

2010

Monthly Communicator

Vol. 31 No. 1

Jon S. Corzine, Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner

David C. Alexander, Director

2009 Year in Pictures



The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing wishes Deaf, hard of hearing and all people with hearing loss as well as the agencies and individuals who serves them a

Happy and Healthy New Year.

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Produced by DHS Office of Publications



Director's Corner

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



Last month, the Monthly Communicator was awarded the 2009 best newsletter by a New Jersey state government agency. The award was presented to DDHH by the Documents Association of New Jersey. We are very proud of this achievement, which recognizes excellence in the reporting of resource information for people with hearing loss.

The publication has served New Jersey's residents with hearing loss for more than 30 years. The first edition was comprised of a two-page leaflet dating back to 1979. Today, the newsletter averages 20 pages of quality information about programs, services and products in a visually attractive and easily readable format.

Each month, the division receives numerous requests from other state publications for permission to reprint articles that were first published in our newsletter. This undoubtedly reflects the newsletter's high quality, and relevance of the information to the lives of people with hearing loss.

It is indeed a pleasure to have an organization such as the Documents Association of New Jersey (DANJ) recognize the role of the Monthly Communicator as an outstanding resource for residents of New Jersey. I thank DANJ for this honor. I also wish to congratulate the editorial staff of DDHH, and the DHS Office of Publications, for producing an award winning newsletter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David C. Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Reminder:

Deadline for the March 2010 issue is February 1.
Deadline for the February issue was January 1.

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

Submissions should be "text only," in a standard word document (no pdf files). Photos, that accompany submissions are encouraged.

For a style sheet, contact the editor.

Newsletter Subscription:

If you would like to subscribe to the Monthly Communicator, send your request to the editor (e-mail address above).

Subscription is free of charge.

Monthly Communicator

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Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

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Deadline for submissions:

First of the month for the following month's edition.

Did You Know: Movie Theatre Captioning

By Jason Weiland, DDHH Field Representative

New Jersey is a leader in ensuring that movie theatres are accessible to those who are Deaf or hard of hearing, with sixty screens at movie theatres that provide captioning options like open captioning (OC) and rear window captioning (RWC). The availability of this innovative technology wouldn't be possible without the influx of consumers who frequent these theatres and show that captioning is needed to allow for equal access to those who are Deaf or hard of hearing.

Have you been to the movies lately? AMC, Loew's, Clearview Cinemas, and National Amusements all offer RWC while Regal Cinemas offers OC. With the winter season here, it is a perfect time to watch an exciting new movie at your favorite local theatre that offers captioning. Below you can check out the available times and dates of upcoming captioned movies at the five movie theatre companies that offer this service.

In addition, a new Web site has recently opened that is called, "Captionfish." It is a unique site that pulls all available RWC and OC movies in your area into one easy to read site.

Movie Theatres

AMC/Loews Theatres
www.amctheatres.com

Clearview Cinemas
www.clearviewcinemas.com

National Amusements
www.nationalamusements.com

Regal Cinemas
www.regalcinemas.com

Movie Listing Search Engine

Captionfish
www.captionfish.com

Fomdi
www.fomdi.com

Movietickets (only shows RWC)
www.movietickets.com

Fandango (only shows OC)
www.fandango.com



DDHH Advisory Council Meeting Friday, January 29, 2010 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

East Brunswick Public Library
2 Jean Walling Civic Center, East Brunswick, NJ 08816-3529
The public is invited to attend.

Call DDHH to confirm your attendance: 609-984-7281 V/TTY

All DDHH advisory council meetings are fully accessible with sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices (ALDs) and CART (open captioning).

Did You Know: Captioning on the Internet

By Jason Weiland, DDHH Field Representative

In today's world, a computer with high-speed Internet connection is a life line to everything. It lets you make restaurant reservations, find directions for your upcoming vacation, reserve your train ticket, and even make voice calls. People can also watch television programs on the Internet through video streaming. Did you miss your favorite show last night? Don't worry, it often becomes available through the broadcasting company on their Web site for a limited time and at no cost.

