

Monthly Communicator

Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner
David C. Alexander, Director



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*Produced by DHS
Office of Publications*

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

Since 1927, during May, the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association has celebrated *Better Hearing and Speech Month* to raise public awareness of speech and language disorders. An individual may be born with a speech or language disorder, or it may be caused by accidental injury or illness. Speech and language disorders can take many forms and can limit academic achievement, social adjustment, and career advancement.

“Fortunately, most people with speech and language problems can be helped” said DDHH Director David Alexander Ph.D. Even if the problem cannot be eliminated, we can teach people with speech and language problems strategies to help them cope. People may not fully regain their capacity to speak and understand, but a speech-language pathologist can help them live more independently.”

Speech-language pathologists are the professionals who treat all types of speech, language, and related disorders. These professionals hold at least a master's degree, and are certified by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and regularly work in schools, private practice, hospitals, clinics, and other health and education settings.

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) is the national professional, scientific and credentialing association for more than 145,000 audiologists, speech-language pathologists and speech, language, and hearing scientists.

In New Jersey, the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Advisory Committee in the NJ Division of Consumer Affairs regulates the profession of audiology and speech-language pathology and licenses audiologists and speech-language pathologists.



Director's Corner

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

Easy access to information and communication with your health care provider is essential for your health and the health of your family and loved ones. Nothing can be more frustrating or frightening than to become ill (or a family member) and unable to communicate with the health care provider. To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, a medical facility must find ways to ensure effective communication with people who are deaf and hard of hearing.

The Joint Commission in their 2010 manual entitled "Advancing Effective Communication, Cultural Competence and Patient - and Family - Centered Care, A Road Map for Hospitals" clearly states, "No longer considered simply a patient's right, effective communication is now accepted as an essential component of quality care and patient safety."

A number of accommodations are able to provide effective communication for people with hearing loss. Accommodations include aids such as qualified interpreters, real-time captioning (also called CART), assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids or services. These accommodations can ease communication between patients and health care providers, allowing patients with hearing loss to participate more fully in their care.

New Jersey has a number of hospitals that have established model programs for addressing the needs of people with hearing loss. Many people who are Deaf and hard of hearing continue, however, to experience situations where accommodations are not available by their health care provider.

If your health care provider is unable to communicate effectively with you, or has questions about providing services to people who are deaf or hard of hearing, ask your provider to contact the DDHH. There is a continual need to educate various medical facilities about the mandate to provide effective communication, and DDHH staff is available to assist you with increasing their awareness.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David C. Alexander".

REMINDER

The deadline for the
June 2011 issue is **May 1**.

The deadline for the
May 2011 issue was **April 1**.

Send e-mail submissions to our new address:
monthlycommunicator@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 *Monthly Communicator*, send your request to the e-mail address above.

Subscription is free of charge.

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

How to use an Assistive Listening System at the Theater if You Are Hard of Hearing

By Janice Lintz Schacter

The theater is a rich and enjoyable experience, yet it can be a frustrating and stress-producing nightmare if you cannot understand what is happening. Who wants to attend an entertaining event if you may not be able to enjoy the show? The solution is understanding your hearing loss needs and proper preparation.

Can you use an assistive listening system?

If you have some residual hearing, you may be able to use an assistive listening system (ALS) Three systems are currently available: radio frequency (FM), infrared light (IR) and Induction loop. The signal arrives through a receiver, which may be either an Assistive Listening Device (ALD) or a telecoil (also called a T-coil.) in a hearing aid or cochlear implant. ALDs enable theatergoers to receive the sound directly from the sound source to their ear, which eliminates the negative effects of distance, noise and reverberation on sound clarity. Volume can also be increased.

Does the theater have an assistive listening system?

In the US, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) requires that all places of public accommodation with fixed seating that either accommodate at least 50 people or have an audio amplification system (or both) must provide an assistive listening system (ALS). If the theater does not have an ALS, you can ask them to install one. If they refuse, file a complaint through the US

Department of Justice (<http://www.ada.gov/t3compfm.htm>) or the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights <http://www.state.nj.us/lps/dcr/index.html>. Change will only occur if complaints are filed.

What type of ALS does the theater have?

The three types of ALS mentioned above are: FM - works via a radio frequency; Infrared - works via a beam of invisible light; Induction loop - works via an electromagnetic signal.

Different locations have different systems for a variety of reasons, including but not limited to environmental concerns, privacy issues, portability, the size of the space, construction materials (for instance, metalwork can absorb or distort magnetic fields), the impact of installing the system in the space, and cost.

What type of ALD receiver should I use?

The type of receiver used (if any) depends on the type of ALS used, whether your hearing aid or cochlear implant has a T-coil, and the degree of your hearing loss.

What type of ALS is used?

Look on the theater's Web site for this information, and you may have to call. The following symbol means that one of the three types of ALS is used:



Assistive Listening System continued from page 3

You will know if the theater has an induction loop if they have the following symbol:



Unlike FM and infrared systems, induction loops are hearing aid compatible, meaning people with T-coil equipped hearing aids or cochlear implants can receive the sound signal directly via their T-coil, maximizing the customized output of their hearing aid or cochlear implant, and no receiver is needed. Consider adding a T-coil if you do not have one. T-coils can be added to your hearing aid for less than \$100, which is substantially less than replacing your hearing aids.

An FM radio or infrared system requires a receiver for use, whether or not you have a T-coil. There are different ways to use a receiver: ear bud headset, a headset that fits over your ears, or (for those with T-coils), neck loops.

Can you remove your hearing aid and still hear via the receiver?

Then you can use an ear bud that fits directly into the ear (as well as any type of headset). Many people are uncomfortable inserting something in their ear that has already been inserted in another person's ear even when it has been cleaned.

Are you unable to remove your hearing aid to use the receiver and lack a T-coil in your

hearing aid or cochlear implant?

You can use Walkman style headsets that plug into the jack on the receiver. However, headsets typically do not work for people who wear behind-the-ear (BTE) hearing aids or for some people who have more than a mild hearing loss, because the sound output is likely to be insufficient. In addition, the design of some headsets doesn't confine the sound to the listeners' ears, so other people nearby could be disturbed. That is why a neck loop (see below.) should be used if you have a T-coil. It is thoughtless to blast the volume because you need a neck loop and do not have a T-coil. Many theaters will justifiably ask you to remove the headset because you are disturbing others. Consider having a T-coil added to your hearing aid or cochlear implant if you fall into this category.

