAD, NJ DDHH, Center for Family Services, NJ Relay, RICDHH, Jewish Vocational Services, and Career Success Solutions for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Once again, Tim Riker led the group through the two day session with Bonnie Kaplan providing support from NURIEC while Michelle Cline from NJAD and Jason Weiland from NJ DDHH co-coordinated from New Jersey.

Future trainers learned how to use the curriculum developed by the National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers (NCIEC). In addition, they developed knowledge of potential resources to use when working with consumers and while providing DSAT training. As a result, each trainer is required to provide at least one session to community. For New Jersey, it means having access to 12 new trainers who can provide the DSAT curriculum. At this time, NJ DDHH is working on a plan to help coordinate these training sessions and any future sessions that may be requested by community organizations.

For more information about scheduling a Deaf Self Advocacy Training session for your community organization, please contact Jason Weiland at Jason.weiland@dhs.state.nj.us or by phone at (609) 498-7006 VP/Voice.



*Front (l-r): Nicole Dugan, Elias Papazis, Michelle Cline, Catherine Purrazzella, Lori Timney
Back (l-r): Rachel Boll, Pam Zellner, Mary Malkowski, Tim Riker, Bonnie Kaplan, David Alexander, Rosemarie Crisham, Dan Crisham, Anmarie Buraczeski, Heather Niedbala, Vicki Joy Sullivan*



Tim Riker (Master Trainer), Bonnie Kaplan (NURIEC), Michelle Cline (NJAD), Jason Weiland (NJ DDHH)



Passaic County Technical Institute's Sign Language Club Visits Preakness Healthcare Center

By Laura Martin

Wayne NJ- Passaic County Technical Institute Sign Language students recently visited Preakness Healthcare Center again due to popular demand by the residents. Residents at the nursing home were delighted to see the Sign Language Club return. Many commented that they remembered the performance from last year and did not want to miss it.

PCTI Sign Club students signed three songs and even had residents signing along because they were having so much fun! When the group was done, one resident was so excited she yelled "Bravo!!" and wanted to know when the students would return.

Preakness Healthcare Center has two Deaf residents and the students enjoyed chatting with these residents and practicing their sign skills. The Healthcare Center is very conscious of its deaf residents and always wants them to feel included. Many PCTI students took volunteer applications and soon



hope to volunteer weekly to play games and chat with Deaf residents.

The residents impressed the Sign Club members by learning signs so quickly. At the end of the visit, the residents were able to sign the alphabet, greetings, feelings and colors. Residents asked for specific signs so they could communicate better with the Deaf residents.

A good time was had by all and plans were made to visit again shortly.



Hearing Loss Association of America Morris County Chapter

The Chapter's Voice for
People with Hearing Loss
Information

- Education • Support
- Advocacy

Chapter Meeting

Saturday, May 31, 2014

10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

**Madison Community House
(NEW LOCATION)
25 Cook Avenue
Madison, NJ 07940**

Captioning Provided by DDHH
Assistive Listening
Devices available

We are thrilled to welcome world famous composer, Richard Einhorn, as our guest speaker. What is unusual and inspirational for us is that in spite of his sudden and profound hearing loss, he has continued his music career. He is also the keynote speaker at the HLAA National Convention in Austin Texas.



Richard Einhorn

Contact Information:

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www.HearingLossResourceCenter.com

Dear NJ Relay & CapTel



Dear NJ Relay & CapTel,

I am so frustrated with my bank. My bank insists that I must call using the bank's toll-free TTY number, even though I have expressed my preference in using Sprint Internet Relay to call them. When I try to call via Sprint Internet Relay, the bank always refuses and says that I must call back on the TTY line.

What should I do?

Not a TTY Owner

Dear Not a TTY Owner,

This is a common problem, one that can get wearisome. Many businesses are not aware of how much technology has advanced for people who are deaf or hard of hearing. Should you encounter this again, the best approach may be to explain politely that you prefer to call using Sprint Internet Relay. You also may want to ask for the supervisor's phone number and/or email address, so that the NJ Relay team can follow up with the bank to provide training and information.

Another option is for the bank, or any other business, to download NJ Relay & CapTel's business kit. This business kit has training materials, including an introduction and overview of NJ Relay & CapTel, information on relay customers, how to accept and make relay calls, and other useful tips.

The kit is available at no charge to businesses at www.njrelay.com/businesses.

Thank you,
NJ Relay & CapTel

NJ Relay & CapTel Business Kit is available at no charge to businesses.



Job Openings



Looking for full time or part time Job Developer and Job Coach proficient in ASL in Northern New Jersey

Donna Morgan
Pre-Placement/Job Coaching Services Coordinator
Goodwill Industries of Greater NY and Northern NJ, Inc.
400 Supor Boulevard
Harrison, NJ 07029
DMorgan@goodwillny.org
973-474-2022 office

ASL-English Interpretation Program

Now accepting applications for Fall 2014

Scholarships available for all accepted students!*

The American Sign Language – English Interpretation Program (AEIP) is a rigorous academic program that prepares selected individuals who are fluent in ASL to become ASL-English interpreters, with a special focus on interpreting in educational settings. Bachelor's Degree (in collaboration with Empire State/SUNY) and Two-Year Professional Certificate tracks are offered.

