

November 2008

Monthly Communicator

Vol. 29 No. 10

Jon S. Corzine, Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner

David C. Alexander, Director



Page 4

*The Assistive
Listening Technology
Loan Program*

Page 6

*Employment:
Hearing Loss in the
Work Place*

Page 9

*Diver With Hearing
Loss Competes for
the U.S.*

*Produced by DHS
Office of Publications*

New Jersey Jury Decides in Favor of Deaf Patient Denied Interpreter in Doctor's Office

\$400,000 Awarded In Landmark Decision

Submitted by Clara Smit, Esq.

In the largest verdict in the United States against a doctor for failure to provide a sign language interpreter, Irma Gerena, a Deaf patient of a Jersey City rheumatologist was awarded \$400,000 by a jury on October 9, 2008. The jury awarded \$200,000 in compensatory damages and \$200,000 in punitive damages.

After a three week trial before the Honorable Mary K. Costello at the Hudson County Superior Court in Jersey City, Dr. Robert Fogari will pay Ms. Gerena \$400,000 plus attorney's fees. Ms. Gerena sued Dr. Fogari for failure to provide interpreters under the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination, the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 during a 20 month period.



Ms. Gerena began going to Dr. Fogari in May 2004. In 20 visits, she was not provided an interpreter despite repeated requests. She was diagnosed with lupus and put on steroids without the opportunity to participate and understand her medical treatment because Dr. Fogari refused to provide a qualified interpreter. The care Ms. Gerena

received including risks, benefits and/or alternatives to the treatment performed, prognosis and diagnosis were not explained to her in a manner she could understand. On some visits, the doctor would write a few words back and forth on the examination table paper with Ms. Gerena's Deaf partner, Lourdes Torres. On other occasions he used the couple's nine year old daughter to interpret.

The couple did everything they could to try to get the doctor to provide a qualified interpreter including giving him an interpreter's card and having the interpreter call and explain the law. However, Dr. Fogari still refused to provide her with an interpreter. Despite all of Ms. Gerena's attempts to obtain an interpreter, Dr. Fogari repeatedly refused to provide one claiming it would cost him too much money.

During the trial, Dr. Fogari, a solo practitioner, tried to defend his case claiming undue hardship. However, when tax returns were revealed, it was found that he earned \$425,000 a year. Dr. Fogari finally admitted during the trial it was not an undue hardship despite the fact that he only received \$49 per visit from the insurance company.

Continued on page 8

Director's Corner

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

On October 2, the DDHH was pleased to be a co-sponsor of the NJ Relay's Taste of Technology Conference. The conference, held at the Marriott Hotel in Trenton, drew more than 100 participants who were exposed to current telecommunication technology available for persons who are Deaf and hard of hearing.

Over the last several decades, we have seen remarkable advances in the field of communication technology. The technology on the market today reflects the diversity in communication strategies used by people with hearing loss. Video Relay Service, for example, enables people who are Deaf to use ASL to communicate over the phones. The Captel phone, captions the dialogue from the person called, enables people who are hard of hearing to read the conversation. Additionally, there is a variety of amplified digital phones available for people who prefer to use their residual hearing.

Today, people with hearing loss have access to telecommunication never before possible with previous generation communication technology. However, the new communication technology brings with it a new set of challenges. Employers must be encouraged to install the new communication technology in the workforce where it will benefit people with hearing loss. Additionally, people who are Deaf and hard of hearing require assistance and support to make the transition to the new technology.

DDHH and the NJ Relay are using their resources to actively promote awareness and access to the new communication technology. For additional information and/or a demonstration of telecommunication equipment for the Deaf and hard of hearing, call the DDHH office.



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

Reminder:

The deadline for the January 2009 issue is December 1. The deadline for the December issue was November 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

State of New Jersey

Department of Human Services
Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Director: David C. Alexander

Editor: Alan Champion

PO Box 074

Trenton, NJ 08625-0074

609-984-7281 V/TTY

800-792-8339 V/TTY

609-984-7283 VP (Video Phone)

609-984-0390 Fax

www.state.nj.us/human_services/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 8,700 copies of the MC distributed monthly.

Deadline for submissions:

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

DDHH Visits Assisted Living Facility for Deaf

Submitted by Ira Hock

For years, New Jersey's deaf community has been yearning for housing dedicated to those who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. The DDHH recently took the opportunity to tour Valley View Assisted Living Residence located in Media, Pennsylvania, which is such a housing facility dedicated to those who are Deaf and use sign language. David Alexander Ph.D., Division Director, along with staff members Ira Hock, Traci Burton and Jason Weiland participated in the visit.

Dr. GERALYN PONZIO, who has an internal medicine practice here in New Jersey, and her nurse, Janine, collaborated with the DDHH in touring Valley View. The idea for the visit germinated from conversations between Dr. Ponzio and Dr. Alexander, upon acknowledging there are NO facilities for Deaf seniors throughout the entire state of New Jersey. Dr. Ponzio, in fact, has assisted several Deaf patients who could have benefited if this type of housing was available in New Jersey.

We were all greeted very warmly by Valley View Director Carole Surdyke (who has a Nursing Home Administrator License and a degree in social work) and Residential Services Coordinator Rachel Ketner (a social worker). Both are hearing people who sign fluently.

Valley View's direct care staff are all Deaf except for one individual who is a CODA (Child of Deaf Adult). Some of the management staff also sign. There are 46 Deaf residents, who all appear very comfortable in their surroundings. Many residents were watching programs on the lobby flat screen television with the captions in view for all (the sound was off - not needed). Others were involved in activities such as games, crafts, and Deaf club trips.

We were informed there are plans to increase the size of the common area and install new lighting. Though the building may have been erected in the 1960s, it is decorated like someone's home with beautiful antiques placed throughout - one small showcase had a very old "ear trumpet" that at one time was used to speak through to enhance the ability of someone to hear.

We were able to see some of the living quarters, which included a room with two beds and closets, kitchenette with microwave and refrigerator, and a bathroom with toilet and shower. The dining room, which of course is one of the more popular rooms, has a kitchen that offers an impressive variety of meals served family style.

There was one videophone installed for the residents in a semi-private area, although residents may choose to have their own if they pay for the cable. There are a few consumers with Alzheimer's; the front door is rigged with an alarm that sets off a light signal when these residents open it, from wearing a bracelet that activates the system.

Although operating at capacity during our tour, we were informed that Valley View does accept New Jersey residents, if no Pennsylvanians are on the waiting list.

It is our hope and effort, that we will see a similar living facility in New Jersey. If anyone would like additional information about Valley View, log on to www.elwyn.org/DS/Valley_View.



The Assistive Listening Technology Loan Program

A Joint Effort of the NJ Library for the Blind & Handicapped and DDHH

Submitted by Chrissy Olsen

Assistive Listening Devices (ALD) are amplification systems designed specifically to help people with hearing loss hear in a variety of difficult listening situations. ALD's can be connected to a personal hearing aid, cochlear implant (CI) or used with headphones, ear buds, or neckloop, to help overcome background noise and distance from the sound source.