Do you have a T-coil in your hearing aid or cochlear implant?

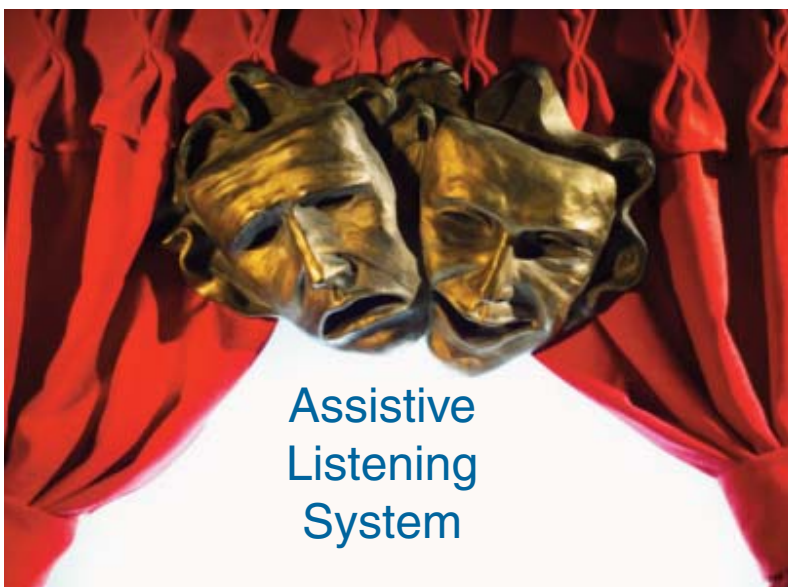
A neck loop (which is a small induction loop) can be plugged into the jack of an FM or infrared

receiver to send the signal to your T-coil; you do not need a headset. The receiver must have a jack for plugging in the neck loop; most one-piece headsets do not have such jacks. Neck loops allow the person's own hearing aids or cochlear implant to regulate the volume.

What receivers and auxiliary equipment does the theater have?

It is important to determine whether the theater has the equipment you need. Reserving it ahead of time will also ensure that it works and it is waiting for you. Sound Associates (212-757-5679) provides ALS for many Broadway theaters, but contact your theater in advance so that you will not be disappointed. Bring your own if the theater does not have the ALD you need.

Theaters should have headsets and neck loops on hand. Many theaters only offer ear buds because they cost substantially less; but ear buds may not provide effective communication under the ADA, since they require users to remove their hearing aids.



File a complaint, as mentioned above, if the theater does not offer ALDs and is unwilling to obtain them. The number and types of devices required are detailed in the ADA Accessibility Guidelines ("ADAAG"), can be found at www.access-board.gov.



CaptionCall Solution Telephone

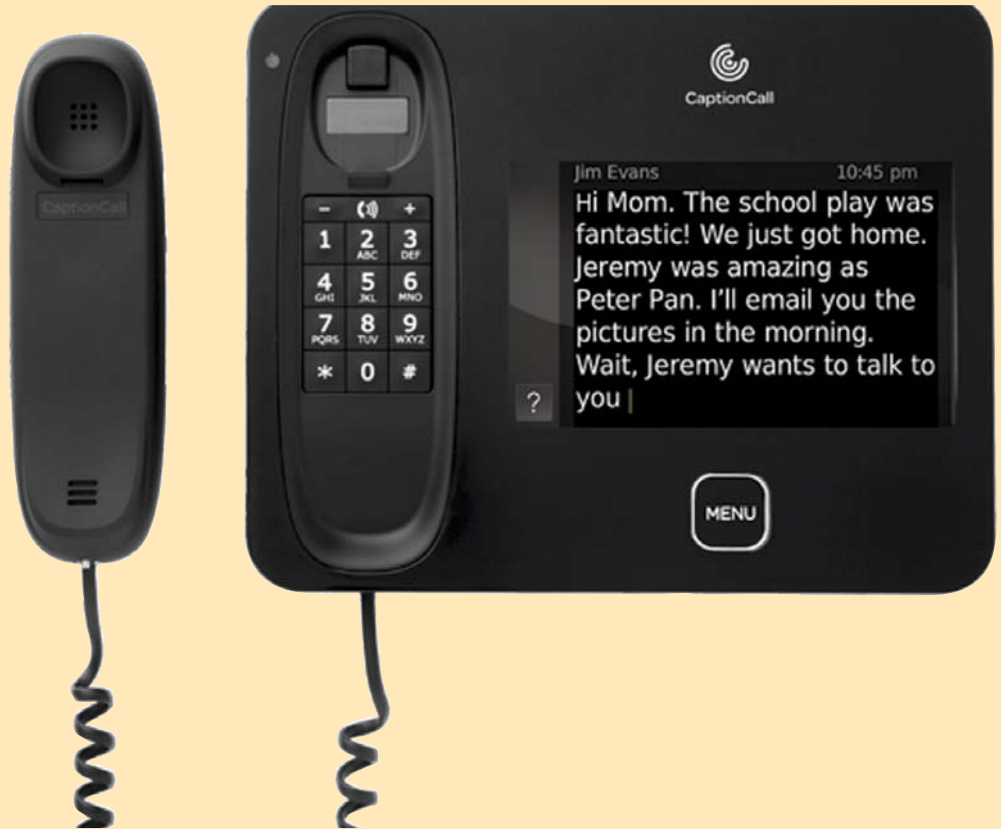
By DDHH Field Representative Traci Burton

New technology is always being introduced and frequently I learn of a new device. At a recent DDHH Advisory Council meeting, one of our council members mentioned a friend in Florida using a telephone called Caption-Call. After reviewing the website and calling customer service to ask a few questions, here is what I learned.

As the name implies, this Sorenson telephone allows the user to listen to the other party while reading real time captions on the 7" display screen. The phone requires a conventional phone line for the voice and either a wired or wireless internet connection for the captions. The captions are through the Internet, so calls can be made and received without the need to dial a relay number. There is not an analog version (one that does not require internet connection) of the phone at this time.

