D D H

Page 5Tribute to Jan
Niedermaier

Page 6
Memo from HLAA to
professionals who deal
in hearing aids

Page 9
Deaf and Hard of
Hearing Awareness Day
June 16

Page 11
Gallaudet appoints
Davila interim
university president



Monthly Communicator

New Jersey Department of Human Services

Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

March 2007 Vol

Jon S. Corzine, Governor

Jennifer Velez, Acting Commissioner Ira C. Hock, Acting Directo

Governor Corzine Nominates Jennifer Velez to head Department of Human Services

Brief tenure of Bruno ends in resignation

TRENTON - Governor Jon S. Corzine has nominated Deputy Commissioner Jennifer Velez to head the Department of Human Services (DHS).

Velez's nomination was announced after the resignation of Clarke Bruno who reportedly resigned for personal reasons. "While I respect Clarke's decision, I also recognize his talent, both as an advocate and as an attorney, and the good work he has done in the time he has been at the department. I have asked Clarke to remain a part of my administration, and he has agreed

to continue to serve, and will be joining us as special counsel in the Office of Governor's Counsel," said the Governor.

The Governor said that Velez, who first joined state government in 1998 (serving in the Office of the Counsel to the Governor working on DHS' issues), has demonstrated a long commitment to issues affecting the state's most vulnerable citizens. "Jennifer is a tireless work-

er who is widely respected by key stakeholders, and she has clearly demonstrated her dedication to issues affecting the men, women and children who are served by DHS," said the Governor. "I

> am confident that Jennifer's experience and insight will lead this department through a seamless transition in its continued work to serve our state's most vulnerable."

Prior to her nomination, Velez served as DHS Deputy Commissioner for Family and Community Services since January 2006. In that capacity, she oversaw the divi-

sions of Medical Assistance and Health Services, and Family Development. Additionally, she oversaw the Office of Early Care and Education, and the Office of Prevention and Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities. As a senior executive, she had responsibility for administering and managing more than \$6 billion in the areas of public welfare and Medicaid.



Jennifer Velez, newly appointed Acting Commissioner Department of Human Services

continued on page 7

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Having only recently lost some of my hearing it amazes me how insensitive some hearing people can be. . .Even police officers who should more open-minded or at least aware and tolerant of diversity and other cultures, often are not. I would like to tell you of one experience that happened to me very recently. It was a sunny Saturday afternoon and I was upset from an argument with my best friend. I thought I'd go for a walk. Some of the roads were closed off due to construction.

I asked a police officer standing nearby for directions on how to get around the construction and he waved in some vague direction [to] go down there and around. Having moved here only a few months ago, I was not familiar with the area. With all this plus the construction noise I could not hear, or understand the officer. I began to talk louder and at that point the officer asked why I was yelling at him. I tried to explain that I was hard of hearing but he proceeded to tell me that I was not showing proper respect and that he could arrest me. I walked back home disappointed that I could not explore the city and relieve some stress that sunny afternoon.

Ted LeBlond Jersey City Hudson County

continued on page 3

Reminder:

The deadline for submissions to the May issue of Monthly Communicator is April 1, 2007.

Send e-mail submissions to the editor Alan.Champion@dhs.state.nj.us

Photos which accompany submissions are encouraged. For instructions on how to submit photos, contact the editor at the address above.

Monthly Communicator

Acting Director: Ira C. Hock Editor: Alan Champion

NJ Department of Human Services
Division of the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing
PO Box 074
Trenton, NJ 08625-0074
(609) 984-7281 V/TTY
(800) 792-8339 V/TTY
(609) 984-0390 Fax
ira.hock@dhs.state.nj.us

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh

The Monthly Communicator is published by the New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), a state agency. DDHH provides information, referral, and advocacy to service recipients. Information or articles provided by others does not imply endorsement by DDHH or the State of New Jersey. There are currently 8,600 copies of the MC distributed monthly.

Deadline for submissions:
First of the month for the following month's edition

Dear Editor.

I'm replying to Carol Granaldi's Letter to the Editor on page 2 in the January issue of the Monthly Communicator. I felt that her words showed that her comments indicated that she did not truly understanding what the Gallaudet University protest was and is all about.

The protesters were not just students, but also comprised faculty and staff of Gallaudet, as well as alumni, families of students local, national and international all united to show their support to the students and faculty members of Gallaudet. The protest was not about whether Dr. Jane Fernandes was "deaf enough" as she claimed when being interviewed by the press, which was simply an attempt to distract people from the real issues. Among the issues which she refused to address were her unwillingness to meet with student representatives to improve classroom instruction, student events and course curriculums. This refusal to meet with these students for whom she was hired to serve was an openly display of her arrogance. These are only a few among the issues which led students, faculty and families of students to determine that Dr. Fernandes was an ineffective leader as Provost.

Dr. Fernandes and Dr. Jordan in their long tenure at Gallaudet were more concerned over the development of buildings and campus facilities and less focussed on the essentials for the students such as a solid curriculum that would prepare them once they graduated from the university. Parents, students and faculty discovering though the Middle States Association reports of Dr. Fernandes inabilities to manage the school led to many student withdrawals.. While at Kendall as Provost, allegation of mishandling of funds damaged the school financially. Dr. Fernandes had many chances to prove herself worthy in her 11 years as Provost during which she failed miserably. It is appropriate for Dr. Jordan to address the questions still left unanswered concerning funding and curriculum.

Ms. Granaldi's comments reflect the difference of a perspective that comes from seeing deafness as a handicap as opposed to those of us who are part of Deaf culture who do not see our deafness as a handicap. Often this perspective can be the result of someone who has lost their hearing progressively or at once later in life as compared to those of us who have been Deaf all of our lives and never felt that we had anything to lose.