Personal FM System

The basic function of an ALD is to improve the “signal to noise ratio” for the listener. This means that the desired sound or “signal” – ordinarily a speaker’s voice -- is amplified, while undesired sound or “noise” is minimized.

ALD's accomplish this by putting a microphone close to the desired sound source in order to pick up that sound without interruption or interference. This desired sound is then delivered directly to the listener's hearing aid, cochlear implant, or other listening equipment. The closer the microphone is to the sound source, the louder and clearer the desired sound will be. The overall effect is that background noises are reduced or eliminated, making it easier to understand the sounds you want to hear.

An FM system is a high quality assistive listening device. FM stands for “frequency modulation,” and is based on FM radio technology. The range of operation for the FM systems we are using is 150 feet for the personal system, to 500 feet for the wide area system.

The ALD Lending Library has both the personal FM system, and wide area FM System available. The personal system can also be used in conjunction with a conference microphone. The wide area system can use its own microphone, or the sound system in an auditorium or other facility can be plugged directly into it. Both systems are easy to use and very portable.

Both FM systems allow the listener wearing the receiver to hear a speaker utilizing a microphone connected to a transmitter without amplifying ambient surround sounds in the environment. Various headsets and connectors are available for use with the listener's FM receiver, depending on personal preference, other equipment (a hearing aid or cochlear implant), and the application or environment. If you have a hearing aid with a T-switch, it is recommended that an FM be used with a neckloop. If you already have Direct Audio Input connectors for your hearing aids (sometimes called “boots”), these too are compatible with FM technology. If you have a cochlear implant, you may need a patch cord.

A neckloop is an accessory device that allows for the audio output from an FM receiver, or other ALD, to be magnetically transferred directly into a hearing aid equipped with a T-switch. (The T-switch, or telecoil, is a separate setting on the hearing aid.) This is a great advantage because the neckloop transmits the sound from the receiver directly into the user's hearing aid, and/or cochlear implant.

A patch cord connects the FM receiver, or other ALD, directly into a person's CI speech processor. However, not all CI brands and/or models have the same the size inputs, so it is important to use a patch cord that “fits” both your CI processor and the ALD you want to utilize. The ALD Lending Library has a variety of patch cords available.

FM Systems can be used most any where including, classrooms, at work, meetings, restaurants, family dinners, in the car, on a plane or trains, for



Wide Area FM System

TV listening, at conferences, workshops, lectures and tours, places of worship, and in auditoriums.

The Assistive Technology Loan Program is available through sixteen regional libraries, called Regional Resource Centers for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, one of which is the NJ Library for the Blind and Handicapped located in Trenton, NJ. Simply contact any library and make arrangements to borrow and pick up the equipment you need from one of the following libraries through the inter-library loan program.

Atlantic County Library

40 Farragut Avenue
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
609-625-2776 (V), 609-625-5043 (TTY)

Burlington County Library

5 Pioneer Boulevard
Westampton, NJ 08060
609-267-9660 (V), 609-267-2978 (TTY)

Clifton Public Library

292 Piaget Avenue
Clifton, NJ 07011
973-772-5500 (V), 973-772-2380 (TTY)

Camden County Library

203 Laurel Road
Voorhees, NJ 08043
856-772-1636 (V), 856-770-9685 (TTY)

Gloucester County Library

389 Wolfert Station Road
Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
856-223-6000 (V), 856-223-6057 (TTY)

Monmouth County Library

125 Symmes Drive
Manalapan, NJ 07726
732-431-7220 (V), 732-845-0064 (TTY)

Monmouth County Library – Eastern Branch

1001 Route 35
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
732-842-5995 (V)

Montclair Public Library

50 South Fullerton Avenue
Montclair, NJ 07042
973-744-0500 (V), 973-780-2041 (TTY)

Morris County Library

30 East Hanover Avenue
Whippany, NJ 07981
973-285-6930 (V), 973-285-6942 (TTY)

Newark Public Library

5 Washington Street
Newark, NJ 07101
973-733-7784 (V), 973-733-5644 (TTY)

NJ Library for the Blind and Handicapped

2300 Stuyvesant Avenue
Trenton, NJ 08625
800-792-8322, 877-882-5593 (TTY)

Ocean County Library

101 Washington Street
Toms River, NJ 08753
732-349-6200 (V)

Piscataway Public Library

500 Hoes Lane
Piscataway, NJ 08854
732-463-1633 (V)

Sussex County Library

125 Morris Turnpike
Newton, NJ 07860
973-948-3660 (V)

Teaneck Public Library

840 Teaneck Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666
201-837-4171 (V), 201-837-0822 (TTY)

Vineland Public Library

1058 East Landis Avenue
Vineland, NJ 08360
856-794-4244 (V)

Employment: Hearing Loss in the Work Place

By Paul Arabas

Employment and the workplace present many challenges for people with a hearing loss. There are various views on the best way to find a job and how to survive in the work place. It is my hope that this article will provide some helpful tips for people with a hearing loss.

Three factors which people with normal hearing consider when seeking employment are a dream job (doing what you love), an appealing salary and good benefits including health care. By contrast, people with a hearing loss are happy to get a job they can do with their hearing loss. In addition, they have an additional factor to consider: When to reveal you have a hearing loss.

Each individual should decide when to reveal their hearing loss based on his or her unique situation, and comfort level. I personally prefer to disclose my hearing loss from the very beginning. Fortunately, for my current part-time job as a fiduciary tax accountant during the tax season, I was hired because of my knowledge and experience which, to my boss, was more important than my hearing loss. Some may feel that revealing their hearing loss may jeopardize their chances for getting the job. It's a tough decision but each individual must make it based on personal knowledge and experience.

There is no single way to handle hearing loss in an employment setting. The following is a list of criteria to consider for entering and succeeding in today's competitive work force:

- ✓ Only apply for jobs for which you are qualified.
- ✓ Focus on your skills and not on your hearing loss.
- ✓ Plan how you are going to hear at the interview.
- ✓ Psych-out your interviewer by establishing a mutually beneficial, calm atmosphere.
- ✓ Get hold of your fear by practicing stress-relieving activities – relaxation, exercise, positive thinking, or whatever works best for you.
- ✓ Take courses in resume preparation and cover-letter writing.
- ✓ Do some interviews for practice.
- ✓ Get experience through volunteering.
- ✓ Consider being your own boss by setting up your own business, perhaps starting out in your own home.

NOTE: Make this list your own by personalizing it and adding to it as you wish.

Some jobs may be unsuitable for most people with a hearing loss. Such jobs may involve a high level of multitasking, especially if they involve listening, jobs that involve the use of multiple portable communications devices, very fast paced jobs, jobs that require heavy telephone usage, or those as public safety officials – police officers, firemen and lifeguards, for example.

It is the employee's responsibility to provide or request accommodations needed to perform successfully on the job. The following provides a common sense approach to these accommodations.