The user is able to adjust the handset volume up to 40dB (a window air conditioner), the ringer volume up to 95dB (a lawnmower) and there is an audio jack for an induction loop for those using hearing aids with a T-coil. The touch-screen user interface is adjustable from a 25 – 75 degree viewing angle. One can adjust the text for optimum reading ability and CaptionCall features storage for up to 200 contacts with photos.

The website advertises that the telephone itself is free, as is the service, because the captions are funded by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). There is a one time "license fee" of \$149; however,



through a special offer, you pay \$99 after entering a promo code. CaptionCall specialists are available to come to the home and aid in the telephone set-up and tutorials on using the telephone features.

Currently, the CaptionCall, just being introduced into the market, is not available nationwide. (For the snowbirds who escape to Florida for several months a year, we know it is offered there!) When asked if CaptionCall is available in New Jersey, I was advised to sign up to receive a phone; and when the service becomes available I would receive the device.

For more information, please visit the CaptionCall Solution website at <https://www.captioncall.com/CaptionCall/Default.aspx> or call their customer service at 877-557-2227.

Traci Burton, Field Representative, can be reached at 609-984-7281 or traci.burton@dhs.state.nj.us.

Educating Law Enforcement

By DDHH Field Representative Jason Weiland

One of the most important missions of the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is to promote awareness of the needs of the Deaf, hard of hearing, Deaf-Blind, Late deafened, and individuals with cochlear implants to the various service agencies working with these populations. In the past, the Division has worked with hospitals, state agencies and divisions, along with large corporations like Prudential, Kraft Foods, and others, to increase public awareness.

Traci Burton, my colleague, and I were asked to give a sensitivity and culture training this past February to all members of the West Windsor Police Department. The training included members of the department who are patrolmen, detectives, dispatchers, and even front desk personnel. We covered all the needs of the Deaf and hard of hearing in addition to other populations in NJ. We also emphasized the importance of being able to communicate with this community in order to ensure that individuals receive protection and services they may need. We shared case situations that have occurred in the community that have resulted in: cases being dismissed; people with hearing loss being wrongly accused or imprisoned; and cases that could have been successfully resolved but were not because of the lack of communication and sensitivity on the part of the police department.

The police department learned that there is not just one way to talk with the Deaf and hard of hearing individuals; their needs vary based upon each individual. We provided information about the NJ DDHH Communication Access Referral Service; and explained the current legal interpreter list (that DDHH can provide) and our Web site. In addition, the NJ state law which requires all legal situations (except traffic stops) to provide reasonable accommodations was explained.

It was clear throughout the training that the police department came away with a clearer understanding of what “reasonable accommodation” actually means. With such a successful training, we are looking to expand the training to other county police departments.

Expanding the training would ensure that law enforcement are aware of their responsibility to provide communication access to the Deaf and hard of hearing community. We are also looking to provide training to the general public to help individuals learn more about how to interact with law enforcement whenever pulled over, interviewed and arrested; along with other situations people may find themselves.

During the upcoming year, DDHH looks to expand the police training on a statewide basis and work with law enforcement in every county. For more information about the police sensitivity trainings, contact Jason Weiland at jason.weiland@dhs.state.nj.us or (609) 498-7006.



Interviewing Amy Anderson... By Annmarie Buraczeski

In 2004, at beginning of my son, Shane's sophomore year at Ocean City High School, which was newly built at the time, we attended the New Building Orientation. As we entered the cafeteria and waited for the presentation to begin, we saw Amy Andersen standing at the front of the room, interpreting. At that point she did not know which parent was Deaf - it was me. From an initial introduction and as I started to know Amy, I knew she would inspire hundreds of students and instantly we became friends.

Where are you from?

A. I was born in Newport News, VA to Michael and Ruth Brown. I currently live in Cape May Court House, NJ with my six year old son Jordan and my husband, Rolf Andersen.

What schools did you attend?

A. Middle Township High School - graduated in 1990 and Indiana University, Bloomington, IN - 1994, with a bachelor's degree in Flute Performance; West Maryland College (now McDaniel College), Westminster, MD- 1996 Master Degree in Deaf Education

Do you possess any certification for ASL?

A. Deaf Education-ASL, Deaf Education Oral, Teacher of ASL, Elementary Education, Special Education, & National Board Certificate Teacher for the Deaf

What made you interested in ASL for the Deaf community?

A. When I was seven years old, my mother was a teacher's aide at Cape May County Special Services. She was teaching a multiply handicapped class and one of the students was also Deaf. At that time, my mother began taking a sign language class at night with Gina Lanza and took me with

her. I fell in love with the language instantly and that spark never died.

What made you want to teach?

A. During my senior year at Indiana University, I had learned enough ASL to begin volunteering in a kindergarten classroom of Deaf children at Cape May County Special Services, Kathy Filippo was the teacher of the Deaf and Joanne Errico was the teacher's assistant, herself Deaf. They would let me come in to observe and volunteer any time I came home from breaks. I fell in love with the children and loved signing and continuing to learn.

What inspires you the most and why?

A. My biggest inspiration in life is my son Jordan and the amazing little boy that he is. When you have children you learn how much you can truly love another person.

How did you find out about teaching ASL at OCHS?

A. After the birth of my son in 2004, I decided to move back to the area so my children would grow up with their grandparents, my parents. Ocean City was advertising for a high school special education position. I interviewed and was hired. At that time there was a Deaf student in the high school who had an interpreter and the school had decided to start a small ASL program with 42 students. When the current interpreter and ASL teacher left on maternity leave, I took over her position. The ASL program grew to 142 students the following year and the ASL teaching position became full time. After becoming certified in the state of NJ to teach ASL, I was given the full time ASL teacher position. When they tell me that their thinking has dramatically changed from September when they walked into my classroom thinking Deaf people were disabled but now see that they are

their own distinct, beautiful culture with a language, history, arts and literature and specific norms of behavior...this is when I know I have been successful.

How did the idea of the ASL Performers Club come to fruition?

