

DDHH

# Monthly Communicator

New Jersey Department of Human Services  
*Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*

December 2007

Vol. 28



Jon S. Corzine, *Governor*

Jennifer Velez, *Commissioner*

David C. Alexander *Director*

## DHS Commissioner Velez, DDHH Director and Staff Wish You The Best of Holidays and a Happy New Year

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*Jennifer Velez, Human Services Commissioner (standing 3rd from left) and (clockwise) David Alexander, DDHH Director, along with staff Cathy Grehlinger, Jennifer Servello, Traci Burton, Jason Weiland, Ira Hock, Alan Champion, Pat Long and Liz Barany.*



## Director's Corner

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

As we prepare to enter the 2008 year, I would like to bring your attention to some of the DDHH accomplishments that improved the quality of the lives of New Jersey residents who are Deaf and hard of hearing. Many of our accomplishments are due to the positive collaboration and partnerships developed with other state organizations serving the Deaf and hard of hearing community. Highlights of the 2007 year are listed below:

- The Open-Captioning of theatre performances statewide is the first of its kind nationally;
- Full communication access for public meetings (sponsored by the Governor's Office, the Division on Civil Rights, and the Department of Human Services);
- The Captel phone system was added to the distribution program. More than 500 assistive devices (telecommunications, smoke detectors, baby cry alerts, etc.) were distributed through the "Equipment Distribution Program;"
- The resource section at the Library for the Blind and Handicapped was expanded to include more than 100 new DVD's on a variety of topics related to American Sign Language, Deafness and hearing loss;
- The handbook, "A Resource for Hospitals," resulted with an increased awareness by hospitals of their obligations to provide communication access to patients who are deaf and hard of hearing; and
- Expansion of the "Assistive Listening Loan Program" to additional sites around the state.

We can take pride in the positive impact our advocacy has made to date. We look forward to reducing or eliminating the many challenges people continually face when educating the public about hearing loss and communication barriers.

For additional information about the programs mentioned above, or other programs offered by the DDHH, please contact us at 800-792-8339 (voice) or 609-786-7283 (VP). On behalf of the DDHH staff, we wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season.

## Reminder

*December 1, 2007 is the deadline for submissions to the January 2008 issue of Monthly Communicator is. January 1, 2008 is the deadline for the February 2008 issue.*

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

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

## Subscribe

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

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Deadline for submissions:

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

## DDHH Advisory Council Welcomes New Director

The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH) Advisory Council held its quarterly meeting on October 26, 2007 at the East Brunswick Public Library. Recently elected Chairperson Judy Ginsberg had the honor of introducing David C. Alexander, Ph.D. as the new DDHH director, while he attended his first council meeting. Dr. Alexander became the division director on September 17. Dr. Alexander thanked everyone for the warm welcome he received since accepting the position. In addition, Dr. Alexander recognized Ira C. Hock, DDHH Executive Assistant, who previously served as acting director.

It was announced that former advisory chair, Alan Tenthoff, has retired and relocated to South Carolina. The council recognizes Mr. Tenthoff's years of service and dedication to the Deaf and hard of hearing community in New Jersey.

Dr. Alexander encouraged the council and community members to share their ideas, comments, and suggestions to improve services to people with hearing loss in the Garden State.

The next scheduled meeting is January 25, 2008. All meetings are open to the public. Full communication access is provided with ASL interpreters, CART, and assistive listening devices. RSVP is requested by contacting the division at (609) 984-7281 V/TTY or (800)792-8339 V/TTY.

### **The Division of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Advisory Council Members are:**

#### Department Representatives

Leslie M. Beres, NJ Department of Health & Senior Services  
Dennis Russell, Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf  
Nancy Yarosh, NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services  
Therese Sheehan, NJ Department of Education

#### NJ Department of Human Services

Vacant

#### NJ Commission on Higher Education

Vacant

#### Public Members

Barbara Kraeger, Businessperson  
Carol Uckar, Child of Deaf Adult

#### 5 Deaf Citizens

Steven Shevlin  
Lauren Lercher  
Bonnie Thomas  
Alan Peter Tenthoff  
Vacant

#### 5 Hard of Hearing Citizens

Wayne Roorda  
Arlene Romoff, Vice Chair  
Marie Nordling  
Judy Ginsberg, Chair  
Mary Anne Kowalczyk



Note: Department representatives serve indefinite terms.