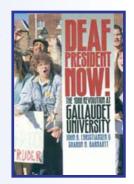
As for ASL or any other signing languages or dialect, it is a beautiful and rich language of the Deaf, its roots have been noted though out history as with verbal languages. To imply that it ASL is some sort of code or party language is an insult to the community and the culture which uses it.

Gallaudet is a community rich in diversity, with knowledgeable and talented individuals that have goals and dreams for a better world for themselves and for their children, just as the hearing community has. If this means protesting the inappropriate actions and questionable management skills of the leadership, then let it be. I respect and support those who protested and continue to support those faculty members that desire to give the students all they can to prepare them for life after college and the challenges they face.

Susan Bartose Gallaudet Alumnus 2001

This Month In History

On March 1, 1988, **Deaf students at Gallaudet University**, the world's only liberal arts university for Deaf students, participated in a large rally to demonstrate their support of the selection of a Deaf president to replace the outgoing president. The board's selection of Elizabeth Zinser, the sole hearing candidate from among several qualified Deaf applicants, spurred DPN, a student/faculty revolt against their decision because Zinser had little experience with Deaf education and no sign language skills at all. The revolt shut down the university for several days, in an effort to push for the reversal of the board decision and selection of a Deaf university president. On March 13, 1988, the board of trustees met for nine hours. The board announced that Zinser had resigned, and that I. King Jordan, the (Deaf) dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Gallaudet, had been elected President, the first Deaf president in the 143 years since the college was established.

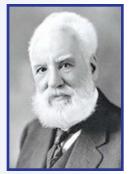




Howard "Rocky" Stone or Rocky as most knew him, was born in Cincinnati on March 3, 1925. He enlisted in the Army during World War II and as a result of his military training suffered a bilateral hearing loss that profoundly impacted the remainder of his life. He was recruited by the Central Intelligence Agency shortly after its inception. In 1979, Rocky retired from the CIA and, motivated by his desire to change the way the world thinks about hearing loss and the way that people with hearing loss think about themselves, he founded Self help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH). Today the organization is known as the Hearing Loss Association of America and is the largest consumer organization for people with hearing loss. In 1993, Rocky retired from SHHH and shortly thereafter lost his eye sight to macular degeneration, the same

year in which he received a cochlear implant. Rocky died on August 13, 2004 of adult respiratory distress syndrome.

Alexander Graham Bell born March 3, 1847, was a Scottish scientist and inventor who emigrated to Canada and later the United States. Today, Bell is widely considered as one of the foremost developers of the telephone. Bell married Mabel Hubbard, who was one of his pupils at Boston University and also Deaf. His invention of the telephone resulted from his attempts to create a device that would allow him to communicate with his wife and his Deaf mother. His ideas about people he considered defective centered on the Deaf. This was due to his feelings for his Deaf family and his contact with Deaf education. In addition to advocating sterilization of the Deaf, Bell wished to prohibit Deaf teachers from being allowed to teach in schools for the Deaf, he worked to outlaw the marriage of Deaf individuals to one another, and an ardent supporter of oralism over sign language. His avowed goal was to eradicate the language and culture of the



Deaf so as to force them to assimilate into the hearing culture, for their own long-term benefit, and, for the benefit of society at large. Although this attitude is widely seen as paternalistic and arrogant today, it was mainstream in that era.



Granville Richard Seymour Redmond was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on March 9, 1871 to a hearing family. He contracted scarlet fever between two and a half years of age to the age of three; when he recovered, he was found to be deaf. This may have prompted his family's decision to move from the East Coast to San Jose, California so he could attend the Berkeley School for the Deaf (later the California School for the Deaf) from 1879 to 1890 where his artistic talents were recognized and encouraged. There his teacher, Theophilus d'Estrella, taught him painting, drawing and pantomime. When he graduated from CSD, Redmond enrolled at another California School of Design in San Francisco, where he worked for three years with teachers such as Arthur Matthews and Amedee Joullion. He famously won the W. E. Brown Medal of Excellence. He associated with many other artists, including Gottardo Piazzoni and

Giuseppe Cadenasso. Piazzoni learned American Sign Language and he and Redmond were lifelong friends. They lived together in Parkfield, California, and Tiburon.



Charles Bonnet was born March 13, 1720 to a French family driven into Switzerland by religious persecution in the 16th century. He went at least partially deaf when he was seven years old. Because he was teased at school he received his first education from private tutors. In his sixteenth year, he read the account of the ant-lion in Noël-Antoine Pluche's (1688-1761) Spectacle de la nature (Paris, 1732-1750) which turned his attention to insect life. In 1740, he communicated to the academy of sciences a paper containing a series of experiments establishing what is now termed parthenogenesis (development of an egg without sperm) in female aphids, also known as tree-lice, lant louse, greenfly, or ant cow. This work made him, that year, the youngest corresponding member of the Académie des sciences in Paris. By the time Bonnet was in his thirties his eyesight also began to fail but he continued with his scientific

work, relying on developing intellectual models rather than doing active practical work, as he became increasingly isolated from the world.



Frelich and Rubenstein

On March 30, 1980 **Children of a Lesser God**, a Tony Award winning play by Mark Medoff opened at the Longacre Theatre, where it ran for 887 performances, the longest running non-musical production to play at the theater. The play follows the conflicted professional and romantic relationship between Sarah Norman, a hearing and speech impaired student, and her teacher, James Leeds. The cast included Tony Award winning actors Phyllis Frelich and John Rubinstein. In 1986, the play was adapted into an Academy Award winning film of the same name with Marlee Matlin and William Hurt.



