

December 2010

Monthly Communicator

Vol. 31 No.11

Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner
David C. Alexander, Director



Page 2

Director's Report

Page 5

Field Representative
Reports

Page 11

HLA-NJ Walk4Hearing
a Great Success

*Produced by DHS
Office of Publications*

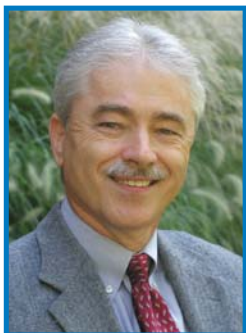
Seasons Greetings

*and
the Happiest of New Years
from all of us at the
Division of the Deaf and
Hard of Hearing.*



Director's Corner

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



As we look back on this calendar year, DDHH worked collaboratively with government, private and public entities to improve the quality of life for residents of New Jersey who are Deaf and hard of hearing. Here are some examples of how DDHH has worked for you:

- Awareness training was provided about hearing loss to the Division on Civil Rights.
- Consultation regarding affordable housing was provided to Project Freedom.
- Training about hearing loss provided to State Central Registry, New Jersey's Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline to enhance their awareness of resources available to children with welfare concerns.
- DDHH partnered with the NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation to enhance employment of people with hearing loss.
- DDHH collaborated with the New Jersey county offices on aging to provide training/resources.
- Equipment Distribution Program operating to provide telecommunications and home safety devices to low-income families.
- Awareness activities were conducted including, "Better Hearing and Speech Month", "Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day" and participated in numerous health and disability awareness events around the state.
- 2010 New Jersey Pediatric Hearing Healthcare - participated in teleconference to educate audiologist, speech and language therapists and hearing healthcare professionals.
- DDHH collaborated with the state police and emergency management personnel regarding communication access to alert networks.
- Advocacy provided for communication access to health care and other public services
- Spring 2011 Family Learning Conference - planning conference to provide families with resources to make informed decisions about their child's hearing health.

As we enter the New Year, DDHH will continue to work on your behalf, to advance the quality of life for New Jersey residents with hearing loss. Along with the division's staff, I wish all our readers a happy, healthy and safe new year.

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

Reminder

The deadline for the February 2011 issue is
January 1.

The deadline for the January 2011 issue was
December 1, 2010.

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.

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

609-498-7019 VP (Video Phone)

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.



The Regional Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals is under **South Jersey Behavioral Health Resources inc.** The RRC, located in Magnolia, New Jersey, provides an array of services to adults with a mental illness in South and Central New Jersey.

The RRC provides a day program in a barrier free setting. Consumers attend groups which are facilitated by a therapist who is fluent in American Sign Language. During these groups, consumers learn how to cope with their issues, share information and experiences, and provide feedback to one another. They also have access to video relay where they can contact friends, family, as well as make medical appointments and contact various social service agencies. A computer is available to gain information, and to connect with others.

Consumers attend a variety of mainstreamed groups, which include Basic Literacy, Medication Education, and Solutions to Wellness. By attending these groups, Deaf and hard of hearing consumers are able to enhance independent skills, focus on wellness and recovery, and successfully integrate into the community.

Currently, eight consumers attend the Partial Care Program. Four of these consumers have been able to successfully remain stable and maintain work in sheltered workshops.

The RRC also has a residential facility. The Deborah Brown House is located in Camden New Jersey. The group home has 24 hour coverage which include Deaf and hearing staff. All staff is fluent in American Sign Language. While living in the group home residents are able to increase their daily living skills by learning how to cook, clean, care for themselves, and take medication independently. This structured setting, will provide skills necessary for residents to eventually move to a less supervised and more independent living situation.

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting Friday, January 28, 2011 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM

**East Brunswick Public Library
2 Jean Walling Civic Center
East Brunswick, NJ 08816-3529**

The public is invited to attend.