# Filling The Funding Gap For Early Intervention Services

The Lake Drive Foundation Seeks to Raise Over \$200,000 Annually and Build an Endowment

by Sueanne Sylvester

Many readers of the Monthly Communicator know personally the importance of early identification and intervention for babies with hearing loss. Here's how you can help The Lake Drive Foundation ensure adequate funding to provide critical therapy and educational services for infants and toddlers who are Deaf and hard of hearing.

On January 1, 2002, the establishment of universal hearing screening in New Jersey was signed into law assuring that all newborns with hearing loss were identified as early as possible. Despite this initiative and research demonstrating the importance of early intervention between birth and age three, New Jersey state funding including family cost shares covers only half of the cost of the comprehensive services provided by The Sound Start Early Intervention Program vital to helping infants and toddlers with hearing loss learn to communicate and fulfill their potential.

The Lake Drive Foundation was established in 1996 (by community leaders as the fund development arm of The Sound Start Early Intervention Program) to ensure babies with hearing loss in Northern and Central New Jersey get the sound start every child deserves.

Under the auspices of The Lake Drive School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children, "The Sound Start Early Intervention Program" provides children with hearing loss and their families with vital support, comprehensive therapy and educational services. These services are tailored to the needs of children with hearing loss during the first three years of life, so they may achieve social, emotional, and academic success.

In addition to addressing each family's communication concerns, The Sound Start Program addresses other critical needs. Currently, half of the families enrolled in Sound Start live below the poverty line. One-third of the Sound Start babies come from multi-lingual homes. The program offers bilingual/bicultural specialists to provide services to Spanish speaking families. They face barriers accessing services, coming from eleven counties spread across northern and central New Jersey. More than 80 percent of Sound Start services are provided in the family's home. Additionally, an average of 30 percent of the babies in Sound Start have multiple associated disabilities compounding the challenges of learning. Sound Start is the only program in Northern and Central New Jersey that regularly accepts infants with hearing loss and multiple disabilities and has the expertise to address their complex needs.

For more than ten years, The Lake Drive Foundation has been raising funds to help support an average of 80 babies and toddlers in The Sound Start Program. The Foundation's diversified funding base includes grants, sponsorships, donations and the annual "For the Babies" gala.

Proceeds from the 2007 "For the Babies" gala were used to establish an endowment for The Sound Start Program. "We received a \$50,000 matching challenge grant for the event and not only matched it, but exceeded the challenge," shares Mizar Turdiu, gala chair and former News 12 New Jersey anchor.

How you can help give local Deaf and hard of hearing babies a Sound Start?

- Shop online at [www.iGive.com/LDF](http://www.iGive.com/LDF) which has more than 680 online retailers for holiday shopping. If you're an Amazon shopper, you can also visit [www.lakedrivefoundation.org](http://www.lakedrivefoundation.org). and shop at Amazon.com through our Web site, 8 percent of your purchases will go to The Lake Drive Foundation.
- Make a tax-deductible donation to The Lake Drive Foundation, 10 Lake Drive, Mountain Lakes, NJ 07046.
- Attend or sponsor the "For the Babies" gala, Thursday, May 15, 2008 at The Villa in Mountain Lakes.

To find out more about The Lake Drive Foundation and The Sound Start Program, visit [www.lakedrivefoundation.org](http://www.lakedrivefoundation.org), call 973-299-0166 or e-mail Sueanne Sylvester at [ssylvester@mtlakes.org](mailto:ssylvester@mtlakes.org).

Why Early Intervention is Critical for Babies with Hearing Loss:

- When babies with hearing loss get appropriate intervention from birth to age three, they can acquire age appropriate communications skills by the time they are five.
- Communication skills are crucial to learning and school performance and are the single best predictor of school success.