A. In 2008, my students and I began discussing the possibility of creating a show in ASL. Some students were already involved in the drama club and school musical. They thought about combining their talents with ASL and making a show accessible to the Deaf community, as a thank you for letting us learn their language. As the ASL teacher, I directed the show and reached out to members of the local Deaf community to help with the coaching and guidance regarding the clarity of ASL interpretations. As we raised funds from ticket sales, this money was allocated for seniors going on to major in Deaf education or ASL interpreting as well as a Deaf-related charity. We have contributed to the Miss Deaf NJ Pageant fund and the Institut Montfort School for the Deaf in Haiti.

When will the ASL show be in 2011?

A. Friday, June 3 starting at 7:00 PM in Ocean City High School Auditorium, 501 Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City, NJ 08226.

Where would people send in their donation for your ASL scholarship program?

A. OCHS ASL Club, (Attn: Amy Andersen), Ocean City High School, 501 Atlantic Avenue, Ocean City, NJ 08226.



Haddonfield/Philadelphia Area Cochlear Implant Support Group Hosts Guest Speaker

Submitted by Kathie Simcox

On February 24 at Grace Church in Haddonfield, the cochlear implant support group was extremely fortunate in hosting Matthew H. Bakke, Ph.D for his presentation "An Overview of Aural Rehabilitation." Dr. Bakke is a professor in the Department of Hearing, Speech and Language Sciences at Gallaudet University and specializes in aural rehabilitation and assistive technologies for deaf and hard of hearing people (including hearing aids and cochlear implants).



of support, information, teaching, and/or advocacy, in order to live their life with hearing loss as seamlessly as possible." To learn more about the Peer Mentoring Program, e-mail Dr. Bakke at: matthew.bakke@galludet.edu.

Dr. Bakke began his presentation by defining aural rehabilitation (AR) as "the training to use technology that includes any device, procedure, information, interaction or therapy which lessens communicative and psychosocial consequences of a hearing loss." In other words, anything you can do to make the life of a person with hearing loss better.

Dr. Bakke discussed how to improve communication; assessment and development of communication skills; and aural rehabilitation, including who does it and what we can do about increasing AR services. In addition, Dr. Bakke explained Gallaudet's training of AR personnel, focusing on their Peer Mentoring Certification Training Program (<http://peers4access.org/>). This program trains individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing "to work with other individuals with hearing loss who are in need

In addition, Dr. Bakke discussed Gallaudet's research study on frequency allocation. He distributed a pamphlet entitled "Adult Cochlear Implant Users/Request for Participants/Research Study on Frequency Allocation." For more information or to enroll in this study, please contact: Matthew Bakke at CIFittingStudy@hearingresearch.org or TTY: 202-651-5335 or Voice: 202-651-5335.

And lastly, Dr. Bakke discussed Caspersent (Windows computer compatible) computer-assisted speech perception testing and training at the sentence level. He offered to send free software to anyone interested in computer-assisted training.

We are grateful to the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for providing communication access for our meeting.

For more information about our CI Support Group, please contact us at cochlearimplant1@yahoo.com.

Deaf ASL Tutor Available

By Diana Meade

I have been teaching American Sign Language (ASL) for twelve years. I teach both one on one and group sessions. I have worked with the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf and the NJ Family Resource Advocates in outreach programs in Monmouth and Ocean counties. These programs allowed me to work with underprivileged hearing families who had young deaf children. I would meet these families in their home and teach the entire family basic ASL in order to make it easier for the family to communicate with their deaf child. I have also taught many basic ASL programs in several Monmouth and Ocean County towns through their recreation departments. Some of the programs are one day events and others last several weeks. These courses consisted of teaching hearing students the basics of ASL including a sign for their name, fingerspelling and the most common signs used in daily interaction. I also teach one on one sessions and find this to be the most effective way for the student to learn this beautiful, unspoken language. Please e-mail Diana Meade at meadefish@verizon.net for more information.



HLA-NJ News and Views

A Monthly Column from The Hearing Loss Association of N.J.
By Peter Yerkes, Trustee, HLA-NJ

Behind the Scenes at a Hospital — Tips on Hospital Stays for People with Hearing Loss

It's 3 AM in a North Jersey hospital, I'm recovering from major hip surgery and I desperately need pain medication. The nursing aide who can help is in my room. My hearing, however, is so bad I have no idea what she is saying. Is she going to bring the medication? Are they out of it? Does she have to check with my doctor? I explain my hearing problems, and ask her to repeat what she said more slowly. She stares at me with distaste, turns and walks out of the room without saying a word.

People with hearing loss have good reason to dread hospitals. Staff members are seldom trained to help people who are hard of hearing, and their reaction is likely to range from bafflement to anger. Here's what I encountered in a recent hospital stay, and a report on how I coped and how I could have done better.

How I handled the pain med issue; I waited half an hour or so, and tried again. After a few more tries I got a different aide who brought the medication. What I wish I had done; made arrangements when I checked in to the hospital to have my needs written out on my patient chart and a sign over my bed. After the incident I describe, I should have followed up immediately with a supervisor or my doctor to make sure it didn't happen again.

A visit from a specialist; after dinner one night, a doctor I had never seen be-

fore walked in. With a thick central European accent, she began a rapid-fire explanation of ...something. When I asked her to write me a brief explanation, she filled two pages with names of bacteria and viruses that meant nothing to me. What I did; waited until I saw my doctor again several days later to discuss the issue. What I wish I had done; asked for a nurse or aide I could understand to repeat what this doctor was saying – and contact my doctor as well.

The operating room; I'm flat on my back, surrounded by doctors and nurses I can't understand because they are all wearing surgical masks and I can't lip read. What I did; explained that if there was something I needed to understand, someone would have to move their mask, face me and talk slowly. That worked. What I wish I had done; asked in advance for someone designated to assist me in the operating room and recovery room.

My most important lesson; don't be intimidated by busy doctors and nurses. Patients have a right to understand exactly what is being said. Insist on it. When checking in, ask to speak to the designated patient advocate for hard of hearing patients and work out the communication arrangements you will need during your hospital stay. Make sure to file a complaint if your needs are not addressed. This helps all of us, as future hospital patients.