Requirements

- active involvement in the Deaf community
- fluency in both ASL and English
- strong interpersonal skills
- aptitude for learning the interpretation process

Educational background (an Associate's Degree or 2 years of liberal arts college credits) and potential success in an upper division academic environment are key factors in application evaluation.

Prior interpreting experience or study in interpretation not required.

Admission Process

- Pre-Screening Application
- Application form, essay, videos, transcript, 2 letters of recommendation
- \$50 application fee
- Deadline: must be postmarked by May 1, 2014
- Selected pre-screening applicants will advance to step 2 of the application process.

Admission Screening

- on-site reading/written response, live panel interview
- \$35 screening fee

Program of Study

- Interpreting I
- Introduction to the Field of Interpreting
- Interpreting II
- Language in Use
- Interpreting III
- Service Learning Internship
- ASL Discourse
- Interpreting IV & Internship
- Ethics and Decision Making
- Interpreting V
- Interpreting in Educational Settings
- Interpreting VI & Internship
- Deaf People and Education in Bilingual Communi



For more information or to download an application visit: <http://laguardia.edu/aeip/>

* Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (#H325K120329A)

Submitted by Tricia Arslanian



11th Annual Celebration of Deaf History, Culture & Language

Friday, May 2, 2014

The following events are free!

Afternoon Workshop

1:30 - 4:30PM

Little Theater

(1st floor of the M building/Shenker Hall)

"Keepin' It Real to the Times"

ASL and acting workshop with Alexandria Wailes

Interpret scenes from a modern day play into American Sign Language (ASL), using sign choices that are appropriate for the given era and society. You will discuss choices with the group. This workshop will be conducted in ASL for Deaf students and adults. Space is limited. RSVP to Jim Pope at japope@lagcc.cuny.edu or (718) 482-5324, by April 30.



Alexandria Wailes

Evening Performances

6:30 - 8:30PM

Little Theater

(1st floor of the M building/Shenker Hall)

Performed in ASL with English voice interpretation provided.

Romantic Fools, performed by James W. Guido with special guest Aneta Brodski

Romantic Fools is a comic vaudeville revue of several two-character sketches that examine love, lust, dating and romance.

The Stand-Up Comedy of Andrew Fisher

Andrew Fisher takes advantage of what seems like a disconnect with hearing audiences through a combination of flawlessly physical comedy and expertly-timed delivery.

Disappointing Paula, a short film by Andrew Fisher

A contemporary spin on the classic comedy-drama *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, *Disappointing Paula* is a short urban comedy about the intersection of Deaf and Jewish cultures in Brooklyn.



Andrew Fisher

Workshop facilitator & performers:

Alexandria Wailes is co-founder and artistic director of Senses Askew Company. Her professional credits as an actor include work in Broadway and television.

Deaf New York comedian Andrew Fisher was selected as a 2013 finalist for Stand-Up NBC and is a member of the nationwide Stand-Up NBC College Tour.



James W. Guido

James W. Guido, actor and artistic director of New York Deaf Theatre, has produced several plays, including *The Signal Season* of *Dummy Hoy*.

Sponsored by a 2014 CUNY Diversity Projects Development Fund Grant

The Communicator Signboard

Bridge Players Theatre Company presents

Arthur Miller's
ALL MY SONS

Directed by Susan Parsbker

on stage at
Broad Street United Methodist Church
36 E. Broad St. Burlington, NJ 08016

MAY 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11*,
16, 17, 2014

*The performance on Sunday, May 11
will be sign interpreted.

Fridays & Saturdays
@ 8 PM

Sundays @ 3 PM

Tickets \$18
Group rate available
for parties of 15 or more.

For more information, call 856-303-7620,
email bridgeplayerstheatre@gmail.com or visit
www.bridgeplayerstheatre.com.

North Jersey Community
Center of the Deaf, Inc.
proudly presents
May WINGO Event
Elmwood Park VFW Post
Saturday, May 17, 2014.
5084, 6 Veterans Place
Elmwood Park, NJ
6 PM to 10 PM

At door admission only -
\$ 10 for members and
\$ 13 for non-members

WINGO games will begin
to play at 7 PM sharp!
\$ 1,000 in cash given away based
on 200 people attending

- * 50/50 Chances
- * NJCCD Banknite
- * Refreshments on Sale
- * Texas Hold'Em Poker Games

For more information about this
event, please visit
[www.njccdsite.org/
maywingo14.pdf](http://www.njccdsite.org/maywingo14.pdf)
Hosted by NJCCD Committees

CARLTONSCHOOL
For the DEAF

Takes
A
Stand
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WWW.STANDFORTHE SILENT.ORG

Will you take a **STAND** against bullying?
Ocean City High School's American
Sign Language Performers
Present...
ASL TAKES A STAND
A selection of songs and skits about
BRAVERY, COURAGE and ANTI-BULLYING
Thursday June 5, 2014
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. (reception to follow)
Hughes Performing Arts Center
501 Atlantic Avenue OC, NJ 08226
Will you support the ASL performers as we
offer this fundraising event to bring Stand
for the Silent to our school district!?
Tickets \$10
Purchase your tickets at the door
Thursday evening or contact:
Amy Andersen via email aandersen@ocsdnj.org



The Communicator Signboard



❖ HLA-South Jersey Shore Chapter ❖ Hard of Hearing Support Group

Cape Regional Medical Center • Garden State Parkway, Exit 10
2 Stone Harbor Blvd • Cape May Court House, NJ 08210

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of the month.