Two year old Ben, one of 80 babies, in The Sound Start Program

# Innovative Technology Enhances Networking Opportunities for People in Recovery

Signs of Sobriety (SOS) is launching an exciting new Internet-based program to enhance Deaf and hard of hearing people's ability to obtain support for recovery from alcohol and drugs. Through this means of communication, the new Internet-based program allows up to 25 people to meet online and communicate with each other by using their own computer and Web cam. This is great support for a population that has limited access to alcohol, tobacco and other drug recovery services.

For an addict or alcoholic to stay sober, they are often encouraged to participate in a 12 step program (NA, AA, etc.), secure the help of a sponsor and to find a group of people also in recovery that they can rely on for support to continue their recovery from addiction. For Deaf and hard of hearing people who are in recovery, this can be a dilemma because the vast majority of the people at 12 step meetings are hearing. Consequently, many Deaf and hard of hearing people often experience communication barriers and, therefore, their recovery is threatened.

The SOS Internet-based program removes the communication barrier for Deaf people because they are able to visually meet with other Deaf and/or signing persons experiencing recovery. For persons who are hard of hearing, the chat rooms offer the ability to attach headsets. Volume control is also possible for people that have residual hearing. The size of the screen images can also be enlarged for extreme close-ups, if needed. Additionally, there is a feature that allows participants to type their conversations.

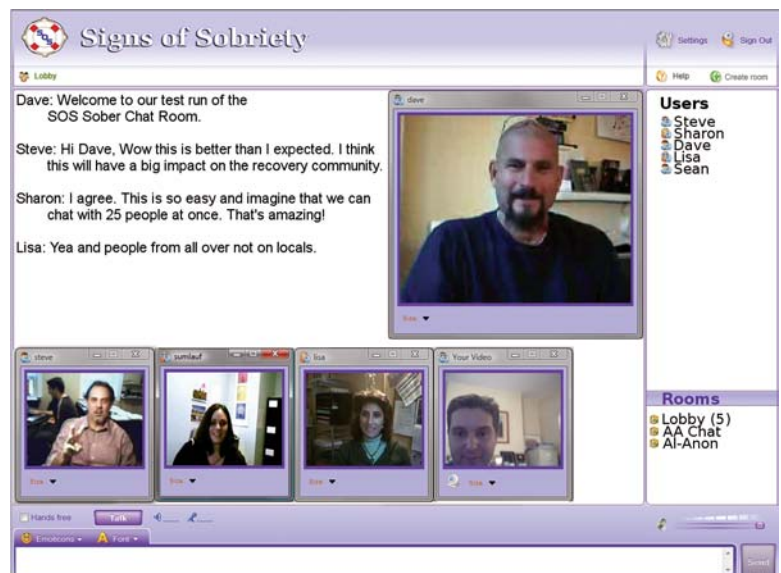
This program will also be useful for Deaf and hard of hearing professionals with limited time to leave their offices. It allows these professionals to set up their own sessions for support. Deaf and hard of hearing people throughout the United States can also meet the SOS team for advice, tips, and information regarding recovery, especially as it relates to this vulnerable population.

In the future, SOS envisions hosting online conferences on various substance abuse, recovery, and wellness topics. The audience will have the opportunity to respond to topics with a question and answer session using this system.

The potential for recovery support becomes worldwide with the use of this program. At this time, the number of sessions is limited but access is expected to expand to additional recovery chat rooms over the next few months.

Individuals looking to use this service must register with SOS, so the agency can monitor the safety of the chat room. *All members' identities and information will be kept confidential.* Any person reported abusing the system such as the use of inappropriate language or threatening behavior can be blocked from entering the room.

To access this program, go to our Website: [www.signsofsobriety.org](http://www.signsofsobriety.org) and click on the recovery chatroom icon. This project was made possible by funding from the New Jersey's Department of Human Services Division of Addiction Services; a generous software contribution from Camfrog Corporation; and the technical support of SOS's computer guru Sean Devine. SOS is looking forward to the success of this program and ask you to join in this new endeavor.