One of the major issues with video streaming on the Internet today is the lack of available captioning so that the Deaf and hard of hearing can enjoy their favorite shows like everyone else. Despite the fact that the Internet world is slowly warming to the idea of making captioning available, consumers should be made aware that there are a number of major television broadcasting companies that DO provide captioning.

Did you miss the latest episode of "House?" Go to www.fox.com and click on "Watch Full Episodes." You will find the latest episode which is available at no cost other than your high speed internet connection. Keep in mind that the captioning availability on the Internet is limited as compared to the vast options of closed captioning available through cable television.

However, major companies are now starting to take notice, which is clearly evident through the November 19, 2009 announcement by Google that automatic captions would become available on its "YouTube" Web site. A massive video sharing site, YouTube, will provide Deaf and hard of hearing consumers the ability to understand audio content on the videos. Hulu.com is another Web site that offers captioning on a number of movies and programs- while its selection may be limited, the list continues to grow.

Make sure to also check your favorite programming site to see if they offer captioning. A brief list of Web sites that currently offer captioning on several programs and videos is below:

NBC - www.nbc.com
ABC - www.abc.com
CBS - www.cbs.com
FOX - www.fox.com
CNN - www.cnn.com
AOL - www.aol.com
HULU - www.hulu.com
YouTube - www.youtube.com
Google - www.google.com



Children's American Sign Language Story Hour



Signing "Open Jaw" to the audience.



ASL Story Hour at TBBC.



MKSD students ask questions about Guji Guji.



Signing "Rock" to the audience.

Guji Guji and Thanksgiving Crafts at the Library

Submitted by Christine Lam

Vicki Joy Sullivan, Deaf Storyteller, was the special guest at the New Jersey State Library Talking Book and Braille Center's (TBBC) Children's American Sign Language Story Hour on November 17, 2009. Ms. Sullivan signed Guji Guji by Chih-Yuan Chen to students from the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf and the public. In this humorous story, Guji Guji is born a crocodile but raised as a duck in a duck family. Guji Guji is happy and content with his family and duck life. One day he is confronted by three very hungry crocodiles that convince him that he is really a crocodile, and attempt to persuade him to betray his family and hand them over to the hungry crocs. What will this crockoduck do?



Deaf Storyteller Vicki Joy Sullivan signs, Guji Guji.

Following the story, the children enjoyed creating their own Thanksgiving paper chains, with each link representing something for which they were thankful. The Story Hour was signed by ASL interpreters provided by the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a division of the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

The Story Hour is part of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program offered by TBBC, which is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton, NJ. For more information about the DHHAP program, contact Christine Lam, Coordinator of the DHHAP Program. Christine can be reached at 866-326-6035 VP, or 888-671-6983 Voice (VP) or clam@njstatelib.org.

Note: Upcoming ASL Story Hours will be January 12, March 16, and April 20.

Katzenbach Students Present at the Franklin Institute Rittenhouse Astronomical Society

In July 2009, while many of the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) staff and students were enjoying summer vacation, other students and teachers were enjoying the Extended School Year (ESY) program on the school campus in West Trenton, NJ. Teachers and aides focused on a different theme each week throughout the six week program.

The theme for the third week was "Astronomy." Ms. Ruth List, an active member of the Rittenhouse Astronomical Society (RAS) based in Philadelphia, was a guest teacher during Astronomy week. She was very impressed with the enthusiasm and interest the students had in learning about the planets, constellations, and many other aspects of astronomy.

2009 was designated "The International Year of Astronomy." Members of the Rittenhouse Astronomical Society are making a concerted effort to reach out to many people to encourage an active interest in astronomy.

As a result of her involvement with RAS, along with her summer work at MKSD during ESY, Ms. List invited two students, (Ashley Wood and Alex Van Hook,) from the ESY astronomy class to do a presentation at the October 14 RAS members meeting. The meeting was held at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.