- ✓ Be willing to disclose your hearing loss.
- ✓ Know exactly what you need for telephone use, meetings, training, hearing a warning signal on a machine, communications with supervisors employees, and with clients.
- ✓ Research what is available as possible solutions to problems on the job related to hearing loss. This could be some type of listening device, change in behavior on your part or those with whom you work, restructuring your job or relocation of your desk or office.
- ✓ Know when to request accommodations and when to be patient.
- ✓ Advocate on the basis of being more productive or for better performance.
- ✓ Seek out tax incentives for your employer such as targeted tax credit or disabled access credit. Get details from the IRS.
- ✓ Keep a paper trail. Follow up verbal requests for accommodations in writing and keep a file should you need to file a complaint with the EEOC.

Immediately confirm all verbal communications with the person giving them. Double check all instructions in writing or with e-mail. Misunderstandings can happen. Never try to bluff on professional issues. There is too much at stake for your successful employment and promotional prospects not to mention your relationships with your co-workers and supervisors.

Consider the following suggestions:

- ✓ Keep hearing loss in perspective. Try to stay light and keep a sense of humor.
- ✓ Try to use a buddy system to help you in unstructured situations.
- ✓ Remember to say “thank you” often and show your appreciation to those who go out of their way to communicate with you.
- ✓ Be specific about communication needs. Educate others on how best to talk in a quiet place or face you when they speak.
- ✓ Remember your colleagues have needs and frustrations also.
- ✓ Monopolizing conversation is a negative coping strategy. Take time to listen to others even though it may be a struggle.
- ✓ Strive to create an atmosphere of mutual creativity,
- ✓ Work within limits of job conflict. If problems continue, consider a job change.
- ✓ Realize that office politics exist. Choose to play, defer or move on.
- ✓ Most of the above listed items came from the SHHH Journal Jan/Feb 1996 issue.

People with hearing loss often express frustration with under-employment in entry level jobs with little chance of advancement. The possibility for promotion starts on the first day on the job. It is up to us to show that we are promotion material and that we are motivated to achieve. We can demonstrate our work commitment with good work ethics that include the amount and quality of the work we perform, punctuality, attendance, good safety record, the way we react to supervision, ability to follow instructions, our flexibility, and willingness to change in today’s work world. Interpersonal skills, teamwork and creativity are also important promotional considerations. Other factors to consider are:

- ✓ Consistently upgrade your skills through company training or taking courses at a local community college.
- ✓ Keep working on your attitudes especially when you experience a change in supervision or management.
- ✓ Nip communication difficulties in the bud. Do a quick inventory of what is creating the problem. Is it acoustics, bad lighting, back-ground noise, speaker’s communications style, distance from the speaker, request for change in behavior, change in seating location or possibly an accommodation such as an assistive listening device?
- ✓ Half the battle is figuring out what we need in any given situation and then being assertive to set it up in a nice way.
- ✓ Consider developing a mentor in the workplace who can offer help, support and motivation when the going gets tough.

Some people lose their hearing after having been employed for a few years. The first experience is fear of losing your job because of deteriorating job performance due to not hearing correctly. Rather than concentrating on what can I do to cope with my hearing loss, the emphasis is all negative. Most people with a hearing loss are in denial for 5-6 years but for those who are working the average denial is about two years.

The first line of defense is to get a hearing aid or two if needed to survive on the job. Consider telephone devices to help you hear better. Joining a support group is very helpful so you can realize you are not the only person in the world with a hearing loss. Then learn about accommodations you can request from your employer that can help you perform satisfactorily.

There are people, especially women who leave the work force to raise a family or for other reasons, develop a hearing loss and later choose to return to the work force. They are willing to take any job available because of their hearing loss. Below are some suggestions that may be helpful:

- ✓ The information under item 2- Getting a job is a good beginning.
- ✓ Doing volunteer work in the field of your choosing is a great way to get started. Many times this may lead to part-time or full-time employment.
- ✓ Consider upgrading your skills by taking courses at a local community college.
- ✓ Visit a temporary job agency to find an entry level job that may lead to full time work.
- ✓ If you have specific training or job skills check the Internet for job opportunities in your specialty or profession.

Losing your job is a major life crisis for most people but it is even worse if you have a hearing loss. Some people bounce back from a job loss in a few weeks. Others are not themselves after several months and some never really recover. Learning how to deal with the stress is very important for the dislocated worker to get on with your life.

Continued from previous page

Unemployment can have long-term effects on a person's health and emotional well being. It also affects the family. Remember to reintroduce laughter into your life. Norman Cousins author of 'Anatomy of an Illness' discovered that 10 minutes of genuine belly laughter gave him two hours of pain-free sleep. Worry in a positive way. For example, think about a possible new career that you could pursue or consider opening your own business. Practice job interviewing skills to build confidence. Don't forget to apply for unemployment compensation.

Some people struggle with the anxiety that comes from being unemployed. In such instances, consider getting professional help. Ask your primary care physician for a referral. Some communities have low or no-cost professional services available for dislocated workers. Ask your doctor or check the yellow pages of your phone book.

Employment for people with a hearing loss is a complex matter because of the many variables involved and because each person has specific factors that must be considered. Hopefully this article has provided a road map that may be helpful in obtaining and sustaining a job, avoiding unsuitable jobs, getting needed accommodations, interacting with supervisors and co-workers, achieving promotions, losing your hearing while being employed, returning to work with a hearing loss and losing one's job.

Comments about this article are welcome by contacting the author at pfarabas@yahoo.com or 908-876-4748.



Continued from page 1

After experiencing the terror, frustration and emotional anguish of trying to understand her medical treatment and after the doctor retaliated against her by telling her to go to another doctor because of her request for an interpreter, Ms. Gerena decided to sue Dr. Fogari so this would not happen to other Deaf patients. She was represented in the case by Clara R. Smit, an attorney in East Brunswick who specializes in serving the Deaf. After three years of litigation and three long weeks of trial, the jury returned with the verdict against Dr. Fogari. It is hoped this will send a message to doctors across the country that they need to follow the law and provide interpreters to Deaf patients.

Ms. Gerena, Lourdes Torres and Ms. Smit are extremely pleased with the settlement and hope to see major changes in doctors' offices across the country, in their policies and practices, as more and more of these cases are brought. Although the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act specifically require that a doctor provide reasonable accommodation, such as interpreters to the Deaf when necessary for effective

communication, it is only during the past several years that Deaf people have begun to feel empowered to start bringing these lawsuits.

Communication difficulties in the past created limited access to the legal community and the courts in general for Deaf individuals. Thus, Clara R. Smit, who is fluent in American Sign Language and whose parents were Deaf, is the first attorney in New Jersey to bring these suits. Ms. Smit has already settled thirty cases against hospitals in New Jersey and Florida as well as thirteen cases against various doctors in New Jersey and Florida. She currently has a case pending against Dr. Laurie Glasser and Orthopedic Institute of Central Jersey as well as several cases pending against New Jersey hospitals including Community Medical Center, Plainfield Health Center, and Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center for failure to provide interpreters to Deaf patients.

For additional information, please contact Clara R. Smit, Esq. at 732-843-6600.

Diver with Hearing Loss Competes for the U.S.