In Memoriam

Jan Niedermaier, beloved friend and consummate professional passed away on January 26, after an 18

month battle with cancer. Jan worked for 18 years as a career education counselor at MKSD, and an American Sign Language interpreter. Jan worked tirelessly to improve her American Sign Language (ASL) skills so that through her work at MKSD, and interpreting, she could give back to the community the many gifts it had given her. In the 1990's, she passed her national level certification exams and was awarded the CI and CT (Certificates of Interpretation and Translation) from the Registry of

Interpreters for the Deaf (RID). For more than 20 years, Jan was an extremely active member of the NJ Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (NJRID) and served in many capacities within the organization. For her tireless efforts,

Jan received the "Distinguished Service Award."
A gifted and articulate writer, Jan served for many years

as newsletter editor of the "Mediator." From 1995 to the time of her death, Jan also served on the NJ Deaf Awareness Week Board as a trustee and worked enthusiastically on Deaf Fest, an annual event of the NJ Deaf Community. She was also a tremendous asset to DDHH having served as a consultant with the screening the division administers to non-certified interpreters. For these contributions, those she made not only to the division but to the field of Deafness, and in the broadest



photograph taken by Alan Champion

terms imaginable, the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing wishes to thank Jan and express deepest sorrow at her passing.

FOLLOW UP TO BUYING A HEARING AID FOR THE FIRST-TIMER

By Granville Y. Brady, Jr., Au.D.

The article in last month's Monthly Communicator by L Carol Granaldi was an excellent primer for a person with a hearing loss to understand some of the basic styles and technologies related to amplification. The process of being fitted with hearing aids (most losses require binaural or two hearing aids) cannot be compared to purchasing a consumer item like a refrigerator or TV set. In spite of the common misconception, hearing aids are more like optical ware and dental care than they are like an iPOD. Someone who is having trouble with seeing or chewing usually does not call the optometrist or dentist to inquire, "How much are your eyeglasses (or dentures)". Yet people who have trouble hearing think nothing of asking how much hearing aids are. If hearing aids were that simple to buy, then it would seem that they could be found at any drugstore, appliance center or convenience store.

In fact, fitting hearing aids is not an easy task. When the consumer (person with hearing loss) inquires about the cost of hearing aids, the real issue is not the appliance itself, which is a small customized or individualized molded earpiece, an array of computer chips with a microphone and receiver. Hearing aids are not consumer goods. They are, in fact medical devices regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration. Hearing aids have the potential to damage one's hearing if they are over a certain decibel limit. In New Jersey anyone fitting hearing aids must have a license granted by the Board of Medical Examiners, Hearing Aid Dispensers Examining Committee. Anyone who wishes to fit hearing aids must pass a written and practical examination and must show proof or experience working under a licensed hearing aid dispenser or a course of study leading to an advanced degree—masters or doctorate in audiology.

In addition, anyone licensed to fit hearing aids must present proof of continuing education each year to keep abreast of new technology. Add to that the fact that most hearing aids today are custom designed. An earmold impression is taken and the impression sent to a laboratory that fabricates the hearing aid. The hearing aid is then programmed using proprietary software to meet the patient's hearing loss as determined by the audiological examination. Hearing aids are not mass produced items like refrigerators and TV sets. And that, of course adds to the cost. Hearing aids are not sold in a traditional sense the way we buy appliances. Before one can be fitted with a hearing aid, care must be taken to determine the size of the instrument in relation to the ear canal and whether there are any contraindications to certain types of fittings. People with diabetes, chronic ear conditions, excessive earwax production and the use of

some blood thinners might not be able to wear the CIC type of aids. Other concerns are the person's ability to insert and remove the hearing aids, range of motion, neuropathy or arthritis in the hands and so forth. Fitting hearing aids entails a great deal more than the effort to procure an appliance. The person fitting the hearing aids, whether it is an audiologist or licensed hearing aid dispenser, must take great care in making sure that no harm is done to the patient.

Adjusting to amplification is not an easy matter. When someone has let a hearing loss go untreated for years, it is unreasonable to expect that hearing aids will provide an instant "cure". It is more likely that the person will experience some agitation when sounds that have been lost for years or maybe decades are finally heard once again. No matter how much some people are counseled, there is, for many hearing impaired, the temptation to expect to hear everything perfectly. This will not happen. Since treating a hearing loss with hearing aids is only part of the process, any adjustment period should take into account the amount of time the hearing loss was left untreated, as well as any physical or mental impairment that might exacerbate a person's difficulty adjusting to something new. A first time hearing aid wearer should be encouraged to use the hearing aids as much as possible to acclimatize himself to amplification.

Someone who wishes to obtain hearing aids might want to consult with their primary care physician for a referral or recommendation. Shopping in the phone book or responding to newspaper ads offering huge discounts might be a good way to save a few dollars but the question that everyone who has a hearing impaired friend or relative should ask is not how cheap the hearing aids are but how good is the care my father, mother or friend is getting. Cost will always be a factor, but quality should outweigh the notion that a cheaper hearing aid will give the same benefits as one with advanced technology. Unlike so many of our products today, hearing aids still require a highly skilled and personalized approach by professionals who know how to work with the hearing impaired.

*For a short period, disposable hearing aids were marketed in the United States. They did not meet the needs of the hearing impaired and have been withdrawn from the market.

Dr. Brady is an audiologist and licensed hearing aid dispenser. He was formerly a commissioner on the Hearing Aid Dispensers Examining Committee (HADEC) and presently sits on the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee continued from page 1

"I'm very honored to have been asked by Governor Corzine to serve as commissioner of the Department of Human Services," said Velez. "I care deeply about the department's mission and work and I very much look forward to the hard work and challenges ahead."

Previously, from 2003 to January 2006, Velez worked in the Office of the Child Advocate where she was appointed as First Assistant Child Advocate to oversee the creation and management of that independent office. She served as senior associate counsel in the Office of the Counsel to the Governor from 1998 to 2003.