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

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

A Place for Youth Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing to Connect



By Arielle Schacter

Founder and Editor-in-Chief of bf4life

Hearing aids are not glamorous; they are not an accessory like shoes, purses or even glasses. Do you remember being in first or second grade and seeing the children around you getting glasses? Do you remember that insane jealousy that came over you when you realized that those chic spectacles were not for you? Well, no one was ever jealous of my hearing aids. They were dorky, tan, heavy little things that stood on top of my ears transforming my ears into elephant ears.

Hearing aids are loud and noisy: they emit a whistle in the most embarrassing of places, create static in the background when not working properly and shout in your ear without clarifying anything. I have a moderate-to-severe loss, which means the first sounds that I can hear are at 56 to 70 db (think busy traffic or a vacuum cleaner). I easily get headaches when I can't hear, such as when my hearing aids do not work and I have to rely on my own hearing/lip reading to an unhealthy extent.

That is where this story begins: it was an early fall day, when I had a

particularly bad headache-a migraine-and I needed someone else to talk to who would understand what I was going through. Unfortunately, I did not know anyone else with a hearing loss who could relate. In my desperation, I decided to set up a Web site, bf4life-hearing, which would serve as a social community for teens and tweens, who are deaf/hard of hearing, where teens and tweens could talk and discuss their hearing loss.

The name of the site, bf4life-hearing, literally means best friends for life minus hearing, since the site acts as a forum where a network of teens who are deaf/hard of hearing can connect in times of need to become online correspondents. The Web site is composed of a blog, a social network, a forum and pages that further enhance the "coolness" of hearing loss in modern media. For instance, one can find clips from some popular shows - does Glee, House M.D., Law and Order ring a bell? - that features hearing loss in a positive light. Each page helps break down the stigmatic wall that disguises what hearing loss truly is.

As bf4life-hearing grew, it became a medium to discuss issues that affect teens/tweens who are deaf/hard of

hearing. The model face of hearing loss is not the stereotypical elderly, but the youthful teen; the website helps take away the stigma attached to hearing loss by creating a silent revolution by creating a safe place where teens can go to feel comfortable discussing their hearing loss and become empowered by other teens' success stories. The blog regularly features relating news stories from around the world, hot and young Hollywood actors and athletes who have some form of a hearing loss or a connection to the community, and self-help guides for teens who are deaf/hard of hearing when it comes to their hearing loss.

While hearing aids might not be the next new status symbol, teens have a fun, safe, comfortable, and international place to talk about their hearing loss on bf4life-hearing. Hearing aids may not be glamorous, but they definitely can be embraced, forcing a change in the view of hearing loss in the world. Hopefully, the silent revolution that started on the pages of bf4life-hearing will continue on in the daily lives of teens who are deaf/hard of hearing everywhere.

Visit www.bf4life-hearing.weebly.com

DDHH Field Representative Reports for November



Bruce Street School for the Deaf Celebrates 100 Years

Jason Weiland

DDHH Field Representative

On October 22, Bruce Street School for the Deaf celebrated its 100 anniversary. The school was built in 1910 on Chestnut Street in Newark but now located on Clinton Place in Newark's George Washington Carver School.

It was a beautiful warm sunny fall day as I pulled into the school's parking lot area and unloaded my 'luggage' to join the day's event as an exhibitor for the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Despite the early morning hour, the school was alive with many exhibitors setting up their wares and services in the gym. The big names in relay services such as New Jersey Relay, Sprint, ZVRS, Purple, and Sorenson VRS were present and joined other vendors that displayed jewelry, health products, assistive technology, and other items of interest to the community. One section of the gym also displayed videos, archived Bruce Street photographs, and information boards about the school.