Submitted by Liz Barany, DDHH Secretarial Assistant

While many young children dream of becoming an Olympic athlete, there is something special that sets US Olympic diver Chris Colwill apart from just any kid with Olympic hopes. Colwill was born with about 40 percent of his hearing, and has been wearing a hearing aid since age four. He can't wear the aid when he dives, so he is not able to hear the whistle that signals to the divers to enter the pool. For this, the referees nod to him in addition



to using the whistle so that he can recognize the signal. He says in general it's an advantage not to be able to hear during competitions, because he isn't distracted by noises. His coach also says it's an advantage, but not for the same reason: "Chris can see things halfway across the pool in a split second that other divers don't see. His sense of awareness of where he is in the air and his peripheral vision is exceptional, too. It's almost cat-like the way Chris can see and react to things."

Chris Colwill's diving career began the same way so many childhood dreams do. Always an active kid, Colwill started out in gymnastics, baseball and soccer. After gymnastics practice one day, he saw divers practicing and wanted to try it. He tried both gymnastics and diving, but diving took over because he liked being in the water. He began training with Jetstream Diving at five years old. He attended Tampa Prep and was a stand-out diver for the school. He was Tampa Prep athlete of the year for 1997-98 and the NISCA High School All-American in 2001. In 2003, he entered the University of Georgia where he met and developed a wonderful working relationship with diving coach Dan Laak. In 2006, he won the NCAA title on 1 Meter and 3 Meter Springboard and was the runner-up on Platform, earning him the honor of NCAA Diver of the Year. Chris is the most decorated diver in Georgia history. After a successful career at Georgia, Colwill graduated in 2008 with a degree in speech communications.

After competing in June's US Olympic diving trials and then July's US Olympic Selection Camp, Chris earned a place on the US Diving Olympic Team for the 2008 Games in Beijing, China. He qualified to participate in the 3 meter Springboard event as well as the Synchronized 3 meter Springboard event with his teammate Jevon Tarantino. Colwill not only possesses great physical strength and leaping ability, he puts together one of the toughest dive lists in the world. In the synchronized event, Colwill and Tarantino are ranked No. 4 in the world.

The Olympic experience was not all that Chris Colwill dreamed or hoped it would be. In the Men's Synchronized 3 meter Springboard event, he and Jevon Tarantino finished fourth losing their hopes for a bronze medal by less than five points. The Americans were third heading into the last of six rounds. Coming up was their reverse three and a half somersault, a dive they like to save for such occasions. "That was our big dog. That was our dive," Tarantino said. Tarantino's entry was short of vertical, resulting in individual scores of 4.0 and 5.0. This allowed Russia to climb from fourth to second. Ukraine finished ahead of the Americans and took the bronze medal.



In his second event of the Olympic Games, the 3 meter Springboard finals, Colwill decided to gamble by performing a list of six dives that, when combined

was the most difficult of any of his competition. The list included a dive that had the highest degree of difficulty and had been attempted by only one other athlete during the Games. He had improved to 11th place before his sixth and final dive, but on his difficult finale - a reverse two and a half with two and a half twists - he scored relatively low. The gamble didn't pay off and resulted in a 12th-place finish.

Chris Colwill makes no excuses for his performance during these 2008 Olympic Games. This is the first Olympics for both Colwill and his teammate Tarantino. "We're new at this," Colwill said, "and we're going to try to come back and win a medal."

“What’s Going On With ACCESS?”

Submitted by Carol Uckar

ACCESS Behavioral Health Services, a behavioral health service agency for individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing has undergone a major change in the past six months. On February 1, 2008 the announcement was made that Barnert Hospital, our home of 24 years, would close. The DHS Division of Mental Health Services worked diligently to secure our new home St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center, also in Paterson, NJ.

Since its inception in 1984, ACCESS was based at Barnert Hospital, a small program, providing counseling services in north and parts of central Jersey. It grew over the years to become the major provider of behavioral health services to Deaf and hard of hearing people throughout the entire state of New Jersey.

ACCESS provides services to Deaf and hard of hearing individuals who need counseling services to help them with problems such as depression, anxiety, substance abuse, problems at home, work or school, and other issues related to hearing loss, etc. We also work with Deaf and hard of hearing individuals who have serious mental illness and require in-patient psychiatric hospitalization. ACCESS provides housing in north Jersey for some Deaf and hard of hearing individuals who have serious mental illness and who require supervision in order to live in the community. In ACCESS South, based at Drenk Behavioral Health Services in Hainesport, we provide counseling services and case management. Psychiatric emergency services are provided 24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout New Jersey.

All clinical services are provided by staff members who are proficient in ASL. All services are strictly confidential. In addition, we welcome resumes from qualified individuals to fill positions as Mental Health Clinician (Master’s Degree in Social Work or Counseling) and Case Worker (Bachelor’s Degree). Please send them to kimbelle@sjhmc.org.

ACCESS-St. Joseph’s Regional Medical Center

646 Broadway
Paterson, NJ 07514
973-977-6690 Voice
973-977-2294 VP/TTY
973-977-2298 FAX
Accessnj@aol.com

Clinical Services: Outpatient Psychotherapy, Partial Hospitalization Program, Residential Services, Psychiatric Emergency Services, Consultations, Assessments for cochlear implant candidates, in conjunction with UMDNJ

Psychiatric Emergency Services:
After office hours/weekends/holidays call 973-345-7357

*Other Offices:

Riverview Medical Center - Mondays

661 Shrewsbury Ave
Shrewsbury, NJ 07702
732-450-2900 Voice

Catholic Charities - Thursdays

288 Rues Lane
East Brunswick, NJ 08816
732-257-6100 Voice

*Call or e-mail Paterson office to make referrals or to obtain more information.

ACCESS SOUTH

Lester A. Drenk
Behavioral Health Services
1289 Rt. 38, Suite 105
Hainesport, NJ 08036
609-267-5656 x260
609-265-9370 VP/TTY
609-265-7857 FAX
Accessouth1@aol.com

Clinical Services: Outpatient psychotherapy, Psychiatric Emergency Services, Consultations, Assessments for cochlear implant candidates, in conjunction with UMDNJ

Psychiatric Emergency Services:
After office hours/ weekends/holidays call 973-345-7357

Other offices:

Birmingham Clinic – Fridays
80 West Upper Ferry Road, 2nd floor
Ewing, NJ 08628-2736
609-396-8877 Voice

*Call on VP or e-mail Hainesport office for all appointments.

Director: Carol Uckar, M.A., C.I.
Contact: Uckarc@sjhmc.org

Peri Himself: 2008 NJCL Convention

Submitted by Stacie Greenberg

It was the first time my 15 year old daughter, Peri, went on a trip that wasn't a family occasion; and to say I was nervous would be an understatement. You might think that's a normal reaction for any mother. Peri is Deaf and she was going



to the middle of the country to participate in the 2008 National Junior Classical League (NJCL) convention as part of the NJ delegation. She would be the only Deaf student there with one interpreter who could effectively communicate with her. I was nervous and excited

for her at the same time. Apparently, my daughter was feeling the same mixture of euphoric anticipation and fear of the unknown.

During the 12 hour drive from New Jersey to the University of Miami, in Oxford, Ohio for the convention, she said she thought a lot about what was going to happen that week. Besides her ASL interpreter Courtney Fast, her friend Aaron, and of course her Latin teacher, Mrs. Pearlman, she would not know anyone else and wondered if people's awkwardness with an interpreter might effect the experience? As it turned out, in her own words, she had one of the best weeks of her life.