GET INVOLVED. The Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey has three chapters, serving Bergen, Middlesex and Ocean/Monmouth counties. Information is available from info@hearingloss-nj.org, or at our website, www.hearingloss-nj.org. To receive informative updates, ask to be put on our e-mail contact list.

HLA-NJ Chapter Meeting

Sunday, May 1, 2011 is our next meeting

In the "Center for Healthy Living"
198 Prospect St., Lakewood,
NJ 08701

The topic for this month meeting will be "May is Better Hearing Month" Veterans and Hearing Loss. The War Veteran sharing experiences in getting hearing help and adjusting to war-related hearing loss. 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. As always, light refreshments will be served. Feel free to bring your favorite dessert to share. The following dates are on our monthly schedule.

(All dates and speakers are tentative and subject to change.)

Future 2011 Meetings:

June 5, July 10, August 7,
September 11, October 2,
November 6, December 4.

For any additional information, contact: oceanmonmouthhla@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATES

June 16-19, 2011. Hearing Loss Association of America Convention 2011, Washington DC. Learn more at www.hearingloss.org.

October 15, 2011. Garden State-NJ Walk4Hearing. Mercer County Park West, West Windsor NJ. Information at www.walk4hearing.org.

Mid - Manhattan Library
welcomes Arlene Romoff & William Shapiro, AuD

DISCUSSING

Hearing Loss and Cochlear Implants

Thursday, May 19, 2011 at 6:30 p.m.

Mid-Manhattan Library
on the 6th floor
40th Street and 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10016
212-340-0951



Hearing loss, an invisible disability, impacts every facet of daily living. Using excerpts from her books to provide intriguing insights, Arlene Romoff, author of *Listening Closely: A Journey to Bilateral Hearing and Hear Again—Back to Life with a Cochlear Implant*,

will discuss her journey from normal hearing to profound deafness, and the miraculous return to sound with cochlear implants, including the benefits of bilateral hearing. Dr. William Shapiro, Supervising Audiologist at the NYU Cochlear Implant Center, will bring the audiologist's perspective to the discussion. A book signing will follow the presentation. Real-time (CART) captioning will be provided and FM assistive listening devices and neckloops will be available. This event is part of the NY Public Library's celebration of Better Hearing and Speech Month.



State-Wide Open Captioning Theatre Offerings Promote Universal Access

(West Orange, NJ) How many times have you seen a play where you miss a line of dialogue, and wish you could hit a closed captioning button like you do on your television so you could read what you just missed?

The New Jersey Theatre Alliance and six of its member theatres – with the support of The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, The Wallerstein Foundation for Geriatric Life Improvement and The Grotta Fund for Senior Care of the Jewish Community Foundation of MetroWest of NJ – are offering performances of some of this seasons must-see shows with Open Captioning.

The Open Captioning series will provide six open captioned matinee performances including:

Curtains at Paper Mill Playhouse, Millburn - May 22; 1:30 PM – A theatre-loving detective is called in to investigate a murder that took place behind the scenes of a Broadway-

bound musical; can he solve the case without becoming a victim? (Musical/Comedy)

God of Carnage at George Street Playhouse, New Brunswick – June 4; 2 PM – All hell breaks loose when two sets of parents meet to discuss the playground altercation between their eleven-year-old sons. (Comedy)

Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris at Two River Theater Company, Red Bank – June 4; 2 PM – Naughty, funny, dark and romantic, over a half century after they were written, singer –songwriter Jacques Brel's songs retain their edgy vibe. (Musical)

Night of the Iguana at Centenary Stage Company, Hackettstown – October 9; 2 PM – A defrocked priest scrapes out a living as a tour guide in Mexico and finds two women vying for his attentions ... and his very soul. (Drama)



To Kill a Mockingbird at Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, Madison – November 5; 2 PM – This adaptation of Harper Lee's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel is a must for every new generation; the story's fundamental lessons about compassion, integrity, and courage are breath-taking and life-changing. (Drama)

A Christmas Carol at McCarter Theatre Center – December 17; 2 PM – This critically acclaimed production of Charles Dickens' story follows Ebenezer Scrooge on a magical journey with the Ghosts of Christmas Past and Present toward a future of peace and goodwill. (Holiday)

For more information, and to find out about its programs and services, visit the New Jersey Theatre Alliance at www.njtheatrealliance.org or call (973) 731-6582 ext. 14.

Job Opportunities



New Jersey Speech to Speech Outreach Specialist Position Available

New Jersey Relay is now accepting applications for a Speech-to-Speech Outreach Specialist position for New Jersey. This position is on a part-time, on-contract basis. New Jersey Relay Service is a free service provided by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) ensuring equal communication access to telephone service for people who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled. Speech-to-Speech (STS) Relay allows a person with a speech disability to voice their conversation. A specially trained relay operator listens and repeats the speech disabled user's dialogue to the called party. For more information on how STS works, please visit www.njrelay.com.

Responsibilities include:

- Have general knowledge and ability to explain New Jersey Relay Service (www.njrelay.com)
- Have extensive knowledge and ability to explain Speech-to-Speech (STS) Relay Service
- Host events at clubs or meeting halls
- Provide presentations/booths and/or workshops to promote Speech-to-Speech Relay
- One-on-one training with customers/businesses on how to use Speech-to-Speech Relay
- Submit required reports after completion of work done for STS Relay

Qualifications:

- Basic computer skills with general knowledge of Microsoft Office works and e-mail communications
- Ability to communicate and interact with people in diverse settings
- Aspire to provide excellent customer service relations
- Ability to work independently and cooperatively
- Desire to assist others to learn the benefits of using Speech-to-Speech Relay
- Leadership or involvement with organizations serving people with Speech Disabilities is a plus

Benefits:

- Flexible hours, excellent pay rate, and best of all, you make your own schedule!

If interested, send an e-mail to Aparna Lele, New Jersey Relay Account Manager, at Aparna.Lele@sprint.com along with a resume copy or fax to 913-523-1137. Deadline for resume submission: open until filled.

Residential Counselor - Debra Brown House

Responsibilities:

Responsible for; ensuring the well being of the program's residents; promoting a normalized environment and a philosophy of self-care and independence with the goal of consumer wellness and recovery and eventual reintegration into the community; the operation, maintenance and security of the agency's residential facilities and programs during their assigned shift.