Staff, alumni, and students had planned a program for the hundreds of attendees who were present. Many community members and parents also joined for the special celebration. Students gave performances that symbolized each decade of Bruce Street's history. The audience cheered and hand-waved as the performers went through their numbers and showed just how far the school has progressed in providing deaf education. I was humbled to have been asked to talk about NJ DDHH services and programs. I related how I had first visited Bruce Street School in 2000 and watched the program grow and prosper. A fitting end to the two hour

long program was the appearance of deaf performer CJ Jones. He stars in the documentary, "See What I'm Saying." (www.seewhatimsayingmovie.com). He dazzled the audience with his wit and humor which left the crowd in tears and laughter.

Many visitors were seen catching up with old friends, making news ones, and reliving old memories. I was lucky enough to meet Barbara "Bertha" Streicher, a Bruce Street School student who attended the school from 1930 – 1942 and is one of the school's oldest remaining alumni today. Bertha shared

a picture and memories from the 1930's with me. I was extremely touched and literally speechless as I watched her recount the wonderful experiences she had at Bruce Street School.

I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to the Bruce Street School for the Deaf on the 100 Year Celebration (1910 – 2010) and wish them the best for another 100 years. The day couldn't have been achieved without the many staff and alumni who worked on the event that day and also hosted a celebration dinner on October 23.

New Jersey CapTel's Fourth Annual Taste of Technology 2010



Traci Burton

DDHH Field Representative

On Friday November 5, NJ CapTel held its fourth annual Taste of Technology mini-conference at Montclair State University, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in Bloomfield. Responding to past participant feedback, this year's event differed from the three prior in that it was devoted to the needs of individuals who are hard of hearing. Spring 2011 will see a Taste of Technology mini-conference dedicated to those who are Deaf.

Ann Marie DePierro, NJ CapTel Outreach Specialist and Aparna Lele, NJ CapTel Account Manager welcomed everyone to the event. The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) representative Patricia Campbell, who also sits on the NJ Relay Advisory Board as well as working on relay services, gave a brief address. She replaces Bruce Gallagher, who represented the NJ BPU on the NJ Relay Advisory Board for 23 years, and looks forward to helping the community receive the "quality and efficient service they deserve."

The 80 attendees enjoyed the hands-on exhibits and demonstrations of Web CapTel, the CapTel 800 and 800i, Relay Conference Captioning (RCC) as well as some mobile options. Both Sprint Relay Store and Bridges to Employment, A Division of Alternatives, Inc., also had an

[continued on next page](#)

DDHH Field Rep Reports for November (cont'd)

Traci Burton (continued from previous page)



information table. DDHH was present and available to answer any questions.

The day featured several presentations; the first given by Janice L. Schacter, chair of the Hearing Access Program. Janice's talk was entitled "Effective Access for People with Hearing Loss" during which she discussed various assistive listening devices such as FM systems, infrared systems and induction loops. She stressed throughout her presentation how important it is to let others know in advance what you need to participate in a particular function. Contact the facility and provide them with information on what you need, as well as sufficient and reasonable time in which to accommodate the request.

"Accessible Mobile Communications" was presented by Carolyn Lance, NJ CapTel Outreach Specialist and Tom Bongiorno, Vice-President of Operation for Wireless Innovations. The CapTel 800 (1 or 2 lines), 800i (Internet based) and Web CapTel were described. Wireless CapTel was the hot topic and should be available sometime in December. The user will have a local voice number, as well as a dedicated CapTel number (data connection). A headset will be needed to hear the conversation as you will need to look at the mobile device to read the captions.

Nicole Raia, third year doctoral student, audiology program at MSU, talked about "communication strategies." She gave tips not only to the individuals with hearing loss, but also to those communicating with folks who are hard of hearing. Nicole reminded us to set realistic goals, to be aware of body language and to look for cues that there is a misunderstanding. Nicole's presentation included a YouTube video



CapTel 800

which was not captioned and led to a demonstration given by Daniel Stein, grandson of Beverly Sudler, NJ Relay Advisory Board member.