# SOS Celebrates Thirteenth Annual SoberCamp

Signs of Sobriety, Inc. (SOS) celebrated their 13th annual SoberCamp held at Camp Mark Seven in Old Forge, New York. This was the fourth year that Substance Abuse Intervention Services for the Deaf (SAISD) teamed up with Signs of Sobriety, Inc. to help support the recovery efforts of deaf and hard of hearing individuals.

SoberCamp is a retreat for Deaf and Hard of Hearing adults in recovery from substance abuse and/or alcoholism. All campers are encouraged to bring their families. Children, spouses and partners are all welcome and activities are planned with a group focus that fosters improved interaction, problem solving, and team building skills. Daily 12 Step meetings conducted in sign language are provided for the addicts and their family members.

This year the retreat was held from August 19 to August 25 2007, and there were a total of 40 campers including staff, and family. Each day was packed with activities ranging from hiking, canoeing, tubing (for the brave hearted) arts and crafts, to 12 Step meetings, even bonfires with toasted marshmallows. One of our special events is an evening trip in CM7's pontoon boat to the quaint town of Inlet for ice cream. Nothing is more peaceful than sitting in the boat as the sun is reflected on the water and watching the sun go down over the beautiful Adirondack Mountains.

A new event this year that was an amazing hit was the "Deaf American Idol" competition. All the participants were fabulous; the acts included dancing, skits, and improvisation. This event is definitely a keeper and some of the campers are reportedly rehearsing their acts for next year.



*SoberCamp Group*



*SoberCamp Staff*

Overall it was a wonderful week of fun, teamwork and growth for all. Signs of Sobriety, Inc. would like to extend a giant thank you to the following volunteers: Beth Metlay from Alabama for her work as co-facilitator for recovery workshops, Jason Weiland and Delia Yates who oversaw the teen activities as well as nighttime events. Jody Yu and Beverly Allegretti who took care of the young children and filled in anywhere and everywhere as needed.

We would also like to thank the United Way of Greater Mercer County for the support for the last 10 years. SoberCamp also received donations from a long time supporter, the New Jersey Association of the Deaf and first time supporter Ocean County Community College's Sign Club. Ewing Drug Alliance played a part in lending us their overhead projector, which we used to watch a movie in CM7's pole barn. The movie was projected on the wall giving a real life theater experience.

Next years SoberCamp will be held August 24th - 30. Visit us on the Web for more specific information: [www.signsofsobriety.org](http://www.signsofsobriety.org)

# My Gallaudet . . . Yesterday

by Jason Weiland, DDHH Field Representative

It was a hot and steamy afternoon in July when I pulled up to the curb and put my trusty 1985 Buick Century in park. For me, it was my first time in our nation's Capitol. I was without parents or guidance, a twenty-something embarking on a new adventure and many would say, "A new life." 800 Florida Avenue, said my Mapquest directions. I looked up and saw a bunch of row houses in front of me. Undeterred, I cornered a walking police officer and showed him the papers. The kind gentleman politely told me that I was in the NORTHWEST portion of Washington, DC. Where I wanted to go was in the NORTHEAST section of the city. Imagine my surprise as I made my way to other side and arrived at the stone gate of 800 Florida Avenue, NE which boasted a bright blue and gold sign reading, "GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY." I had made it. After 360 miles on the road from tiny Edinboro, Pennsylvania, I had arrived at what would become my second home away from home for the next five years.