From 1996 to 1998, Velez was an associate at Pitney, Hardin, Kipp and Szuch. She worked at AT&T from

1988 to 1990 as staff supervisor for the Business Markets Group. She was also an underwriter at Chubb Group of Insurance Companies from 1987 to 1988.

She also served as a government affairs specialist for State Street Partners from February 2003 to October 2003.

Velez received her Juris Doctor from Rutgers School of Law in Newark, and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Drew University. She lives with her husband and their two children in Summit.



Handicapped Scholarship Award Available

Elks Club seeks applicants

January 2007

The New Jersey State Elks Special Children's Committee is once again pleased to announce that our Handicapped Scholarship Awards are now available. Any and all handicapped high school seniors, who will be furthering their education, are qualified to respond.

We will award two scholarships, one for a male graduating high school senior and one for a female graduating high school senior. These are four-year scholarships worth up to \$2,500 per year. In the past, many counselors have been most helpful by participating in this most worthwhile endeavor. We are asking for your assistance in seeking those disabled students who qualify to apply for these scholarships. As with any other scholarship, they will be judged based upon the student's academic record and financial need.

Applications complete with directions and rules for filing can be obtained by contacting James Kopcho at James.Kopcho@dhs.state.nj.us or by writing to the New Jersey State Elks Special Children's Committee PO Box 1596, Woodbridge, New Jersey 07095-1596 or by calling 732-326-1300 Voice. All applications must be completed in its entirety and returned to this address to be considered.

Thank you in advance for your efforts and valuable assistance in this project.

We look forward to the return of completed applications by Monday, April 16, 2007.

Thomas J. Grady Chairman, Scholarship Committee

PBS Documentary Explores 200 Years of Deaf Life in America, "Through Deaf Eyes," March 21 at 9:00 p.m. ET

The two-hour PBS documentary exploring nearly 200 years of Deaf life in America, will air nationally on PBS on Wednesday, March 21 at 9 p.m. ET (check local listings). The film was inspired by the exhibition, "History Through Deaf Eyes," created by Jack R. Gannon of Gallaudet University.

The film presents the shared experiences of American history - family life, education, work, and community connections - from the perspective of Deaf citizens. Interviews include community leaders, historians, and Deaf Americans with diverse views on language use, technology and identity.

Bringing a Deaf cinematic lens to the film are six artistic works by Deaf media artists and film maker: Wayne Betts, Rene Visco, Tracey Salaway, Kimby Caplan, Arthur Luhn, and Adrean Mangiardi.



Jack Gannon

Poignant, sometimes humorous, these films draw on the media artists' own lives and are woven throughout the documentary. But the core of the film remains the larger story of Deaf life in America — a story of conflicts, prejudice and affirmation that reaches the heart of what it means to be human.

Major funding for "Through Deaf Eyes" is provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, PBS, The Annenberg Foundation and the National Endowment for the Arts. Private individuals have also contributed to the funding of this project. The extensive outreach campaign is funded in part by Sign Language Associates. Outreach partners are the National Association for the Deaf, Gallaudet University, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology, and California State University-Northridge. As part of the outreach campaign, numerous local organizations, some in association with their public television stations, will mount events and discussions exploring the issues raised in the film.

A comprehensive Web site, found at www.pbs.org, accompanies the film. The site includes interviews with the deaf film maker whose work is featured in the documentary, while also inviting viewers to submit their own stories, photographs and films. These will become part of the archival collection of Gallaudet University. A companion book is being published by Gallaudet University Press.



Can you identify this caricature of a well-known leader for individuals with hearing loss, who is also featured in this issue of Monthly Communicator? (Answer below.)

The Caricature is of Rocky Stone, founder of SHHH (now HHLA.)



The NJDHS Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing announces

The 23rd Annual Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ

Saturday, June 16, 2007 featuring

The Wild Zappers

(performance sponsored by Sprint's New Jersey Relay Services)

Ticket Prices Before June 16

Theme/Safari: \$30.00 Hurricane Harbor: \$27.00 Theme and HH Season Pass: \$80.00

Prices on June 16:

Theme/Safari: \$35.00 Hurricane Harbor: \$30.00

For information regarding ticket sales, please contact Lauren Lercher at GATickets@aol.com

Additional information and a complete list of ticket sellers for this year's event will appear in the April issue of the Monthly Communicator.

A Consultation for Professionals Dealing in Hearing Aids Services

Following is submitted by The Hearing Loss Association of America New Jersey State Association (formerly SHHH-NJ) to otolaryngologists, otologists, audiologists, hearing aid dispensers and all professionals involved in providing hearing aid services.

After examining, testing, and evaluating your patients or clients for hearing loss and fitting them for hearing aids, do you then direct them to information sources in order to assist them in the adjustments required not only for the hearing aid but also for the new life they are beginning? You are an important resource in assisting them in this often difficult time of transition.

There are national organizations that may have local chapters in your area. There are places where people new to hearing aids and hearing loss can meet and discuss their needs and receive support from others who have also had to adjust to hearing aids and hearing loss. In addition, there are Web sites, reading materials, videos, and demonstration sites for the myriad assistive devices and equipment that are essential to someone with hearing loss as well.

Please provide the following "Starter Information Resource" to your patients/clients. It is important that they understand that hearing aids are just the beginning when learning to cope with hearing loss!

GROUP SUPPORT

Hearing Loss Association of America - www.hearingloss.org or 301-657-2248 V/TTY

Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA) - www.alda.org or 866-402-2532 V/TTY Alexander Graham Bell Assoc. for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell) - www.agbell.org or 202-337-5220 Voice

INTERNET GROUPS

SAY WHAT CLUB - www.saywhatclub.com **BEYOND HEARING -**

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Beyond-Hearing and click "Join this group."