5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. - Meet n Greet

6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Group Session

Door is always open for all who need to come at a later time. You are welcome to stay a short time while too if you are unable to stay for the whole session. We would love to meet you regardless of how long you can stay.

Next Meeting:

May 15 - Presentation by Canine Hearing Companions Inc.

Meet Debbie and her dog named D.O.Gee. Debbie will demonstrate the abilities of a trained therapy dog. Refreshments will be provided.

Save the Date:

June 19 - Meet Traci Burton from the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

July 17 - Open House

August 21 - Meet Jeanne Fredricksen from MED-EL.

*Are you making vacation plans to visit the Cape May/Atlantic City shore points?
Stop by and say hello during your visit. New friends are always welcome!*

For additional information please contact: sjhardofhearing@gmail.com
or call 609-886-3678.

CART and ASL Interpreters sponsored by DDHH



OCEAN-MONMOUTH HEARING LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

The next meeting will be held on

SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2014 at 1 p.m.

Manalapan Library, 125 Symmes Dr., Manalapan, NJ 08726-3249

Telephone 732-431-7220

Meetings are open to everyone and are a rewarding way to spend a few hours socializing with other hard of hearing individuals who share your problems and concerns. For additional information e-mail: oceanmonmouthhla@yahoo.com.

DIRECTIONS: From 198 Prospect St., Center for Healthy Living: Left onto River Ave., US-9, Continue to follow US-9N. Turn right onto Symmes Rd., Go over Rt. 9 to 125 Symmes Rd. Behind Wegman's and same side as Target.



Ocean Deaf Club, Inc.
29th Annual Outing & Picnic
RAIN OR SHINE (Huge Pavilion)

Saturday, June 14, 2014

2:00 to Dusk

Veteran's Park

Veteran Hwy, Bayville NJ 08721

Admission: \$ 20

Kids 12 and Under Free

Buffet includes: Hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, baked beans, beverages (also includes all condiments - subject to change without notice) Includes all foods, beverages listed above & door prizes. Kindly bring any dessert, cookies and fruit salad to share.

Please make your reservations by
June 7, 2014

> NO REFUNDS <

Limited to 125 People

Info: oceandeafclub@yahoo.com

Directions:

GSP(S) Exit 77 (Berkeley) Make a left at the end of the exit ramp onto Double Trouble Road. Make a left at next traffic light onto Forrest Hills Parkway. Veterans Park is 1 mile on the right.

GSP(N) Exit 77 (Berkeley) Make a right at traffic light onto Forrest Hills Parkway. Veterans Park is 1/2 mile on the right.

Please return bottom form and make check payable to: **Ocean Deaf Club, Inc.**

Mail to:

Ocean Deaf Club, Inc.

75 Garden Ave Brick, NJ 08724

PLEASE PRINT !

✂ -----
Name: _____

Email or if no email-VP

Total: \$ _____

Religious Access

OCEAN COUNTY BAPTIST CHURCH

1380 Old Freehold Road
Toms River, NJ 5005
Michael A. Weigel, *Pastor*

Welcome all Deaf and Hard of Hearing Worshipers

Service starts at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School Class starts at 10:00 a.m.

We provide three interpreters for our church and Sunday School Class. Come and meet our old and new friends.

For information:
Call Herbert (Bob) Burns
732-298-6030 VP

Deaf Revival

Saturday, May 17
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Free breakfast and lunch
Day care provided for children

Sunday, May 18
Sunday School and Service
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

New Durham Baptist Church
4616 Tonnelle Ave.,
North bergen NJ 07047

Tobi Akinsanya –
Blackangelboy82@gmail.com;
862-214-2347 VP

Sandy Pardine – interpreter
551-206-1212

Pastor – Dr. Terry Bucholz

VICTORY ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Please come and enjoy
Sunday service and a
picnic following the service

Sunday May 25, 2014:
Church Service:
11:00 a.m. Service
(Interpreted for the Deaf)

Schalick High School
718 Centerton Rd
Elmer, NJ 08318

Picnic:

1:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m.
Marlton Park
123 Marlton Rd
Pilesgrove, NJ 08098

Info: www.victoryaog.org
Contact Connie 856-358-8313 Voice

Calendar of Events 2014



Saturday, June 7

30th Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Awareness Day
Six Flags Great Adventure
Jackson NJ

Info: GATickets@aol.com
Potential ticket sellers should email

Happy Mother's Day

DDHH Regular Office Hours: Monday – Friday; 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Offices Closed Monday, May 26 - Memorial Day