Far from the cows, corn, and small-town college life I had grown up in, my first day was spent in the New Signers Program (NSP) with 45 other students from around the country (and the world). Several in our group had cochlear implants which were quite new to me at the time while others were hard of hearing and often wore hearing aids. One woman and I were the only profoundly deaf students in the group. We had the unique opportunity to roam the grounds of Gallaudet and Washington, DC before the rest of the freshmen class arrived in late August. I admit I was nervous about being at the school. Never had I been exposed to sign language, much less deaf culture while growing up. Not to say it wasn't available, but to note that it was a topic that was often avoided. My parents are wonderful people and had only the best intentions for me. Even so, there were a number of opportunities they were unaware of while I was growing up. Among our group of NSP'ers, this was a common trait we all shared. Did I come to Gallaudet to learn sign language? No. Was it because I learned that my distant cousin who grew up 30 minutes away from me is deaf and attended the Model Secondary School for the Deaf and was currently a student at Gallaudet? NO! Was I trying to defy my parents to show that I am different? Of course not.

Coming to Gallaudet was a life changing experience for me. I arrived at Gallaudet believing I had been missing out on something for the first 22 years of my life, not to say life wasn't good. It was frustrating at times and I wanted to see what was "on the other side." During my

five weeks at the NSP program, I learned more about how life could be accessible than I could have anywhere.

The first day of class registration was the day of truth. Putting my sign language skills to the most mind-boggling experience I ever had. Luckily, the first person I met in line was C.T., who took one look at me and thought I was a bit strange. It's probably because I was standing next to him in line and said, "Hi, my name is Jason Weiland. What's yours?" Our conversation stopped there. The day was spent in silence as most of the people who had arrived, already knew each other through schools for the Deaf, Deaf and hard of hearing programs, and the youth leadership camps held around the US for the deaf and hard of hearing. I even managed to get mugged in Southeast DC. My morale took a further dip when it was time to meet my roommate. BJ was his first name and he was from Ottawa, Canada. Having grown up in a school for the deaf, BJ was my first real exposure to a deaf person whose first language is ASL. I was equally frustrated in the classroom when I found that ALL of the teachers I had were fluent in ASL and there were times, I got lost. There were accommodations made available to those who weren't fluent in ASL, but I didn't want them. It felt like a step backwards to the days of being the only deaf student in a public school. The turning point came in November when a member of my family past away. It was then my roommate and I were able to connect and converse. My eyes opened to a new world free of the stubbornness I harbored as a child in my hometown. BJ didn't come back for the spring semester, but my place in the community had been set.

For the next four years, I studied, socialized and joined a fraternity, played intramural sports with a passion, and did I mention that I studied? I learned how the TTY has evolved. Technology had taken a gigantic step forward and video conferencing equipment was being developed. I participated in many community events and volunteered at DC Soup Kitchen, Habitat for Humanity (even during Spring Break!), and the Christmas in July program. In that short period of time, I made more friends than I did growing up. The ability to connect with people on my level is tremendous. My friends were deaf, deaf-blind, late deafened, hard of hearing, and even those with cochlear implants. During my time at Gallaudet, we also celebrated the 5th anniversary of "Deaf President Now." In 1988, I had no idea what that meant but in 1993, I truly understood its purpose and the impact it has had on my life. It was the first time that I felt I could reach out to different

continued from previous page

groups of individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing and really connect. Gallaudet is made up of many various "groups," which makes it unique. I even met former Gallaudet president I. King Jordan who became the first deaf president in 1988. He was the keynote speaker at my hometown college in 1992.

Growing up, I never knew what type of life goals I wanted to pursue. I often thought I would work a normal 9 to 5 job paying just above minimum wage because that was the life back home. I majored in social work. I also found the time to take on internships at sites around the country and at Gallaudet to further my work experience. Had I been at a hearing university, I doubt I would have understood the accessible opportunities available to me. Upon graduation from Gallaudet, I was offered a job in Minnesota. I took it and never looked back.

It was another beautiful day at Gallaudet University on October 20, 2007. There we were, the class of 1997 gathered together for our reunion picture during Homecoming at Gally as it is affectionately known. Ten years later, "my" Gallaudet has changed with technological advancements and changes in leadership, but that is a story for another issue....

This article will be continued in the January 2008 issue of Monthly Communicator.