Requirements:

- Graduation from an accredited college/university with a Bachelor's degree in a mental health, health or other appropriate human services related discipline; or
- A combination of one or more years of college, plus one or more years related experience together equaling four years; or
- A High school diploma or the equivalent, plus four years related experience
- Rehabilitative training and certification provided through SJBHR are required within 2 weeks of employment.
- **Must be fluent in American Sign Language**

Valid driver's license is required. Driver's abstract must meet insurance carrier's requirements.

Upon hire must satisfactorily complete the SJBHR orientation and competency based adult mental health rehabilitation program training.

Specifications:

Debra Brown House – Camden, Part-time , Sat. & Sun. (12 AM -12 PM) or on-call, \$12.00

How to Apply:

Submit resume and cover letter to Office of Human Resources, 900 Dudley Avenue, Suite 100, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002; or fax to 856-488-1450 or hr@sjbhr.org.



Dear Potential DEAF FEST Exhibitor:

New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week, Inc. invites you to be part of the DEAF FEST 2011 – A Cultural Celebration on Sunday, September 18, 2011. It will be our seventh biennial event. It will be at Middlesex Country Fairground in East Brunswick, New Jersey from 10 AM to 5 PM. In the past DEAF FEST has attracted over 5,000 people for a day of celebration of our unique Deaf Culture. Nearly 100

agencies, companies and non-profit organizations exhibit at the FEST. We want you to be part of DEAF FEST '11. If you are interested in being an exhibitor, please log on our Web site at www.njdaw.org and print out two forms (both forms are required). Complete the forms and mail them to Kim Arrigo by July 31, 2011. We will follow up by sending you a confirmation letter by September 10, along with a guide to your arrival

setup. If you have any questions, please contact Kim by email at Exhibit2011@aol.com. Do not miss this exciting opportunity! See you at the FEST!

Kim Arrigo, Exhibit Chair,
c/o NJ
DAW, Inc., 8 Kirk Avenue,
Ewing, New Jersey 08638
Exhibit2011@aol.com

Interpreter Workshop

Create visual space in your ASL interpretations. You will focus on real and token space as well as tips for keeping space consistent and what to do when you change your use of space.

Stephanie Feyne (CSC, CI & CT) is a community interpreter with over 30 years experience. She presents at local, state and RID conferences, covering topics such as Register, Powerful Voicing, Prosody in ASL, Use of Space, Translation for the Theatre, Contextual Understanding of Meaning, and Considerations in Accepting Interpreting Work. She also offers workshops geared towards the specific needs of educational interpreters. She teaches in LaGuardia Community College's ASL-English Interpretation Program and is currently pursuing a Masters degree in Linguistic Anthropology at Hunter College.

For: Working Interpreters and graduates of Interpretation Programs
Fee: \$125
Dates: Fridays, June 3 - June 24, 2011
Time: 5:00 -7:00 PM
Location: Interpreting Lab, C-244
(29-10 Thomson Ave, Long Island City, NY 11101)

To register, contact Ashley Graham: 718-482-5313 or agraham@lagcc.cuny.edu



RID Certificate Maintenance Program (CMP)/ Associate Continuing Education Tracking (ACET) The CUNY Interpreter Education Project has been approved by the RID CMP/ACET to sponsor Continuing Education Activities. This program is offering 0.8 CEU's in Professional studies and has an instructional level of intermediate. For cancellation and accessibility policy, please call (718) 482-5313.

Sign Language Classes

**Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf
Summer Session 2011
Sponsored by Katzenbach Parent and Staff
Organization and the Katzenbach Parent and
Staff Education Foundation, Inc.**

Location:

Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, 320 Sullivan Way, West Trenton, New Jersey, 08628

When:

Tuesday and Thursday evenings
7:00 PM to 8:45 PM.
July 5 to July 28, 2011

Cost:

\$70 registration must be received before June 24, 2011
Late Registration (after June 24) or walk-in fee is \$90

Note:

No refunds after the third class. Checks will not be deposited until after the third class.

Classes offered:

Classes are based on enrollment of 8 or more. Classes may be split by ability/experience depending on enrollment. People enrolling may change classes at the beginning to fit their needs.

Beginner Series

Book Requirement:

How to Speak With Your Hands by Elaine Costello.
Available at any bookstore.

Beginner One:

For people with little or no knowledge of sign language; concentration on fingerspelling and vocabulary using English word order with some ASL features.

Beginner Two:

For those who have completed Beginner One or have had another sign language class; Course continues vocabulary development using English word order with some ASL features.

Conversation Series

Conversation One or Two:

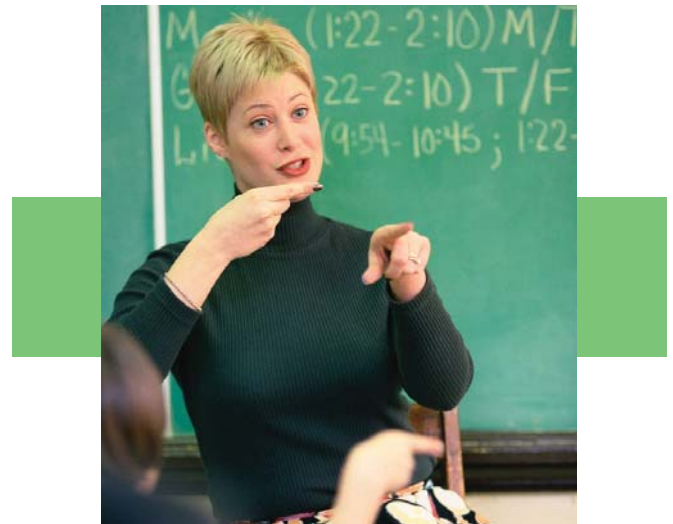
For people who have taken at least two sign language courses and want to practice expressive and receptive skills. Some vocabulary and grammatical lessons will be included, but the emphasis is on becoming more fluent. Conversation two is more non-voiced.

Note:

Children's sign language classes are only offered during spring session. Children over the age of 10 are welcome to join any of the above adult classes. Please also note that since these are adult classes, appropriate behavior is expected of children (ages 10+). If you feel it is necessary to attend the class with your child, please contact the coordinator to discuss this.