Ashley and Alex gave a wonderful presentation about their experiences and what they learned during Astronomy week at MKSD. Both were also able to enjoy the presentations made by other speakers that evening. Topics ranging from how to locate the positions of certain planetary objects in the sky to the recent attempt by NASA to discover if water could be found on the moon. Both MKSD students expressed how much they liked the opportunity to make the presentation to the RAS and they certainly represented their school well.



Haddonfield, New Jersey/Philadelphia Area Cochlear Implant (CI) Support Group Meeting

Thursday, January 14, 6:00 – 8:30 PM

Grace Church (Parish Hall), 19 Kings Highway East, Haddonfield, NJ 08033

With presenter: Matthew H. Bakke, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Ph.D. Program Director, Dept. of Hearing, Speech and Language Sciences; Director, Rehabilitation Engineering Research Center on Hearing Enhancement from Gallaudet University.

Dr. Bakke, a very engaging speaker, will be presenting an interactive program about CI fitting, CI research at Gallaudet, and the use of assistive technology with Cochlear Implants. Dr. Bakke will ask about our perspectives and experiences with aural rehabilitation. Additionally, he will touch on the online Peer Mentor Program through Gallaudet, which may provide new career opportunities.

RSVP to cochlearimplant1@yahoo.com with your response to attend, including how many will be joining us for pizza and if you plan to bring a dessert or beverage for sharing.

If you need communication access, please let us know so that we may accommodate your request with ALD's (assistive listening devices), CART (Computer Assisted Realtime Captioning), or sign language interpreters. Communication access is being provided by the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The Grace Church (www.gracehaddon.org) Parish Hall faces the PATCO Hi-Speed line parking lot. Parking is available in the PATCO Hi-Speed Line parking lot, adjoining the church property. (Note: The parking lot is free every day after 10:00 AM.)

Grace Church has been very gracious in letting us use the Parish Hall and we will be asking for a free will offering at the meeting to help off-set some of their expenses for use of the meeting room.

About the Haddonfield, New Jersey/Philadelphia Area Cochlear Implant Support Group: Kathie Simcox and Wayne Roorda, bi-lateral cochlear implant recipients, are the individuals coordinating this support group with the assistance and input from all three cochlear implant manufacturers and clinics within the Philadelphia, PA metro area. It is our vision to create an educational and social support organization for individuals with a cochlear implant, and those who are thinking of getting a cochlear implant, along with their family.

Looking for all Bruce Street School for the Deaf alumnus, alumnus' parents, spouses, former teachers and staff.

Bruce Street will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary
in September 2010

Please contact us at Brucestreet19@ymail.com

or

Bruce Street School for the Deaf
Attention: Letta Cartwright, 333 Clinton Place, Newark, NJ 07112

NJSD-MKSD Classes of 1974 - 1977 Reunion

July 30 - August 1, 2010

Friday Night Reception

Saturday poolside gathering, lunch banquet, casino night in Atlantic City via chartered bus.

\$99 Per Night, Per Room

Heldrich Hotel and Spa, New Brunswick, NJ, Complimentary Breakfast for Hotel Guests



History of Class Reunion

1989 - Sheraton Tara Hotel, Parsippany, NJ

1999 - Regal Empress Cruise

2004 - Westin Hotel, Princeton, NJ

2010 - Heldrich Hotel and Spa, New Brunswick, NJ

Come and join our family reunion.

Meet Old Friends and Make New Friends.

Contact: NJSD19741977@yahoo.com.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Lakewood Public Schools Announces Job Position

Position: Paraprofessional /Intervener for Deaf-Blind Student

Qualifications: Experience with tactile signing and desire to work with students with sensory impairments.

Reports to: The principal, classroom teacher, specialist or department director/supervisor, as indicated in the district's and respective school's organizational chart.

Job goal: To provide direct support to deaf-blind student for all or part of the instructional day as determined by the student's Individual Educational Plan (IEP). The intervener is a member of the support staff and functions under the direct supervision of the classroom teacher in the school in which he/she works.

Responsibilities: The intervener assists a deaf-blind student to actively participate in activities and provides a supportive and effective environment in which the student can learn. The intervener's specific duties will be individualized according to the needs of the child and the profile of the current educational placement. The intervener provides this service within the guidelines of the school, as set forth in its policies and procedures.