## New Jersey Twelve Step Meeting Sites

### **North Jersey Area**

Monday 7:30 p.m.  
Plainfield Connection  
First Unitarian Church  
724 Park Avenue  
Plainfield, NJ  
NA: I, O, SP, BB  
Wednesday 8:00 p.m.  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
271 Roseland Ave  
Essex Fells, NJ  
Al-Anon: I, O, NS

### **Central Jersey Area**

Sunday 6:30 p.m.  
Monmouth Medical Center  
2nd Avenue, 323  
Long Branch, NJ  
NA: D, I, O, SP  
Monday 8:00 p.m.  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
65 West Front Street  
Red Bank, NJ  
AA: I, O, S

### **Central Jersey Area cont'd**

Tuesday 6:45 a.m.  
Attitude Adjustment  
Al-An Club  
761 Cass Street  
2nd Floor  
Trenton, NJ  
Wednesday 6:15 p.m.  
DEAF MEETING  
Silent Serenity  
Al-An Club  
761 Cass Street  
2nd Floor  
Trenton, NJ  
Thursday 8:00 p.m.  
St. Paul United Church of Christ  
62 South Main Street  
(School Bldg Behind The Church)  
Milltown, NJ  
(732-828-0020)  
AA: I, O, SP, NS, W

### **South Jersey Area**

Friday 7:30 p.m.  
Southern Ocean County Hospital  
Route 72  
Manahawkin, NJ  
AA: I, O, D  
Tuesday 8:00 p.m.  
DEAF MEETING  
Circle of Hands- Closed Meeting,  
No Observers  
Grace Epiphany Episcopal Church  
224 Gowan St. & Ardleigh St.  
Philadelphia, PA  
Al-Anon: SP, D  
Tuesday 8:00 p.m.  
DEAF MEETING  
HANDS OF HOPE  
Grace Epiphany Episcopal Church  
224 Gowan St. & Ardleigh St.  
Philadelphia, PA  
AA: I, C, SP, D  
Sunday 11:00 a.m.  
DEAF MEETING  
Center for Family Services  
108 Somerdale Road  
Voorhees, NJ 08043

\*THIS LIST UPDATED 10/23/2007

# American Sign Language (ASL) Story Hour

The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH), a division of the New Jersey State Library, held its monthly

Children's American Sign Language (ASL) Story Hour on

October 16, 2007. Deaf Storyteller Camille Jeter-Lorello signed a Halloween-themed story,

The Hallo-Wiener by Dav Pilkey. The Hallo-Wiener is a story about a Daschund dog named Oscar, whose dream of having the scariest Halloween costume is lost when his mother lovingly gets him a bun costume to wear. His dog friends will never stop making fun of him now! Mrs. Lorello's expressive storytelling brought Oscar's story to life and told how he went from being a hallo-wiener to a hero.

The next speaker was Pete Campione, owner and trainer of Kindred Souls Canine Center in Howell, a training center for dogs specializing in therapy dogs. Mr. Campione worked with his dog Toby to show the children how dogs communicate with people and other animals. Pete

explained that animals do not use verbal language, but use body language and sounds. The children were able to see the different signs or signals dogs use based on the various commands Pete gave to Toby. He also explained how a dog's ears and tail will express how the dog is feeling – happy, scared, sad or angry. Toby was able to perform a new trick for the first time based on the commands that Pete gave to him.



*Pete gives companion variouse commands to hearing dog Toby*



*MKSD students read the story signed by storyteller*

Attending the story hour were students in grades two through five from the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) and students with multiple disabilities from three classes at the Hunterdon County ESC School in Lambertville, as well as students from Union County College and Thomas Edison State College. Fifty-six people participated.

The story hour was signed by ASL interpreters provided by the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), a division of the New Jersey Department of Human Services, and accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation illustrating each page along with the storyteller.

The Story Hour promotes English literacy skills for the Deaf and hard of hearing by enabling them to enjoy simultaneously ASL and English versions of books. Workshops and events such as the story hour

are scheduled by Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program at the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped.