// ...attendees enjoyed the hands-on exhibits and demonstrations of Web CapTel, the CapTel 800 and 800i. //

If you are interested in captioning for a video you are watching on YouTube, first look to see a "cc" icon on the right bottom of the video feed (not all videos offer this). Click on it. The icon should now be red. Next, hover the cursor over the red "cc" icon and a menu will appear; click on "transcribe audio." The captions should now appear. It is important to note that they are not perfect and the program is currently experimental as they are not yet done developing the system.

The Taste of Technology conferences lend an opportunity and environment for learning and experience sharing, from which all benefit. Details for the conference in the spring will be available in the coming months. Congratulations to Aparna and her team for another successful event!



Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey (HLA NJ)

by Peter Yerkes, Trustee, HLA-NJ



This month HLA-NJ presents real-life success stories we think you will enjoy.

We are proud to introduce you to three college freshmen, winners of HLA-NJ's \$1,000 College Scholarship Awards, who have shown admirable persistence in pursuing their goals.

■ **Amanda Hamlin**, 18 from Paramus, maintained a straight A average at Paramus High School. The only Deaf student in the school, she was elected to the National Honor Society and the National Art Society. She was goalie for the soccer and lacrosse team. Ms. Hamlin was two and a half when she was diagnosed with a severe hearing loss - an age when hearing is vital in developing speech and comprehension skills. She persevered, with help from hearing aids and, later, cochlear implants. Even the failure of the first two implants didn't stop her. "Seems like the third implant was the charm," she says.

A freshman at the College of New Jersey in Ewing Township, she is enrolled in a master's program for special education with a concentration in secondary math. "I want to serve as a role model to all students with a disability," she says. "If I can achieve my goals and dreams, they can reach theirs as well."

■ **Lauren Payne**, 18 from Basking Ridge and a freshman at Susquehanna University, Ms. Payne is exploring majors in marketing, advertising and graphic design. She was four when she was diagnosed

with moderately severe to severe sensorineural hearing loss in both ears. By then, she had already taught herself lip reading. Her hearing loss affected her language and communication skills, which led to developmental gaps. Thanks to a supportive environment, hard work and persistence, she was in the mainstream curriculum in middle school. She wears a hearing aid in both ears. In high school she worked on the year book and helped produce school plays. Outside the classroom, she worked at a Subway restaurant and as a camp counselor during the summer. Work helped her develop better communication skills and made her more confident. "I never thought of myself as having a disability," she says. "I hope my accomplishments will be an inspiration to another hearing impaired child."

■ **Max Mandel**, 18 of Spotswood and a Spotswood High School graduate with moderate to severe hearing loss, is studying accounting and business at Middlesex County College. He hopes to pursue accounting studies after Middlesex County College. He has worn bilateral hearing aids since he was three. He benefited from an FM system in school and class notes, but was motivated to do as much as

possible on his own. At Spotswood High School, he focused on business-related courses, including honors college accounting. He has also been active in Distributive Education Clubs of America. After school, he worked at a ShopRite. "Wearing hearing aids changed everything about me," he said. None of that matters, though, because if you want to succeed, you shouldn't have excuses."

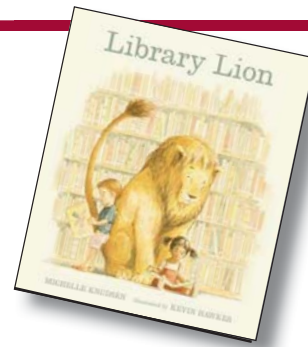
Please join us in congratulating these three young people. Congratulations also to everyone whose contributions to HLA-NJ make the scholarships and other programs possible. To learn more about HLA-NJ, please contact HLA-NJ President Arlene Romoff at info@hearingloss-nj.org. Or visit our www.hearingloss-nj.org, or plan to attend one of our local chapter meetings.

For information about meetings of the Bergen and Monmouth/Ocean Chapter, please contact [info @ hearingloss-nj.org](mailto:info@hearingloss-nj.org).