Questions:

Call Heather Osowski, Program Coordinator, (609) 530-3131 or 530-3130 or heather.osowski@mksd.org
More information or forms can be found at www.mksd.org (click on sign language instruction). No confirmation of registration will be sent. You will be contacted only if there is a problem with the class. Classes may be split depending on enrollment. Cash or check only for payment. We cannot accommodate electronic bank transfers. Please check Web site for directions.



American Sign Language Classes

The Newark Public Library
3rd Floor Special Services Room
5 Washington Street, Newark, New Jersey
Saturdays only , March 26 to June 18, 2011
Beginner's level 11:00 AM -12:00 PM
Intermediate level 12:15 - 1:00 PM
No classes on May 28
Free and open to the public
For more information call: 973-733-5412
E-mail: lgreggs@npl.org or mgeorge@npl.org
Community library services/special services room
www.npl.org

Religious Events

Religious services interpreted for the Deaf at Grace Lutheran Church and St. Matthew's Church for the Deaf, 2222 Vauxhall Road, Union NJ.

May Schedule

Sunday, May 1: Interpreted Bible Study following 10:30 AM worship service. Lunch is not provided; therefore please bring your own.

Sunday, May 8: Mother's Day Breakfast in between the 8 AM and 10:30 AM services. If attending, please contact the church office so we know how many people to prepare for.

Saturday, May 14: Flea Market. Please contact Pastor Brand for costs of table and availability. Rain date is Saturday, May 21.

We also have our regular worship services interpreted for the Deaf at 10:30 AM every Sunday, with Communion service on the first and third Sunday's of the month.

You may contact us at 908-686-3965 Voice; 908-851-2004 TTY; or gracelu4u@yahoo.com. Visit us at www.gracelutherannj.org for upcoming events such as our next interpreted dinner theatre!



The Lighthouse Church (T.L.C.) of Cape May Court House is beginning a Bible Study for the Deaf and hard of hearing taught in ASL.

The Lighthouse Church (T.L.C.) of Cape May Court House is beginning a Bible Study for the Deaf and hard of hearing taught in ASL.

Have you ever wondered:

- Who is Jesus and why is He important?
- Why do Christians baptize with water?
- Can God forgive ALL the things I've done?
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
- Go to church - what for?

Join us at TLC as we study the basic answers about Christianity through an ASL version of "13 Lessons in Christian Doctrine" from Deaf Missions.



The Bible study will begin Wednesday April 27 and we will meet every Wednesday from 6:30-8:00 PM at the church. Each Wednesday we will study a new topic. Please join us for any or all of the 13 lessons. We meet in the church building at 1248 Route 9 South in Cape May Court House, NJ (use exit 6 on the GSParkway, left at the exit, right at the light onto Route 9)

For more information, contact the church at 609-465-6690 V or tlccma@comcast.net. www.tlccma.org. Every Sunday we provide interpreters for the Deaf and hard of hearing for the 10:45 AM church service. We also have free parking, infant nursery, Sunday school for children and youth programs available.

Communicator Signboard



On Stage in Burlington,
New Jersey Bridge Players
Theatre Company
proudly announces
the New Jersey premiere performance
of the compelling drama

EXIT DATE

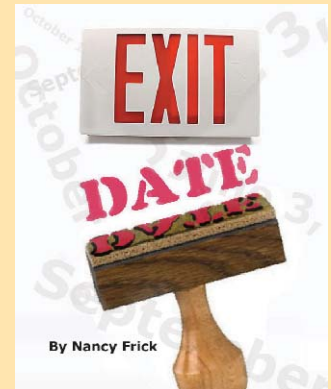
by Philadelphia playwright Nancy Frick
Directed by Bob Beauchene
8:00 p.m. on May 6, 7, 13*, 14, 20 & 21
3:00 p.m. on May 8 & 15

*Sign-interpreted performance

Broad St. United Methodist Church, 36 E. Broad St. in Burlington, NJ.
Tickets \$15

To order tickets please call 856-303-7620

For directions and more information, visit www.bridgeplayerstheatre.com.



COME JOIN US AT HAPPY HANDS CAMP 2011

The camp will be located at Gloucester County
Institute of Technology (Sewell, NJ).

Who can attend: Children ages 4-12 who are Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing,
CODAs (Children of Deaf Adults), and Siblings of Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing

When: July 11-August 11 (Monday-Thursday)

Time: 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Camp fees: \$138 per week OR receive a \$37 discount
for paying all 5 weeks upfront (\$653)

To request information, contact:

Mary Hilley, (856) 415-7530 ext. 6468; mhilley@gcsssd.org

Lorie Cross-Jones; HappyHandsgcsssd@comcast.net



Communicator Signboard



Bridges to Employment
Invites you to the **2nd annual**

COMMUNICATION EXPO *Building bridges for people with hearing loss*

May 7, 2011 from 10 AM - 4 PM
Raritan Valley Community College Conference Center
118 Lamington Road, Branchburg, NJ 08876
(Parking in Lots 1 & 2)

FREE ADMISSION

Network, connect, and learn about resources in Assistive Technology, Employment and much more!
Sponsorship Opportunities are available.

For more information: **908-685-1444** Voice ext. 284 / VP 866-971-9542

abetso@alternativesinc.org

www.bridgestoemployment.com

*Sign Language Interpreters and Assistive Listening Devices will be provided.
Communication access will be provided by DDHH*



ART · REACH

COMMUNITY SENSES, An inclusive celebration at the Ritz Theatre!

The Ritz Theatre and ArtReach



proudly present a fully accessible evening of theater with
"The Diary of Anne Frank" by Goodrich and Hackett.

May 11 at 6:30 PM • Tickets \$25 - \$30



The evening will offer open captioning and shadow signing, large-print and Braille programs, audio description of the performance, a sensory workshop involving sets, costumes and props and wheelchair seating making it possible for every audience member to fully participate and enjoy this experience together.

Tickets \$25-\$30

For reservations call the Ritz box office at 856-858-5230 or

Order on line: www.ritztheatreco.org

Handicapped accessible.