NJLBH is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton. For more information about the DHHAP program and story hours, contact Christine at 877-882-5593 TTY or 888-671-6983 Voice or [colsen@njstatelib.org](mailto:colsen@njstatelib.org). The next ASL Story Hour at NJLBH will be on November 13, 2007 at 10:30 a.m. For information about NJLBH and its programs call Anne McArthur at 609-530-3242.



*Deaf Storyteller Camille Jeter-Lorello signs the story of The Hallo-Wiener*

## Petway Elementary School Program Brings Students into the World of Work

The Deaf/Hard of Hearing students from Petway Elementary School (Vineland, NJ) visited Shop Rite on Friday, October 19, 2007 as one of several community outings that teachers, Jennifer Lilla and Tara McMenamin, planned for their students this school year. The purpose of the trip was to teach the students how to communicate with non-signing individuals, and to expose them to possible career opportunities for the future.



Preparation for the community outing began weeks ago in the classroom. The students learned about the components of a recipe, the purpose of food ingredients, along



with following directions. Students wrote their own recipes and composed a shopping list that they used on the day of the trip. The students practiced

measuring and even made play dough using the skills they learned! In addition to measuring, the students reviewed counting money, estimating costs of items to the nearest dollar and figuring out change.

On the day of the trip, the students had two responsibilities. First, they had to find the items from their grocery list, write down the aisle number where it was found and the cost. Once their list was complete, the students tabulated the cost of their recipe. This gave stu-



dents an idea of how much the meal would cost if they were to actually make it. Second, the students were each given \$10. They were able to use the money to buy healthy snacks that would later be used as part of a reward system in the classroom. The students had to remember to round their items to the nearest dollar, without exceeding the \$10 limit.



After shopping, the students were treated to a tour of Shop Rite's storage facilities. They got to touch a 7 lb. lobster from the seafood tank; visit the shipping and



receiving area; go into the frigid freezers where the ice cream is kept; and, see the area in which they stock the milk. After the tour, each student was given a pink

rose from the floral department in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The student then proceeded to the check-out counter where they had to interact with a hearing cashier without the aid of an interpreter.

Upon returning to school, the students used their chosen cake recipe to make from scratch, a birthday cake for Mrs. McMenamin. It was an extremely valuable experience for the students. For the next scheduled community outing, the Deaf Education class will visit Pizza Hut.



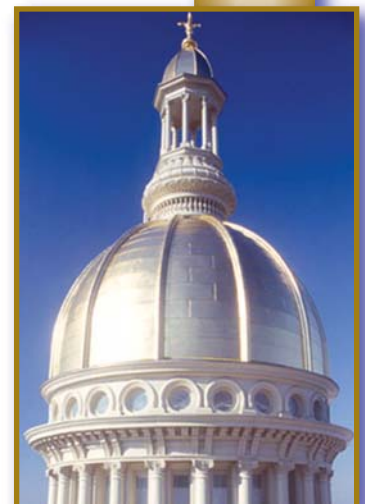
## DDS Hosts Governor's Conference on Employment and People with Disabilities

The NJ Division of Disability Services (DDS) recently hosted the 2007 Governor's DiscoverAbility Conference on employment and people with disabilities. The conference was held at the newly renovated Hyatt New Brunswick on October 11 through 12 and was well attended, full to capacity with over 400 attendees on the first day. Employment information was readily provided for consumers, employers, students, parents and professionals interested in available goods and services.

Education, entrepreneurship, legal rights, transportation, civil service review and work incentives were the main focus of the conference on day one. State agencies presented their programs, along with a keynote address from Ashley Lauren Fisher, who is a model, actress and disability advocate.

The second day of the conference was presented in conjunction with the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Workshops concentrated on educating local businesses on the advantages of employing individuals with disabilities and the positive aspects, benefits and opportunities that local businesses can receive.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services provides federal funding to the State of New Jersey, through the Division of Disability Services, to help promote the employment of persons with disabilities. The ultimate goal is to decrease the 70 percent unemployment rate of individuals with disabilities in the state.