Library Lion Story and Color a Smile at the Library

Submitted by
Christine Lamb



Vicki Joy Sullivan, Deaf Storyteller, was this month's guest at the New Jersey State Library Talking Book & Braille Center's (TBBC) Children's American Sign Language Story Hour on October 26, 2010.

Ms. Sullivan signed *Library Lion* by Michelle Knudsen to students from the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf and the public. In this heartwarming story, a library lion learns that sometimes rules can be broken.

Following the story, the children enjoyed creating pictures for Color A Smile, an organization which distributes children's drawings to nursing homes, Meals On Wheels, and other programs.

The Story Hour was signed by ASL interpreters provided by the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a division of the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

The Story Hour is part of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program offered by TBBC which is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton. The next ASL Story Hour is December 7. For more information about the Story Hours or about the DHHAP program, contact Christine Lam, Coordinator of the DHHAP Program, at 866-326-6035 VP, or 888-671-6983 Voice VP or clam@njstatelib.org.



Wrapped with Cheer

The [Deaf-Blind League of NJ \(DBLNJ.org\)](http://DBLNJ.org) will be wrapping gifts purchased at the Barnes & Noble store located at 869 Route One South in North Brunswick NJ on Friday and **Saturday, December 10 and 11** as well as **Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday December 20, 21 & 22**. We will be at the store from 9:00 AM - to 11:00 PM closing. Please come by and say hello, or shop at Barnes & Noble and have your gifts wrapped by the Deaf-Blind League of NJ members.

Limited Accessibility at The Smithsonian for Hard of Hearing/Late-Deafened Persons Who Use T-Coils in Their Hearing Aids/Cochlear Implants

by Carol Granaldi

On Saturday, October 23, we arrived at the American History Museum about 12:30 PM. I went to the first floor info desk and asked about the neckloop. I was then referred upstairs for the ALDs, because no neckloop was at the first info desk. Both info desks had the large signage "Audio Loop Available" with large letters. I called attention to the sign at the first info desk, and the staff person immediately followed up. With my T-coil, the background noise and nearby voices were eliminated, and it sounded as though the clerk was speaking directly to me one-on-one, alone in the room. A real bonus.

I went to the second floor info desk, and made the same request to use the Audio Loop, and the clerk followed up with this as well. That was the second bonus. Unfortunately, my request for a neckloop was met with puzzlement. I told the clerk I was in contact and made arrangements with Disability Services' Krista Flores and Beth Ziebarth. She had no idea who they were, and she said that my name was not listed on any "reserved" list. She then called another clerk, who came out with an ALDS and headset. I explained to them that the equipment should have what is called a neckloop. Another puzzlement, and scurrying around in the cabinets, and they came out with a Williams Sound Personal Listening System, (Pocket Talker), with an ear piece, not a neckloop. I tried it on, but the system is not effective with a CI processor, in a noisy background. Once again, I told them that the neckloop is a different application, not worn on the head, but placed around my neck, and plugged into the ALD. The clerk went back to the cabinet, and then produced a plastic zip bag with the neckloop in it. She said she's worked there for two years, and no one has ever asked for a



"neckloop." I then proceeded to test the neckloop, as this Williams Sound ALD is a very recent model, and had a feature which was new to me - besides having a volume control, it also had a "tone control" which is useful to someone with either high or low pitched hearing loss. After some testing by asking them to speak into the mic, I accepted the neckloop, plus a pair of spare batteries in case the ALD needed them.



Williams Sound-SoundPlus
TV Listening T-Coil Neckloop

I decided not to take the docent-led tour, and went to four or five exhibit rooms. There were at least one or two TVs in them with captioned videotape narrative. The rooms are crowded, and many persons stood in front of the TVs,

and it was difficult for me to read the captions, since they were on a small screen TV. I was able, in some areas, to utilize the neckloop/mic by placing the mic near the TV screen to capture the narrative.