Peri decided to take Latin this past year at Clearview Regional High School and enjoyed it so much that she also joined the Latin Club. She then was invited to participate in the annual NJCL convention this past summer as part of the NJ delegation, which also included Collingswood High School, Colts Neck High School, Gateway Regional, and Parsippany High School.

Prior to leaving for the convention, she spent three intense and challenging weeks creating a colored pencil drawing of a Roman soldier, for which she won first place in the 7-9th grade Graphic Arts contest. She also placed ninth in the 9th grade Creative Essay contest and twenty fifth in the Mythology I Academics contest.

To see how New Jersey fared as well as the rest of the other participants, visit www.njcl.org/activities/2008/convention/default.asp. When I

asked Peri what it was like being the only Deaf student there, she replied, "There so many new things I was introduced to, and with exception to a few specific moments, I found it not so hard being a Deaf person there. Maybe it was because we all shared having survived learning Latin or maybe it was because the whole convention was made up of a wide range of diversity of people; but there was a healthy dose of respect for each other in which I was also included."

She shared numerous stories about the friends she made

and bonded with, about the fellowship meetings and the General Assembly which all the delegates were required to attend as well as the spirit awards every delegation tried to win. As a concerned mother, I wanted to know about the specific moment that had occurred and she said, "The only thing



which left a bad taste in my mouth was the Open Certamen. It's like a trivia event, only with a Latin/Roman culture theme. In my humble opinion, even at a normal trivia event with a Deaf person, interpreter and a bunch of hearing people, it's hard for a Deaf person to have fun. The interpreter has just started the question and everyone else is already answering with wild intensity. Throw in some Latin, hard to spell names, and more Latin, you get a lot of confusion. It just doesn't work. I don't blame the people running this; they never had a Deaf person attend here. They did ask us what they could improve for next year when our situation was explained, but really, it was the only smudge in an

outstanding week that I am willing to overlook." I was very pleased to see how open they were toward changes to improve this issue for next year's convention.

As her mother and advocate for so many years, having to let go was difficult. Peri went, had a great time, did well in the competitions, and was accepted for who she is and what she could offer as a participant. I think she represented her school and the State of New Jersey very well. I am very proud of my daughter.

For Peri's perspective, go to page 12 of this issue.



Clearview High School Student Essays

My Experiences as a Deaf Latin Student

By Peri Himsel

While traveling in a bus from New Jersey to the University of Miami, in Oxford, Ohio for the National Junior Classical League convention of 2008 a 12 hour drive), I was worrying constantly about what was going to happen that week. Besides my interpreter Courtney Fast and my friend Aaron, I knew nobody there and worst yet, I wondered would my trip here be ruined by people's awkwardness with an interpreter? As it turned out, my worrying was for naught, as I had one of the best weeks of my life.

I had decided to take-up Latin the past year in high school, and was invited to come to the annual National Junior Classical League (NJCL) convention that summer. Prior to the convention, I had spent three frustrating weeks creating a colored pencil drawing of a Roman soldier and I won first place. That and ninth place in an essay contest wasn't the only thing that surprised me.

To put it bluntly, I enjoyed being around mostly smart but really crazy people all week. It's hard to summarize my time there, because there so many new things I was introduced to. However, it was not hard being a deaf person there. Maybe it was these people who survived learning Latin or just the whole convention being full of a large variety of people but I felt most people had a good dose of respect for each other, in which I was also included.

Everyday there was sort of an adventure. It wasn't until Thursday that Courtney and I got the general idea of the campus layout, so we spent a bit of time finding the events we picked from the schedule, like Ludi Chess, lunch, essay contest, and art registration. With that idea in mind, I like to impart to you a little lesson I learned there: Sometimes, flip-flops are not good for walking long distances.

In the middle of this adventure I found myself in, all delegates were required everyday to attend something called "The General Assembly". Basically, it was this bunch of speeches and awards from previous conventions and for the people that went, the main thing that put the spice in it was the "theme" of the day. Previous to the convention, the Latin teachers and attendees are told the theme of the day, and they have to create an outfit (composed of a t-shirt, something to hold and something on your head) to fit the theme.

I'd like you to imagine this: over 500 people from different states, dressed up in crazy outfits, in a giant assembly

hall, some who are carrying potential weapons like pitchforks and giant signs, all told if they cheer their heart out till their throat gets sore they have a chance at getting a spirit award. And this goes on for a full 15 minutes, so loudly even a deaf person would be complaining. You will not be able to feel your arm after the first five minutes of hefting your "potential weapon" and screaming till you lose your voice all in effort to be noticed. I will admit the total truth here: It was an enormous amount of fun and pain at the same time.

I went without knowing most of the people of there except for brief glimpses of the some that went to my school. Now me, I'm not the best at making friends, but there, I would see these people everyday, go to at least two events with some of them, and we all kind of bonded at fellowship meetings every night as we sat in a really hot room and discussed our day.

I might not be best friends with all of them, but I got to know them, and by the end of the week we would all sit together for breakfast, lunch or dinner and most of us felt comfortable joking around with each other. When it was time to say goodbye, we didn't want to. The only event which I didn't like was the Open Certamen (it's like a trivia event, only with a Latin/Roman culture theme).

In my humble opinion, even at a normal trivia event with a deaf person, and interpreter and a bunch of hearing people, it would be hard for the deaf person to have fun while the interpreter has just started the question and everyone's answering (no offense to my interpreters here, I know you're doing the best you can). Now throw in some Latin, hard to spell names, and more Latin, and you get a lot of confusion.

I don't blame the people running this, as they never had a deaf person attend here. They did ask us what they could improve for next year when explained our situation but really, it was the only glitch in a good week that I can overlook. Friday ended beautifully with a "Roman Feast" with all the states dressed in togas and eating some good food (the better stuff they hid all week from the dining halls, but I'm not complaining). We ended up putting the NJCL president in a maid's costume that one of our, err, male, delegates wore for NJ's "That's Entertainment" show act (also the one he fell off the stage with). We again all gathered in the hot, stuffy room for fellowship for the last time where we went over the highlights of the week and I think we were all wishing this didn't have to end. I know I was.

Clearview Regional High School is located in Mullica Hill, NJ and house a Deaf Education program.

For Peri's mom's perspective, go to page 11 of this issue.

Continued on next page

A New Door to the Deaf World

By Melissa Simon

Hi, my name is Melissa Simon. I am a senior at Clearview Regional High School, in a deaf program. I have been in a hearing school with a deaf program my whole life. Four years ago, I was a girl who thought there was only one world, the so called “hearing world.” A new door began to appear when Mrs. Cross-Jones, my teacher of the deaf at Clearview, experienced a world beyond this one.

The world I’m talking about is called “The Deaf World” where I would find perfect communication access and other people like myself. For once in my life, I won’t feel alone in the world of the “hearing.” However, not only would the deaf world help me fit in but to spread the knowledge that deaf people have a lot to offer.