INFORMATION

Deafness Research Foundation - www.drf.org **The Center for Hearing Loss Help** www.hearainglosshelp.com The National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders - Call 800-241-1044 Voice

READING MATERIAL

<u>Living with Hearing Loss</u>. Marcia Dugan, 2003. ISBN: 156368134X \$13.95

The Consumer Handbook on Hearing Loss and Hearing Aids: A Bridge to Healing. Richard Carmen, Au.D. (Editor), 2004. ISBN: 096661821668 Paperback \$18.05

Overcoming Hearing Aid Fears: The Road to Better Hearing, John Burkey, 2003. ISBN: 0813533104 \$17.95 "Your Guide to Better Hearing" Publication from Better Hearing Institute; an overview of how hearing loss affects us. Download at www.betterhearing.org/bhi_brochure v1k.pdf

"Your Guide to Hearing Aids" Publication from Better Hearing Institute assists in understanding hearing aids and how to achieve maximum use of the aids. Download at 222.betterhearing.org/pdfs/e-Guides/Your_Guide_to-Hearing-Aids.pdf Order: 702-684-3391 Voice Write: Better Hearing Institute, Suite 420, 515 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is also an important resource, with its Assistive Listening Device Demonstration Centers and outreach personnel. Their Web site is www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh or contact Ira Hock, ira.hock@dhs.state.nj.us. Call 800-792-8339 V/TTY

For additional information, you may contact the Hearing Loss Association of America NJ State Association: Wayne Roorda bigbear@voicenet.com or 856-772-5826 V/TTY; 856-772-1145 FAX. The Hearing Loss Association of America is the nation's largest organization for people with hearing loss, and exists to open the world of communication for people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support.

Resource information compiled by MaryAnne Kowalczyk, board member of the Hearing Loss Association of America NJ State Association

Gallaudet Appoints Interim President

Gallaudet University board of trustees have selected Robert R. Davila as Interim President of the university from three finalists after having rescinded their selection

of Jane K. Fernandes this past October. The two other candidates who yied for the interim position, William J. Marshal and Stephen Weiner are both associated with the university and are also Deaf.

Mr. Davila attended the California School for the Deaf in Berkeley where he worked hard to qualify for admission at Gallaudet Mr Davila's interim appointment brings him full circle as a 1953 graduate of the university. After graduating, he taught at Gallaudet for 17 years.

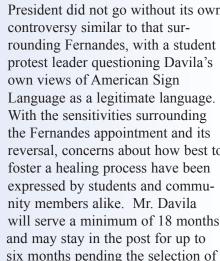
Mr. Davila left his position at Gallaudet when he took a job under the administration of former U.S. President George Herbert Walker Bush as assistant secretary of education. He served as the top adviser for vocational rehabilitation for

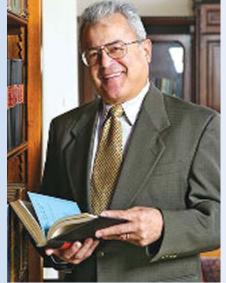
the disabled. From 1996 through 2004, he served as vice president of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology. He then became superintendent of the New York School for the Deaf in White Plains, NY. from 1993 to 1996.

The student and community protests of Fernandes' appointment were based on the contention that she lacked the skills needed for such a post and, more contro-

> versially, that she did not show enough support for the significance of American Sign Language and Deaf culture.

Davila's appointment as Interim President did not go without its own controversy similar to that surrounding Fernandes, with a student protest leader questioning Davila's own views of American Sign Language as a legitimate language. With the sensitivities surrounding the Fernandes appointment and its reversal, concerns about how best to foster a healing process have been expressed by students and community members alike. Mr. Davila will serve a minimum of 18 months and may stay in the post for up to six months pending the selection of





Gallaudet University Interim President Robert R. Davila

a permanent replacement. This all comes after the announced resignation and retirement of Irving King Jordan, who served as Gallaudet's first deaf president for 19 years.

Demo Day and NJSD/MKSD Museum Visits

March 28, 2007

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf Room #119, Building 30 320 Sullivan Way Ewing, NJ 08628 Directions: www.mksd.org

Come visit the new Brian C. Shomo Assistive Device Demonstration Center, along with the NJSD/MKSD Museum, located on the campus of MKSD in Ewing, NJ

Walk-in tours are available from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Groups that are larger than five should contact DDHH for an appointment date to accommodate your group. Contact Jason. Weiland@dhs.state.nj.us and Traci.Burton@dhs.state.nj.us or call Jason and Traci at (609) 984-7281.

American Sign Language Story Hour

The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH), a division of the New Jersey State Library, held its monthly Children's American Sign Language (ASL) Story Hour on January 16, 2007. Deaf-Blind Storyteller Agatha Munn told the life story of Helen Keller in sign language, reading A Picture Book of Helen Keller by author David A. Adler to celebrate Braille Literacy Month. Mrs. Munn was an entertaining storyteller. Afterwards she answered questions for the children. Ms. Munn autographed and donated a copy of the book to the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) school library.

After Mrs. Munn's presentation, seventeenvear-old Deaf-Blind student Jon Gabry shared his experiences. Jon used his left hand to read his Braille notes and signed his Power Point presentation using his right hand. His mother, Kathy Gabry, voice



Deaf-Blind Storyteller Agatha Munn signs the story of Helen Keller's life to celebrate Braille Awareness Month.

interpreted for him. Jon demonstrated his electronic BrailleNote, a device used by the blind to write or read notes in Braille as well as an old-fashioned Perkins Brailler machine. He responded to audience requests to type the children's names in Braille. The children were fascinated by Jon's ability to read and sign at the same time and participated in a lively question-and-answer session after the presentation.