The only two places I encountered in the AHM that was stress-free and fully hearing-accessible were the two info desks with the induction looped microphone. Ideally, any other place in the museum having narrative should also be as easily accessible, despite their captioning. I have vision impairment due to cataracts (I'm 71). Not being able to get close enough to hear the videotaped exhibition posed an accessibility problem even with me holding the PocketTalker up in the air to capture the narrative. Interestingly, there was a patron in the room using a wheelchair, and people stepped away for her to get close to the TV. The same accessibility they afforded her occurred throughout the rooms we visited, because she has a visible disability. No one could see my inability to understand the narrative, because I have an invisible disability. Of course, were I a Deaf person using a sign interpreter, everyone would see my deafness. I don't use an interpreter,

[continued on next page](#)

Limited Accessibility at The Smithsonian . . . continued from previous page

preferring to listen to spoken English, because I am a late-deafened adult. I am deaf, too, and I, too, am covered under the ADA. There's no doubt in my mind, that videotaped narrative should be fully accessible to those of us relying on hearing equipment and using T-Coils to enable us to access the dialogue.

I would like to follow-up by making this suggestion to the AHM - that any TV videotaped narrative accompanying an exhibit should also have the induction loop feature, so that someone who is using T-Coils in his/her hearing equipment (hearing aid or cochlear implant processor) would be able to access the narrative by listening to the dialogue. And, just as seen at the info desks, the TV area should indicate that the induction loop is available to T-Coil users. Captioning is helpful, if one can get close enough to read the small print on the small screen, but the



added enablement of an induction loop is desirable. The induction loop is already in place at the two information desks, and the signage is very eye catching. The clerks using the induction loop mics were heard very clearly.

In today's technological world, with many baby boomers, elderly persons,

veterans returning from war, there is an increasing number of people losing their hearing at a much earlier age. Some of us with hearing loss are utilizing the technological assistive devices to a great degree. As I've said before, this is the 21st century, and the Smithsonian should be in the forefront of accessibility for people who have hearing loss and use today's hearing assistive equipment. There is little mention in the Smithsonian's webpage regarding induction loops and T-Coil access. The Smithsonian's American History Museum's Web page is: www.americanhistory.si.edu

For other museums' info: goSmithsonian.com

They won't know what your needs are, unless you contact the Disability Services contact person, and request your particular communication needs.



New Jersey School for the Deaf 14th Annual Basketball Tip Off Tournament Hosted on the Katzenbach Campus Friday December 10 and Saturday December 11



New Jersey School for the Deaf - Katzenbach Campus

LEXINGTON
SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF CENTER FOR THE DEAF



RHODE ISLAND
SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF



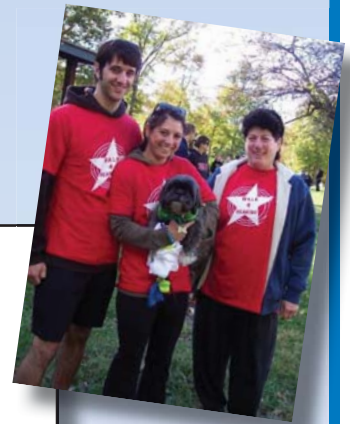
Friday, December 10

4:00 PM Girls' Varsity
New York SD vs Lexington SD
5:30 PM Boys Varsity
New York SD vs Lexington SD
7:00 PM Girls' Varsity
New Jersey SD vs. Rhode Island SD
8:30 PM Boys Varsity
New Jersey SD vs. Rhode Island SD

Saturday, December 11

8:30 AM Girls Varsity
Consolation Game
10:00 AM Boys Varsity
Consolation Game
11:30 AM Girls Varsity Championship Game
1:00 PM Boys Varsity Championship Game
2:15 PM Trophy Presentation

Admission: Children under 6 - free; Students with ID - \$3 per day; Adults - \$5 per day