You’re probably wondering “Where is this deaf world?” Well, I have the answer to your question. The first paragraph I briefly mentioned that my teacher went into a world beyond this one. The deaf world she stepped into takes place at Gallaudet University in Washington D.C. Gallaudet is an unique college because only deaf and hard-of-hearing students can attend. Not only that but they also provide support and guidance for their students.

This past summer for the first time I experienced a whole week at Gallaudet University. I wanted to take up classes in a program called “Knowledge for College” to help me prepare for the ACT test. Also, I wanted to get a taste of college life and the “Deaf World.”

The very first time I stepped on Gallaudet’s campus, my eyes grew big and my heart started to race! Everyone around me was signing and I didn’t have to struggle to understand what they were saying. The new door was finally unlocked and I opened it with complete shock. It was like entering the world of my dreams.

At Gallaudet, I interacted with deaf people and teachers on the campus. It was so cool because I learned a lot from them and from Gallaudet itself. After talking to deaf people in my group, we all became friends. Every day, we would have breakfast, lunch, and dinner together. These people came from many different states and I loved hearing about their home town and learning different signs. We learned a lot from each other and in the classrooms as well.

Gallaudet is a place where your self-esteem will grow and a smile will always be upon your face. After enjoying my stay at Gallaudet, I learned that we will always need the support of others in order to succeed. This was a one-in-a-lifetime experience and I hope to share my knowledge with those who are interested in the deaf world. I can’t help but thank Mrs. Cross-Jones for opening my eyes, and my heart, for sharing her experiences at Gallaudet University with me.

Visiting RIT and My Future

By Stephanie Penk

Hi everyone! My name is Stephanie Penk. I am deaf and an eighteen-year old senior at Clearview Regional High School in Mullica Hill, NJ. I want to tell you about my experiences at Rochester Institute of Technology and what I want to do in my future.

I first heard about RIT for Explore Your Future program from my teacher named Mrs. Cross-Jones. She said she thought it would be a good experience for me. It’s for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing high school junior and senior students who are preparing to make decisions about colleges and careers.

On July 19th, my parents drove me to RIT in six hours. It was a long drive. I was so nervous because it was my first time to visit there. I never stopped being nervous. I finally arrived at RIT and saw a lot of people I didn’t know. I met with the new people. They were so nice to me. Everyone was signing. It was fun to hang out with them.

I had to take the COMPASS/ESL Test for college. I passed. I was so happy and was proud of myself. I had two classes for 5 days. I learned about different career categories such as Realistic (Doers), Investigative (Thinkers), Artistic (Creators), Social (Helpers), Enterprising (Leaders) and Conventional (Organizers) for career explorer. It helped me learn about myself and possible life/career choices. I participated in a lot of activities including ice skating, swimming, and going to a movie. I made some new friends. They are from different states such as Louisiana, Florida, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and California. We all had so much fun at RIT.

I have to make a decision about which college I want to go to after high school. It’s hard for me to decide. I don’t want to go away from my family and friends. They are always supportive and are there for me. I was thinking about maybe going to Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ then transferring to RIT for two years. I really want to become a fashion designer. That’s my dream. I love to make clothes and things like quilts and purses.

All my life, I have been in a deaf program in public schools. I have never been at a school with so many deaf people and where everyone signs. It was a shock for me but it was great experience. I felt so involved and it was a happy feeling.

NJ-ASLTA

(New Jersey American Sign Language Teacher Association)

Presents

“Hands On Activities”

Presenter Sharon Lane from Ohio

November 22, 2008

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Rahway Library in Rahway, NJ

2 City Hall Plaza, Rahway, New Jersey

For more information, including workshop fees, contact Lynne Jacob at NJASLTA@aol.com.

ALDA-GS

(Association of Late Deafened Adults-Garden State)

Presents its

Fall Workshop

December 6, 2008

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

at the East Brunswick Public Library

2 Jean Walling Civic Center East Brunswick, NJ 08816

Morning - Jeffrey Newman, Deputy Clerk,

Appellate Division Superior Court of NJ will speak on court access for those with hearing loss.

Free lunch will be served.

Afternoon - Thomas Lesnick, Manager of Client Services, PhoneTag will demonstrate PhoneTag service.

CART, assistive devices and sign language interpreters will be available,

courtesy of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The College of New Jersey's Deaf-Hearing Connection

Proudly presents

Christy Smith and Dave Justice

Co-founders of Discovering Deaf Worlds.

Wednesday, November 5, 2008

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

(reception to follow)

The College of New Jersey

Mildred & Ernest E. Mayo Concert Hall

for directions visit www.tcnj.edu.

Christy and Dave will discuss their experiences with Deaf cultures around the world, including those in India, Nepal, and Thailand to name a few! Interpreting services will be provided and there is no admission fee.

For more information, contact The Deaf-Hearing Connection at deafhc@tcnj.edu.

Sorenson Communications Hosts New Jersey Center Open House

Submitted by Stacie T. Angelo

Sorenson Communications hosted an open house for its new Edison, NJ, Video Relay Service (VRS) Interpreting Center on Wednesday, August 20. The Deaf community, interpreters, family, and friends saw first-hand the inside workings of a VRS center and met some of the faces behind the Sorenson Communications name.

Among those in attendance were Ron Burdett, Sorenson Communications Vice President of Community Relations in the Salt Lake City office; Jody Kulchinsky, Area Specialist Manager; Michael Canale, Eastern Region District Manager; Stacie Angelo, Interpreter Manager for the Edison VRS Interpreting Center; and installers/trainers, as well as Edison VRS interpreters, who helped out with demonstrations, tours, set-ups, and refreshments. Jo Madden, Manager of the Philadelphia VRS Interpreting Center; Debbie Olsen and Chris Tester, Director and Manager (respectively) of the New York City Sorenson VRS Interpreting Center also attended.

The open house was held under an outdoor tent and began with a welcome by the center manager, followed with remarks by Michael Canale. Jody Kulchinsky then introduced Ron Burdett, who shared stories of how he used to have to depend on his wife to make calls on the TTY. He explained how he now works closely with the FCC to ensure that the Deaf community has every opportunity for equal communication access, including access to communication for 911 emergencies. The formalities ended with an official ribbon-cutting and tours of the new center and demonstrations of VRS technology.

For more information about the center and Sorenson, contact Stacie T. Angelo, Manager Edison Sorenson VRS Interpreting Center, Sorenson Communications 866-639-1487; 516-356-4902 Cell; 908-755-7797 FAX; sangelo@sorenson.com or visit us at www.sorensonvrs.com.



KEAN
UNIVERSITY



Dr. Jan Gross

ANTI-SEMITISM IN POLAND AFTER AUSCHWITZ

A Lecture By Dr. Jan Gross

- Noted historian and renowned lecturer
- Acclaimed award-winning author and scholar on the Holocaust
- Norman B. Tomlinson Professor of War and Society at Princeton University
- National Book Award Nominee for *Neighbors: The Destruction of the Jewish Community of Jedwabne, Poland*
- Author of *Fear, Polish Society Under German Occupation, Revolution From Abroad*; co-editor of *The Politics of Retribution in Europe: World War II and its Aftermath*, and *War Through Children's Eyes*
- Senior Fulbright Research, John Simon Guggenheim Memorial, and Rockefeller Humanities Fellow

Monday, December 1, 2008
7:50 p.m.
Wilkins Theatre

This is another in a series of public lectures sponsored by the Holocaust Resource Foundation.
There is no entrance fee. Doors open at 7:00 p.m.
Parking near the North Avenue entrance. Sign language interpretation available.