Next, dog handler Maureen Kelliher, who works the Kindred Souls Canine Center, showed the children her dog Bear, a Doberman pinscher. She talked about the history and development of the breed, developed in Germany by a tax collector named Doberman to accompany tax collectors on their rounds and to protect the money that they carried.

Attending the Story Hour were students in grades two through five from MKSD, home-schooled hearing children, students with multiple disabilities from three classrooms at the Hunterdon County ESC School in Lambertville, as well as students from Egg Harbor Township School and Luiz Muñoz Rivera School. One hundred seventy people participated.



Pete Campione introduced handler Maureen Kelliher and her dog Bear, a Doberman pinscher.

This story hour was signed by ASL interpreters provided by the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), a division of the New Jersey Department

of Human Services, and accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation illustrating each page along with the story-teller.

The Story Hour promotes English literacy skills for the Deaf and hard of hearing by enabling them to enjoy simultaneously ASL and English versions of books. Workshops and events such as the story hour are scheduled by Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program at the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped. NJLBH is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton. For more information about the DHHAP program and story hours, contact Christine at 877-882-5593 TTY or colsen@njstatelib.org. The next ASL Story Hour will be at NJLBH on February 13 at 10:30 a.m. For information about NJLBH and its programs call Anne McArthur at 609-530-3242.



(Above) Seventeen-year-old Deaf-Blind student Jon Gabry uses his left hand to read braille, while using his right hand to sign his presentation. Mother, Mary Gabry, (right) voice interprets for him. The machine on at the back of the table is the Perkins Brailler machine. Looking on are students from MKSD.

Statewide Partners in the Arts to hold Festival

New Brunswick, NJ. - Registration is underway for the VSA arts of New Jersey Annual Statewide Partners in the Arts Festival on Wednesday, May 23, 2007 at Middlesex County College in Edison from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Partners in the Arts provides opportunities for children and adults with and without disabilities to engage in an enriching and accessible celebration of the arts. Individuals and groups are invited to participate in a day of performances, exhibits, arts workshops, and more. Students will have the opportunity to engage in interactive and cooperative learning activities that support the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards in the Visual and Performing Arts. Interested participants are also invited to register to present exhibits and performances for the festival audience. This event is offered free of charge.



The festival is one of the many projects of VSA arts of New Jersey, a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives and promoting the creative power of individuals with disabilities. Cosponsors for this event are Target and Middlesex County College. Additional funding is provided in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission, and the central office of VSA arts, under an award from the U.S. Department of Education. However, the content does not necessarily reflect the policy of the U.S. Department of Education and endorsement should not be assumed.

Individuals, schools, and organizations are invited to participate in this event. For registration materials, please contact VSA arts of New Jersey, 703 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, 732-745-3885 Voice, 732-745-3913 TTY or info@vsanj.org Registration deadline is April 18, 2007.

Hearing Loss Association Chapter Meeting to Feature Noted Audiologist

Ellen LaFargue, Director of Audiology at the League for the Hard of Hearing, is scheduled to be the featured speaker at the April 4th meeting of the Hearing Loss Association Bergen County Chapter. (The League for the Hard of Hearing is the world's leading not-for-profit hearing rehabilitation and human services agency for infants, children and adults who are hard of hearing, deaf and deaf-blind.)

Topics of interest to people with hearing loss, such as hearing aids, audiograms, and cochlear implant candidacy, will be discussed. The chapter meets at Classic Residence, 655 Pomander Walk, Teaneck from 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. CART captioning will be provided courtesy of the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Assistive Listening Devices will also be provided. For additional information, contact Arlene Romoff at aromoff@aol.com.

The Hearing Loss Association of America is the nation's largest organization for people with hearing loss, and exists to open the world of communication for people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support.

New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf presents

Grievances in the RID Ethical Practice System: From Complaint to Decision

Presented by Helen Rubin Avner, CI and CT

At the New Brunswick Library 60 Livingston Avenue New Brunswick, NJ 08901

April 21, 2007 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. NJRID Members \$35 Non-Members \$45. Light refreshments provided. No refunds.

.4 CEUs available in Professional Studies, Content knowledge- Some

This workshop is co-sponsored by the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for providing communication accessibility.

Deadline for registration is April 14, 2007

Send registration information and fee to Diane Lynch, 52 Princeton Avenue, Woodbury, NJ 08096

For more information, go to www.njrid.org

The New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf American Sign Language Teachers' Association and NJAD host

"True Business" THE ASL Weekend

Saturday, March 17 and Sunday, March 18, 2007 Crowne Plaza Monroe 390 Forsgate Drive, Jamesburg, NJ 08831 609-655-4775 Voice; 609-655-5254 FAX



\$135 for members of NJRID, NJASLTA, NJAD; \$150 non-member \$175 late registration for everyone (postmarked after February 28, 2007) Send check payable to: NJRID to Chris Gouker, ASL Weekend, 7 Kari Court, Jackson NJ 08527 or by visiting www.njrid.org to pay by PAYPAL

For more information please contact Chris Gouker at 732-367-0478 or cgouker@optonline.net

Deadline for Registration: February 28, 2007

Please join us for a relaxing, fun filled weekend of socializing, learning and enjoying the hotel's swimming pool.

Don't forget to wear green for St. Patrick's Day and look for the Silent Auction to win some prizes.

Please make reservations through Crowne Plaza Monroe Hotel. For directions visit: www.crowneplaza.com

Approved for RID/ACET CEU's .7 ASLTA – 7 hours

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Are you a high energy person? Fluent in American Sign Language? Have your own transportation? If so, the Lexington Vocational Services Center, Inc. has immediate openings for Job Coaches/Developers in Essex, Union, Hudson, Bergen and Morris Counties. Flexible, part-time positions are available. All applicants must have a vehicle and a valid NJ driver's license; some evening and weekend work may be required.