HLA-NJ WALK4HEARING A Great Success

by Arlene Romoff
President -Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey

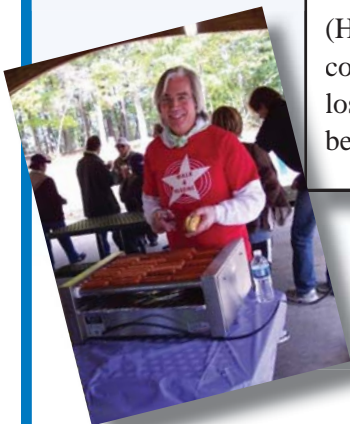
For those of you who came out on October 16 at Mercer County Park for our 3rd annual Garden State-NJ Walk4Hearing, you already know it was a huge success. The big news is that we hit our \$40,000 goal and we're still counting.

There were between one hundred fifty to two hundred in attendance. Many were there for the first time and some overcome with emotion that they had "found us." Mayor Hsueh of West Windsor once again officiated at the ribbon-cutting and we gathered all the children up to the front to assist in this ceremony. It was a festive occasion and everyone had a wonderful time. Even our favorite face-painter was there.

This year we had a busy registration table with many volunteers assisting. There was a team of jugglers and Robert Woods Johnson Hospital sent a warm-up exercise crew. There was a full assortment of refreshments (nachos were a new treat). The moonbounce and slide were big hits.

Thanks to everyone – sponsors, team captains, team members old and new, family members and especially all of you "out there" who sent donations and solicited donations from your friends – to all of you for your efforts in making this event such a success. A big thank you goes to Lois Walker for taking the lead on this as well as Carol Granaldi, Marie Nordling as co-chairs and so many others who contributed to make this event so wonderful.

Thank you all for enabling the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) and the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey (HLA-NJ) to continue the vital mission of serving the needs of people with hearing loss. Walk information is at www.walk4hearing.org and inquiries can be sent to info@hearingloss-nj.org.





**New Jersey Deaf Education Affiliates, Inc.
In Collaboration with
The New Jersey Department of Education
Office of Special Education Programs**

“Professional Learning Communities in Deaf Education: A Blueprint for Collaboration” Part I



**March 19, 2011
8:30 AM to 2:00 PM**

Hosted by:
Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission
1660 Shelton Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854

Keynote:
Carol Albritton
New Jersey Department of Education
Teacher Quality Coordinator

The keynote speaker will offer best practices and current research in the development of successful professional learning communities. Workshops will include interactive breakout sessions led by facilitators. Participants will identify challenges in developing professional learning communities within general education programs, private, regional programs, and state schools for the Deaf. Strategies for overcoming obstacles will be shared, and statewide resources will be identified. A network of professionals in the field of Deaf education will be created, and “blueprints” for the implementation of the professional learning communities at the school level will be disseminated.

For registration information, contact:
Juliann Toone: juliann.toone@gmail.com
or Dr. Candi Mascia Reed: canree@bergen.org

Job Opportunities

Deaf Services Center



DSC is looking for dedicated, motivated, energetic individuals, fluent in American Sign Language and knowledgeable about Deaf Culture and the Deaf community to fill the following positions:

Staff interpreter (full time), performance improvement coordinator (full time), behavior specialist (full time/ part time), nurse (full time), intensive case managers: (full time position), residential counselors (various positions available).

For our new residential treatment facility for Deaf adolescents, we are seeking the following:

Mental health therapist, residential treatment facility staff (full time positions available).