Holocaust Resource Center

1000 Morris Avenue, Union, New Jersey 07083; 908-737-4660; www.kean.edu

Job Opportunities



South Jersey Behavioral Health Resources, Inc. (SJBHR) a community-based mental health organization dedicated to providing quality behavioral health services since 1980, with 12 locations throughout Camden County is currently accepting applications for the following position:

Clinical Program Coordinator to oversee the daily operations of the Regional Resource Center (RRC) component of the agency's Adult Partial Care program. Manages, supervises, and coordinates the clinical operations of the unit including facilitating case conference, providing supervision to assigned staff, and involvement in other clinical and administrative duties as assigned by the Clinical Program Manager with an additional focus on services for Deaf and hard of hearing consumers. The Clinical Program Coordinator is also responsible for the direct provision of therapeutic services. Salary - \$70,000. Master's Degree in psychology, social work or related discipline

with a minimum of two years experience with the mental health population. Experience working with the Deaf and knowledge of American Sign Language required. Supervisory/leadership experience preferred.

SJBHR offers our employees an excellent benefits package including health insurance, pension plan and paid leave time. Interested candidates should submit detailed resumes with cover letter to hrc@sjbhr.org 856-488-1450 FAX (Attention: HR); SJBHR, Inc. Office of Human Resources 900 Dudley Avenue, Suite 100 Cherry Hill, NJ 08002.

Looking for an instructor who knows how to knit and crochet to teach individuals who are Deaf and hard of hearing. Will pay instructor and provide interpreter if needed. Call Kathy Kady-Hopkins at 732-418-9054.

Religious Access

For November through the winter months, **Cornerstone Presbyterian Church** will change its hours for worship services. The early service at 9:30 a.m. will have an interpreter to sign the complete service, along with a power point screen. We invite all those who are Deaf or hard of hearing to join for lively and friendly worship. (The 11:00 a.m. service does not have an interpreter, but still is open to all people.)

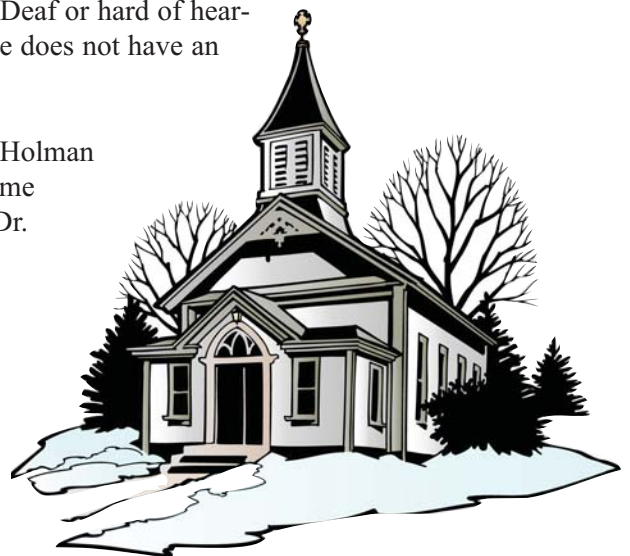
Cornerstone is a new church development that meets at the Lucy Holman Elementary School, 125 Manhattan Street, Jackson NJ. We welcome people of all backgrounds and faiths. For more information, call Dr. Rob Morrison, 732-928-2424 or check our Web page: www.CornerstonePCUSA.com

First Baptist Church

47-51 South Street
Manasquan, NJ 08736

Interpreted Service - 11:00 a.m.

Visit us at www.fbcmanasquan.org
For more information, contact us at fbcmanasquan@juno.com



Religious Access



Grace Bible Chapel of the Deaf

Christmas Dinner

December 6, 2008

12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Rev. Martin Lewis, Guest Speaker

“Hope in Messiah”

Grace Bible Chapel, 100 Oakdale Road, Chester, NJ 07930

\$15 Adults (13 and over), \$5 Children (6 – 12)

Free Children (5 and under)

Check payable to Grace Bible Chapel. Include number of adults and children will attend.
For more information, contact Bamba Levy, Bam5366@aol.com

Meet Me At The Mall Deaf Social Chat

The Deaf Ministry of Apostolic Tabernacle is hosting a monthly Deaf fellowship meeting at the Hamilton Mall. Meetings are open to all Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Interpreters and anyone who signs!
This is simply a time of fellowship and making new friends.

Meetings take place on the last Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in front of Arby's and Foot Locker in the food court (on the second floor). For more information, contact Nancy Palmer - suepal70@comcast.net
609-476-3364 Voice/TTY; 609-412-1130 Cell (text)

Saints for Our Time

Rev. Michael Depcik, OSFS, Guest Presenter

Saturday, January 31, 2009

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saint Katharine Drexel Shrine
1662 Bristol Pike
Bensalem, PA 19020

\$20 includes lunch and a morning snack

The Diocese of Camden and the Archdiocese of Philadelphia invite you to attend this retreat at the National Shrine of Saint Katharine Drexel. Fr. Mike Depcik, a deaf priest from Chicago, is well known as an inspiring and down to earth presenter. The location is minutes off of Route 95. The day will conclude with a Vigil Mass.

For more information, contact Sr. Bonnie McMenamin 856-583-6111 Voice/TTY 856-482-3044 VP

bmcmenamin@camdendiocese.org

For directions: www.katharinedrexel.org

Religious Access

Ministry With the Deaf/International Catholic Deaf Association

Christmas Social

Sunday, December 14, 2008

Mass - 11:00 a.m. Social - 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

St. Gregory's Church/Hall, 340 E. Evesham Avenue, Magnolia, New Jersey 08049

Ziti Pasta, Meatballs, Ham, Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Desserts, Hot & Cold Beverages.

Please bring a dessert. 50/50 Chances, door prizes and more.

Win a handcrafted nativity set made in Italy. Christmas Play by CCD Children.

Please bring one (1) gift for each of your children for Santa Claus to give out.

Do not forget to put your child's name on the gift.

If you do not have a child, your donation of a gift would be appreciated.

In Advance: \$10 per person (13 years old & up); \$6 per child (4-12 years old);
\$25 per family; Children 3 years and under - Free.

At the door (Cash only): \$12 per person (13 years old & up); \$8 per child (4-12 years old);
\$30 per family; Children 3 years and under - Free.

Please buy your tickets in advance. Deadline December 7 - NO REFUNDS

To buy tickets, see Gracemarie Newman or mail a check made payable to
the Ministry With the Deaf to 525 Doe Lane, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034.

Include name and number of adults, children and total cost.