Essential functions of the job may include:- meeting with Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing consumers on job sites; - working with consumers and their employers in maintaining employment requiring the ability to communicate with hearing, non-signing employers in person and via telephone; - working with the business community to develop employment opportunities for Deaf individuals; - documenting coaching visits and job development activities in progress notes requiring excellent written English skills.

Applicants should have excellent American Sign Language skills. Applicants may be required to sit for the Sign Language Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) and if so, must achieve a minimum Intermediate Level on the SCPI with an Advanced Level preferred.

Interested parties should contact Larry Feldman, NJ Director of our Supported Employment Program at 973-292-9491 Voice, 973-538-2291 TTY or lfeldman@lexnyc.org.



RELIGIOUS ACCESS

Mass Interpreted in New Brunswick

Where: St. Peter The Apostle Church 94 Somerset Street New Brunswick, NJ 08901

When: First Sunday of the Month (3/4, 4/1, 5/6) at 11a.m. and two other additional dates
Signing Performance - March 25 at 11:00 a.m.

Easter Sunday - April 8 at 11:00 a.m.

For information, contact KathyKadyHopkins@aol.com

The Diocese of Camden and the Archdioceses of Newark and Philadelphia

DEAF MINISTRIES

present



RID-CEU 's Available



The Sunday Liturgy Workshop

SATURDAY, March 24, 2007 9:00 AM - 4:00 pm

at

Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (Jochem Center) 320 Sullivan Way Trenton, NJ 08625-0535

PRESENTERS

MARIKA KOVACS-HOULIHAN

Marika Kovacs-Houlihan is from the 4th generation of a Deaf family. She shares her experiences as a native ASL user. Marika teaches American Sign Language (ASL) at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and has theatrical background. She has 8 years of experience translating English scripts to ASL. Marika has served on the Milwaukee Archdiocesan ASL Translation Committee and is presently a member of National Catholic Office of the Deaf Religious Signing Committee. She is certified ASLTA Provisional.

REV. SAM SIRIANNI

Father Sirianni, Director of the Office of Worship for the Diocese of Trenton, will present on the form and structure of the Mass with an emphasis on the purpose and meaning of the Mass responses.

Cost: \$30.00 which includes a box lunch.

Registration deadline March 9, 2007. For questions contact:

Sr. Kathleen / srschipa@adphila.org or Sr.	Bonnie / <u>bmcmenamin@camdendiocese.org</u> or Deacon Tom / <u>smiththo@rcan.org</u>
×	
Religious Interpreting Worksho	op -March 24, 2007
Name	Phone
Address	E-Mail
701A 7712F 1000 FB 100	Amount enclosed \$
Checks payable to the	Archdiocese of Newark / Send to: Deacon Tom Smith

Archdiocese of Newark Deaf Ministry / 171 Clifton Avenue / Newark, NJ 07104.





Gloucester County Community Church (GCCC) - Dr. J. Bruce Sofia,
Founder & Sr. Pastor
Interpreted Services Every Sunday
First 3 (or 4) Sunday's interpreted services at 9:00 a.m.
Last Sunday of the month 11:00 a.m. service interpreted only

Plus!

Deaf Bible Study 3rd Saturday of every month 2:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. (ASL – voice interpreted by request only) Come learn God's word with us BYOBible. Food, Fun, Fellowship

For more information contact: Wilma Iezzi – Acting Director wilmacow17@aol.com Church office 856-582-0222 Voice 856-582-9228 FAX www.gcccpray.com

> Gloucester County Community Church 359 Chapel Heights Road Washington Twp., NJ 08080 Mailing address: Sewell, NJ 08080

The Diocese of Metuchen Catholic Deaf Ministry

announces the following sign language interpreted Masses during Holy Week 2007:

Palm Sunday - April 1st - 12:00 p.m. Church of the Immaculate Conception, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

Chrism Mass - April 2nd - 7:30 p.m. Cathedral of St. Francis of Assisi 32 Elm Street, Metuchen, NJ 08840

Holy Thursday - April 5th - 8:00 p.m. Church of the Immaculate Conception, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

Good Friday - April 6th - 3:00 p.m. Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of Christ, 7:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross and Veneration of the Cross - Church of the Immaculate Conception, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

Saturday Vigil - April 7th - 7:30 p.m. Church of the Immaculate Conception, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

Easter Sunday - April 8th-12:00 noon - Church of the Immaculate Conception, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

For more information or questions contact Tevis Thompson, Program Coordinator, 302-529-7088 V/TTY/FAX; or deaf1@comcast.net

GOVERNOR LIVINGSTON HIGH SCHOOOL PRESENTS "ANNIE GET YOUR GUN"

Interpreted Performances: Friday, March 2 and Saturday, March 3 at 8:00 p.m.



175 Watchung Blvd. Berkeley Heights, NJ 07922 908-464-3100

Ticket prices
Reserved seating: \$10
Senior Citizen and groups: \$8

For tickets

Call: 908-464-3100 ext 2390

or contact: JRomano@bhpsnj.org





PUSHCART PLAYERS PRESENTS WOW! WHAT A CENTURY!

A WHIRLWIND MUSICAL TOUR OF AMERICAN AND WORLD HISTORY OF THE 20TH CENTURY Open Captioned performance, Saturday, March 3, 2007, 2:00 p.m.

Tri-State Actors Theater, Sussex, NJ - www.tristateactorstheater.org

NJTA FAMILY WEEK AT THE THEATRE SPECIAL EVENT

Tickets: \$10 for adults; one free child with each adult ticket purchased; \$7 for each additional child - Appropriate for ages 5 and up Reservations necessary.

Please call: 973-875-2950 Voice; for more information, visit www.familyweek.com.