Terms of employment: Temporary

Evaluation: Performance of this job will be evaluated annually in accordance with the provisions of the board's policy on evaluation of personnel.

Contact: Yvette Cucuro, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Lakewood Public Schools, 1771 Madison Avenue, Lakewood, NJ 08701, 732-905-3541 Voice

Religious Access

Ministry with the Deaf of South Jersey
Chapter #138 of ICDA

January Gingo

Saturday, January 9
6:00 to 10:30 PM

St. Gregory's Church (basement), 340 E. Evesham Avenue,
Magnolia, New Jersey 08049

Gingo starts at 7:00 PM.

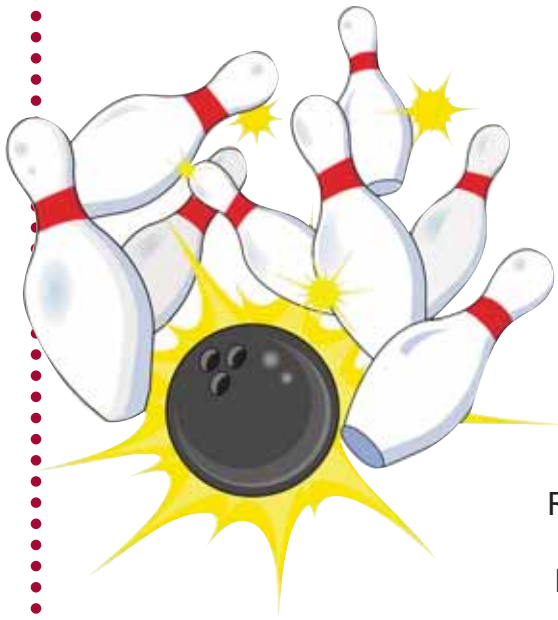
Please arrive between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM, No early birds, please.

\$10 per person (cash only) Pay at the door.
Must be 18 to play. No children.

Refreshments (meatball sandwiches) and 50/50 tickets will be sold.

Bring desserts, get three free 50/50 tickets (limit three tickets per person).
Please bring a donation of canned food or box(es) of cereal that will be for needy families and earn three free 50/50 tickets. (Limit three free 50/50 tickets per person.)

For more information, contact Betty Ann mwdbak@yahoo.com.



Ministry With the Deaf

Annual Bowling Party

Sunday, January 31
1:00 to 4:00 PM

Playdrome Cherry Hill (www.playdromebowl.com)
1536 North Kings Highway, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034

\$10 per person includes three hours of bowling, shoes,
pizza and unlimited soda

All ages are welcome.

RSVP by January 27, to reserve a lane mwdbak@yahoo.com.

Please bring canned goods to support St. Greg's food pantry.

Communicator Signboard

Toms River High School North, NJ

Dr. Seuss

Signed performance on Friday, January 29 at
Old Freehold Road, Toms River, NJ

For more information, contact Frank Masiello, 732-504-7873, Voice/FAX

On Stage in Burlington, New Jersey

Bridge Players Theatre Company proudly announces
its annual dessert theater production.

A hilarious comedy by Michael Frayn
Directed by Meghan Knowlton Balne

8:00 PM on Friday and Saturday
January 29, 30; Feb. 5, 6, 12, 13, 19, 20
[Sign interpreted performance](#)
Sun. February 21, 3:00 PM

Broad Street United Methodist Church,
36 East Broad Street in Burlington, NJ.

856-303-7620, Voice

Visit www.bridgeplayerstheatre.com for directions and more information.



NOISES OFF



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DIVISION OF THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING
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Calendar of Events 2010

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting
Friday, January 29, 2010
9:30 AM to 3:00 PM
East Brunswick Public Library
2 Civic Blvd., East Brunswick NJ 08816-3529
Call DDHH to confirm your attendance:
609-984-7281 V/TTY

DDHH Office Hours

Regular Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Days Closed: New Year's Day (January 1), Martin Luther King Day (January 18)
NJ mandatory furlough for state employees – February 12