For more information, call 856-795-6481 TTY/Voice; 856-482-5657 FAX; deafministrynj@yahoo.com

Silent Choir Performance

Directed by Kathy Kady-Hopkins

November 16, 2008

During the 12:00 Noon Sign Interpreted Mass

Immaculate Conception Church, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

Silent Choir is comprised of a group of local women, having a common interest of wanting to communicate with Deaf and hard of hearing individuals through the beautiful expression of using sign language to interpret music and song.

and

First Social

Sunday, January 18, 2009

Following the 12:00 noon Mass in the cafeteria

Immaculate Conception Church, 18 South Street, Spotswood, NJ 08884

Come and join our new and exciting Deaf club. Deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing people are all invited. Come and enjoy being with old friends and meeting new ones.

For more information about both of these events, contact Tevis Thompson, Program Coordinator, Diocese of Metuchen Deaf Apostolate at deaf1@comcast.net. 302-529-7088 Voice/TTY/FAX

Communicator Signboard



Perth Amboy Deaf Club

Dinner, Bingo, 50/50, Lucky Game

November 30, 2008
12:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

\$22 Bingo with Food

Holy Spirit church
Church Basement
580 Hazel & Brace Avenues
Perth Amboy, New Jersey 08861

Tri State Deaf Club
BINGO

November 8, 2008

Raritan Township Fire House
303 South Main St in Flemington, NJ 08822.

Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and
BINGO starts at 7:00 p.m.

Admission is always free and
you only pay to play BINGO.

We also have two 50/50 drawings each night.

Flemington is located only 60 minutes from NYC and
Philadelphia; and only 45 minutes from
Allentown PA. For more information, contact

Tammy Williamson, President
at 908-782-3712 VP or visit us at
tristatedeafclub.com



Communicator Signboard

Atlantic County Society of the Deaf
hosts



Saturday, November 15, 2008
7:00 p.m.

General Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

At VFW 601 N. Dorset Avenue, Ventnor, New Jersey

50/50 Chances, Bank Nite, Refreshments on sale

Members \$6; Non-Members \$8.

For questions, contact ACSD66@aol.com

Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc., (NWAJD)
proudly hosts its



First Holiday Bazaar

Saturday, November 29, 2008
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 215 Boulevard, Mountain Lakes, New Jersey

Vendors with lots of interesting items, great for holiday gifts.
Donations will go to the Bonnie Thomas Memorial Fund.
Refreshments will be sold.

Everyone is welcomed, including sign language students.
For more information, contact us at HolidayBazaar08@nwjad.org
Also visit www.nwjad.org.

Communicator Signboard

Twas the Night Before Christmas

by Kathryn Schultz Miller

A delightful play based on the tale by Clement Clark Moore.
Appropriate for children of all ages.

November 29, 3:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m., November 30, 3:00 p.m.
December 5, 7:30 p.m., December 6, 3:00 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

The December 5 performance will be interpreted into American Sign Language.
Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) will be available upon request December 5 & 6.
Persons needing special accommodations are requested to give two weeks advance notification.

Performances take place at the Broad Street Methodist Church,
36 E. Broad Street, Burlington, NJ

Tickets \$8

For tickets or more information please call: 856-303-7620 or visit www.bridgeplayerstheatre.com.

Funding is made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State,
a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts from a grant to the
Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders,
Department of Resource Conservation, Division of Cultural Affairs & Tourism.

North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.
presents

Children's Christmas & Chanukah Party

Saturday, December 6, 2008

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran Church
810 Broad Street, Clifton, New Jersey

Magic Bob and Santa Claus will be there to entertain your children and grandchildren.
Bring your school friends. Sign language interpreters will be provided.

Members \$ 8; Non-members \$ 10; Children under 11 free.
Advance ticket purchase is required. No ticket purchases at the door.
Deadline November 27, 2008

Send check or money order to NJCCD, Inc. and mail to:
Elizabeth Rozynski, 76 Hoffman Avenue, Lake Hiawatha, NJ 07034
Include total amount and ages of those attending.

For directions, ticket reservation coupon and more information about this event, please visit www.njccdsite.org or
e-mail Elizabeth at ERSMILE58@aol.com. Elizabeth Rozynski and Maria Stefenon, event co-chairpersons.

Communicator Signboard

South Jersey Deaf Club, Inc.

2nd Annual Holiday Celebration

December 7, 2008

1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Vanity Fare (Best Western Hotel)

1600 Route 70 East, Lakewood, New Jersey 08701

Gifts, 50/50, Cash Bar

Casual Wear, No children, No walk ins.

Buffets: appetizers, sliced steak pizzaola, orient wok, sliced sirloin, chicken francasie, stuffed shells, cake included coffee/tea, soda/juice.

Members \$45; Non-members \$47 before November 3
After November 3, \$5 additional.

Deadline November 23, 2008



North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.
presents

Christmas & Hanukkah Holiday Dinner Party

December 13, 2008

5:30 p.m.

The Excelsior, 190 Route 46 East, Saddle Brook, NJ

**Sit-down family style dinner including unlimited
soda and wine. Cash bar.**

Door prizes and \$1,000 in Christmas gifts given away.

Members \$45; Non-members \$50.

Make check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc. mail to
Beverly Golden, 26 Thomas Street, Clifton, NJ 07013

Deadline November 30, 2008

Limited-120 people (first come, first served).

Order your tickets now so you won't miss the holiday fun with us.

Chairman Phil Esposito and Co-Chairman Jerry Perdue

For more information about this holiday event, please visit www.njccdsite.org.



Communicator Signboard

ALDA-NJ
invites you to

Olde Time Holiday Party

December 6, 2008

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

at Willie's Taverne, 285 Highway 202, Bedminster, NJ 07921
(williestaverne.com)

hor d'oeuvres, buffet dinner, cash bar

\$45 per person

RSVP by November 22

Contact Elinore Bullock elinorebullock7embarqmail.com
908-832-5083 CapTel (evenings)



Atlantic County Society of the Deaf
hosts

Annual Christmas Dinner

VFW

601 N. Dorest Avenue
Ventnor, New Jersey 08406

Saturday, December 20, 2008

6:00 p.m.

Buffet Style by Tasty Buds Catering - Hot Roast Beef,
Meatballs, Baked Ziti, Chicken Parm, Rolls,
Tossed Salad with Dressing, Sheet Cake, Coffee & Wine

Bank night giveaway, Merry Christmas Money in Envelope,
50/50, More PRIZES

Party Dress-Up (No Jeans) Adults Only

Donation: Members \$20; Non-members \$25 No Refunds.

Reservations Only. No Tickets Sold at Door.

Deadline for reservations is December 13.

Mail payment to

Atlantic County Society of the Deaf

c/o Christmas Dinner

PO Box, 3088, Margate, NJ 08402

Make money order/check payable to: A.C.S.D.

For questions, contact ACSD66@aol.com

Chairpersons Kathy Reese & Carol Hangstorfer



Calendar of Events 2009

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, January 30, 2009

East Brunswick Public Library
2 Civic Blvd., East Brunswick NJ

9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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

New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week, Inc. Deaf Fest 2009

Middlesex County Fairgrounds
East Brunswick, NJ

Sunday, September 13, 2009

www.njdaw.org

DDHH Office - Days Closed

Election Day November 4, Veteran's Day November 11, Thanksgiving November 27

Regular Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

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