The Ritz Theatre

915 White Horse Pike

Haddon Township, NJ 08109

Communicator Signboard



JERSEY SHORE WILL GRAHAM CELEBRATION

May 20, 21, 22

Emcee: Mark Christian

Friday, May 20 – 7 PM - Matthew West and Will Graham (Grandson of Evangelist Billy Graham)

Saturday, May 21 – 10 AM - Kidzfest: A special children's presentation of the Gospel - GOD ROCKS!
(Will Graham does not speak in this venue)

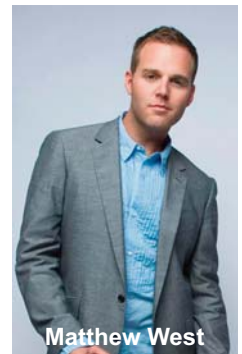
Saturday, May 21 – 7 PM - A youth oriented event with Matthew West, Newsboys, Flame and Will Graham

Sunday, May 22 – 3 PM – Worship music with Matthew West, and Chasen.
Speaker: Will Graham

Go to www.jerseyshorecelebration.org for more information!

All events will be interpreted.

Great Auditorium, 54 Pitman Avenue, Ocean Grove, NJ, Main Office 732-775-0035



Matthew West

Join us as the Ocean City High School American Sign Language Performers

Present

Signing for Haiti



Friday June 3, 2011

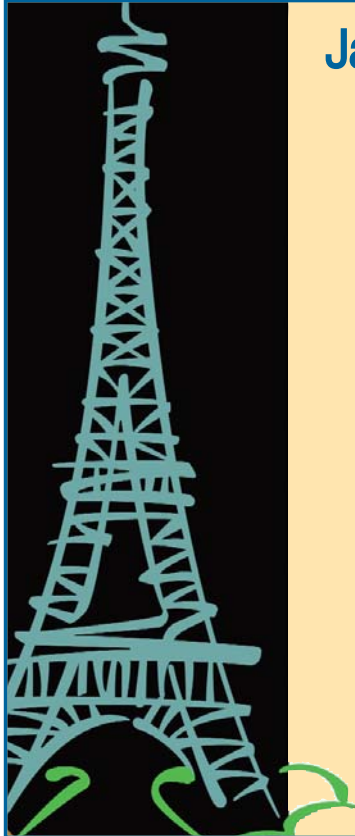
7:00 PM

OCHS Auditorium, 501 Atlantic Avenue Ocean City, NJ 08226

Tickets \$9

Come support the OCHS ASL Program & Institute Montfort School for the Deaf in Haiti

Communicator Signboard



Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris

Saturday June 4, 2011 at 3 PM
Open Captioned Performance

Conception, English lyrics, and additional material
by Eric Blau and Mort Shuman

Music by Jacques Brel

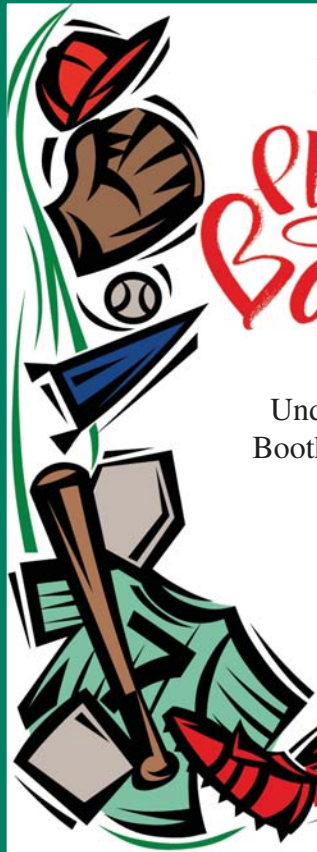
Naughty, funny, dark, and romantic...this is a spectacular,
twisty, and intoxicating revue of the work of
singer-songwriter Jacques Brel.



Two River Theater
21 Bridge Avenue
Red Bank, NJ 07701



Tickets are \$15 per person for those using this service.
For more information, contact Michele Klinsky at
mklinsky@trtc.org or (732) 345-1400, x1808



Broken Drums Entertainment presents

Dummy Hoy Invitational Softball Tournament

Queensbridge Park 41st Ave and Vernon Blvd.

Long Island City, New York

Subway: Take F to Queensbridge.

Saturday, June 4, 2011 8:30 AM to 6:30 PM

Play Ball!

FREE ADMISSION!

Under 8 years old receive free complimentary baseball cards. While supplies last.
Booth, vendor wanted? E-mail Robert at rdtraina@gmail.com for more information.

Team Coach: Entry fee is \$150 per team for men's team.

Free registration fee for COED team.

Deaf certified umpires, score-sheets, balls will be provided.

Cash prizes will be awarded to top three teams.

This tournament will be much different with a guarantee of four games or more.

Sanctioned By NSAD.

Communicator Signboard

Deaf and Hard of
Hearing Awareness Day



Six Flags Great Adventure

Jackson, NJ
Saturday, June 11, 2011

For ticket information,
contact Lauren
at GATickets@aol.com
(see April issue for ticket sellers)



Diverse Deaf Club of New Jersey at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church
1740 Route 130 , North Brunswick NJ



Saturday, May 7, 2011

Door opens at 1 PM

will have submarines with potato salad on sale



Saturday, June 4, 2011

Door opens at 2 PM

will have hot dogs, baked beans on sale

Cold/hot beverage on sale

Donation at door

- \$10 member
- \$12 non-member



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

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material Please Rush

Calendar of Events 2011

■ Saturday, June 4, 2011

NJ Association of the Deaf, Inc.
22nd Biennial State Conference
Burlington County College
Mount Laurel Campus
Route 38/Briggs Road
Mount Laurel, NJ 08054

■ Sunday, September 18

NJDAW
DeafFest
Middlesex County Fairgrounds
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
www.njdaw.org

■ October 15 - 16

The Real ASL Weekend
NJ Registry of Interpreters for
the Deaf and NJ Association
of the Deaf
Crowne Plaza Hotel
360 Forsgate Drive
Monroe Twp., NJ

■ December 31

NWJAD'S Spectacular
New Year's Eve Party
Information: www.nwjad.org

Regular Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

DDHH Office – Days Closed

Monday May 30 - Memorial Day; Monday July 5 – Independence Day