197 Bloomfield Avenue, Verona, NJ 07044 973-857-1115 Voice and 973-857-4366 FAX www.pushcartplayers.org

NJSD/MKSD Alumni Basketball Game

March 7, 2007 - 6:00 p.m. Alumni (Women and Men)

NJSD/MKSD High School Students

NJSD/MKSD High School Gym

Girls 6:30 p.m. - Boys 7:30 p.m.

Admission Fees:

MKSD Students: Free, Adults: \$5, Students: \$3, Under 7 Free

-Varsity Athletic Club will sell hot dogs, soda and water

Questions: Martha Fowler, Athletic Director,

Fowler@mksd.state.nj.us

Contact Physparks@tmo.blackberry.net for more information

Join with us for fun.





Atlantic County Society of the Deaf

Hosts

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY "BEST IRISH" CONTEST

Saturday, March 17, 2007 7:00 p.m.

at

VFW, 601 N Dorset Avenue, Ventnor, NJ

\$\$DINGO\$\$

Admission: Members \$6 - Non-Members \$8

50/50 Chances Bank Nite Refreshment on sale

For information, contact ACSD66@aol.com

UJA-NHS

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL COMMEMORATION

and

64th Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

Sunday, April 15, 2007 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. (Exhibit) 3:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Memorial Service)

> Temple Beth Shalom 40-25 Fair Lawn Avenue Fair Lawn, NJ 07410

Come early for reserved seats in front, near the interpreter!

NWJAD

(Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.)



Kids' Easter & Spring Holiday Party Everyone is welcomed to join the fun. Sunday, March 25, 2007 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

> St. Peter's Episcopal Church 215 Boulevard, Mountain Lakes, NJ

Magic Show with Ferris the Clown

World's Greatest Balloonists with Tommy Knucklehead & Sam I Am Deaf ASL bunny - Candy guess - Easter eggs

Free admission for all - Free refreshments - Kindly donate desserts - thank you

Volunteers Welcomed

For information, directions: www.nwjad.org; or contact nwjad@nwjad.org

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS (LDS) 178th Semi-Annual General Conference

Saturday, March 31, 2007 and Sunday, April 1, 2007

Plenary Sessions at Noon and 4:00 p.m. each day.

General Priesthood Session: Saturday April 1, 2007 at 8:00 p.m.

All conference sessions will be available live with realtime captions via satellite transmission at most conveniently-located LDS Chapels. Captioned services will be also available on the Brigham Young University (BYU) Channel of your cable network.

All visitors are warmly welcomed; no donation is expected or solicited. Information for specific chapel locations in New Jersey is available at www.mormon.org.

Click on "Worship With Us," or contact Stephen A. Gregory, 856-589-5010 V/TTY, 856-582-9798 FAX 515 Lakeview Avenue, Pitman, New Jersey 08071-1874

list serv. gregory @gmail.com.

SOUTH JERSEY BOWLING ASSOCIATION FOR THE DEAF & BRUNSWICK ZONE TURNERSVILLE

5TH ANNUAL SINGLES CLASSIC BOWLING TOURNAMENT
Saturday April 7, 2007

100 American Blvd., Turnersville, New Jersey 856-629-2422

Squads start at 12:00 p.m., 2:30 p.m., and 5:00 p.m. Registration starts 30 minutes before each squad Walk in tournament – no reservations necessary

Open to men and women who are deaf, hard of hearing, and interpreters Separate divisions for men and women

> Men's 1st Place Prize \$1,000 Women's 1st Place Prize \$500

Contact Robert Legrady for information: ROKL6467@comcast.net

South Jersey Deaf Club, Inc.

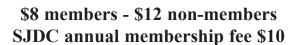
EASTER JINGO - EASTER EGG HUNT FOR KIDS



April 7, 2007 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.



Osbornville Baptist Church 366 Drum Point Road Brick, NJ 08723









Refreshment will be on sale!





For information, please contact SJDCsecty@aol.com or SJDCpres@aol.com.



20TH ANNIVERSARY ASL FESTIVAL

April 14, 2007 Cranford Campus Commons Area 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Evening Performance Featuring Peter Cook Opening Act By Camille Lorello 7:30 p.m., (doors open at 7:00 p.m.)

Tickets will be sold at the Welcome Table: Adults - \$15, Child, Senior, Student - \$10

For more information and vendor table reservation, please contact Rian Nataadiningrat ASL Festival Chairperson Email: uccaslfestival@yahoo.com

ALDA-GS

Association of Late-Deafened Adults-Garden State)

invites you to its

Dozenth Birthday Party and Meeting

April 28 from 10:30 a.m. till 2 p.m.

at the East Brunswick Public Library.

Craig Barth, an audiolgist/dispenser, will talk to us about "Benchmarks for Successful Hearing Aid Fittings."

Light lunch with birthday cake to follow.

CART, assistive devices and interpreters will be provided.

Contact Elinore Bullock at elinorebullock7@earthlink.net

Calendar of Events 2007

Northwest Jersey Assn of the Deaf, Inc.

April 21 General Meeting & Social Night

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting

April 27 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. RSVP to DDHH 800-792-8339 V/TTY Open to the public

Family Learning Day

Saturday, May 19 Lake Drive School Mountain Lakes, NJ

23rd Annual Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day

Saturday, June 16

Taste of Technology

NJ Relay and DDHH TBA

New Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.

Saturday, July 28
"Deaf Diversity: Moving Forward"
20th Biennial State Conference

New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week

Sunday, September 16 Deaf Fest 2007 Middlesex County Fairground East Brunswick, NJ

Hearing Loss Association of America

October 5 - 7 Regional Conference "All 4 To Hear"

Watch for further details on all of these future events.

NJ DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING PO BOX 074 TRENTON, NJ 08625-0074

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material Please Rush

FIRST CLASS U.S. POSTAGE PAID TRENTON, NJ PERMIT NO. 21