Send letter of intent and resume to:

Deaf Services Center, ATT: Linda Claypool, Office Manager/HR
614 N. Easton Road, Glenside, PA 19038
215-884-9770 TTY/V (ext 613); 267-415-1482 VP; 215-884-9774 FAX



Bridges to Employment, a division of **Alternatives, Inc.**

Located in Raritan, New Jersey, **Bridges to Employment** is a comprehensive career service that offers an array of employment related solutions to meet a variety of today's workforce needs. We are seeking to fill the following position:

Program Assistant to provide administrative support to the program. This is an hourly position (30 to 40 hours, full time optional). Monday through Friday. Strong organizational and interpersonal skills required. Candidate must be detail oriented and be able to work independently. Knowledge of working with individuals with hearing loss, able to communicate using American Sign Language and strong receptive skills also required. Must be proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel & Publisher. Must have a minimum of one year administrative experience. Job duties include answering telephone (voice and Video Phone), planning and coordinating events, marketing & outreach, filing, data entry, scheduling, providing client support, tracking and reporting.

Send resume and cover letter to 908-685-2660 FAX or to HR@alternativesinc.org

Religious Access

At Evangel Church

1251 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

presents

Christmas Banquet

With guest speaker

David Raxsdale

From Gallaudet University, sharing his heart for the Deaf Community

Saturday, December 18, 2010

11:30 to 4:30 pm

\$10 per person

Deadline for payment and registration: Friday, December 10

For information on how to register, contact Pastor Nancy at:

pastornancy@evangelchurch.com

908-312-4343 VP, 908-322-9300 ext. 11 Voice

With advance notice - Childcare for children 10 years old or younger is available



Original Christmas Play

December 19, 2010

10:30 AM

Special shadow interpreted performance in ASL

Victory Assembly of God meets every Sunday at
Schalick High School, 718 Centerton Road, Centerton, NJ 08318

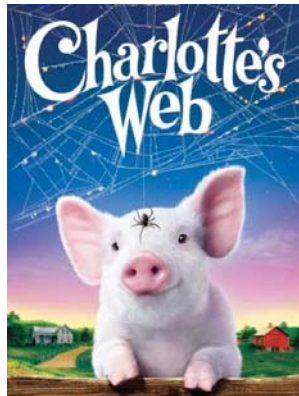
Fellowship, Food and Coffee starting at 10:00 AM.
Our interpreted service starts at 10:30 AM.

For more information, contact
Victory Assembly of God, P.O. Box 378 Elmer, New Jersey 08318
856-769-4512 Voice or SignsforVictory@gmail.com

Communicator Signboard



Sign Interpreted
Performance



21 Bridge Avenue
Red Bank, NJ 07701

Adapted from the book by E.B. White by Joseph Robinette

Tuesday, December 21
7:00 PM

Celebrate the true meaning of friendship and family, with Charlotte the spider, Wilbur the pig, and all the humans and animals on the Zuckerman farm.

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 Voice



Sign Interpreted
Performance

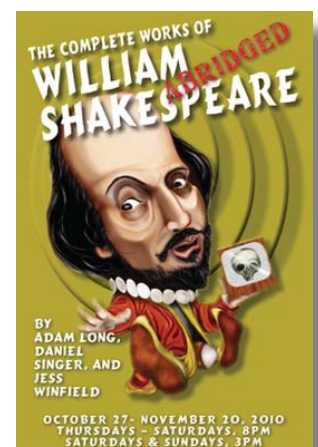
The Complete Works of William Shakespeare [Abridged]

Written by Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield
Directed by Harland Meltzer

Friday, December 29, 2010
8:00 PM

Bank and Lafayette Streets
Cape May, NJ 08204

www.capemaystage.com 609-884-1341 Voice



Cape May Stage
Professional Equity Theatre

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

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting

**January 28, 2011
9:30AM to 3:00 PM**

**Look for location in the December issue of
Monthly Communicator**

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

Family Learning Conference Saturday, April 16 Freehold, NJ

**Watch for more information in upcoming
issues of Monthly Communicator**

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day Saturday, June 11 Six Flags Great Adventure Jackson, NJ

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

DDHH Office – Days Closed

Friday, December 24 - Christmas Day Holiday; Friday, December 31 - New Year's Day Holiday