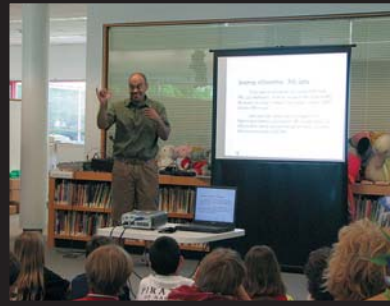




# Monthly Communicator



# 2007 Photo Gallery



## New Jersey School For The Deaf (NJSd) Hosts Presentation On Deaf Holocaust Testimonials

NJSd students, Hudson County School of Technology students, staff, friends, families and members of the Deaf community had an unique opportunity on October 23 to learn how deaf people were treated during the Holocaust.

Dr. Simon Carmel of West Palm Beach, FL is a deaf historian and principal gatherer of Deaf Holocaust survivors' stories throughout the world. He shared with us a powerful multi-media presentation including little known and rarely discussed Nazi persecution of Deaf people; who was executed, who was spared and why.



Dr. Carmel presented stories to NJSd middle and high school students during the school day. An additional presentation for NJSd staff, other school teachers, community members, and other interested individuals was presented in the early evening at the NJSd middle school auditorium.

Dr. Carmel holds both his master and doctorate degrees in cultural anthropology from American University in Washington D.C. Dr. Carmel began taking testimonies of Deaf Holocaust Survivors in 1980. He is considered the world's leading researcher of deaf survivors of the

Holocaust. His research is presented through lectures and workshops held around the world. This event was made possible by funding from the Katzenbach Parent and Staff Education Foundation, Inc. and endorsed by the New Jersey Commission on

Holocaust Education.



Voice interpreter and CART services were provided by the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.



### **Autoimmune Information Network Inc. Announces Provision of Communication Access at Support Group Meetings**

Interpreters and CART will now be provided (thanks to the assistance of the NJDHS Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) at upcoming Autoimmune Information Network Inc. support group meetings for autoimmune disease sufferers. An autoimmune disease occurs when the body mistakenly attacks its cells, tissues and organs. Some examples are: Multiple Sclerosis, Meniere's, Lupus, ITP and Myasthenia Gravis. There are more than 150 known autoimmune diseases.

Group meetings will be held at Ocean Medical Center, 425 Jack Martin Blvd Brick NJ 08724, Conference Rooms A and B. Meetings will start at 1:00 p.m. continuing until about 3:00 p.m., on the fourth Sunday of each month (with a few holiday exceptions). Upcoming meeting scheduled dates are November 25 and December 16 (Holiday Party, interpreters available, no CART).

For more information about communication access at group meetings, please contact Barbara at the Autoimmune Information Network Inc. at 732-262-0450 or e-mail [autoimmunehelp@aol.com](mailto:autoimmunehelp@aol.com).

## New Jersey School for the Deaf (NJSD) Hosts Screening of Film Made by Deaf Artists



On Saturday November 3rd, 280 people went to see an ASL film "Forget Me Not," which was shown at the New Jersey School for the Deaf. The first showing was 2:00 p.m. and the second at 7:00 p.m. This event was made possible by the Deaf Studies Department at the NJSD, the Alumni Association and NJAD.

"Forget Me Not" was made in 2005 by MGW Productions. Produced and directed by Theron Parker and Mindy Moore

of Austin, Texas, it is a film that tells a story of a family whose life changed after they won the lottery and during a family vacation in a cabin, they get a surprise visitor.

The film's uniqueness, being entirely in ASL with no voice over or sound effects where all the actors/actresses are Deaf and a couple hearing people (but they are members of a deaf family- CODAs), evoked many different responses from the movie goers. One of the actresses from the film, Mindy Moore, was on stage to answer the audience's questions after the movie.

Eighty percent of the profit goes to ASL Films to enable them to make more ASL films. The Deaf Studies Department at the NJSD is planning another showing of "Forget Me Not" and "Wrong Game" in spring 2008. "Wrong Game" is the most recent released film from MGW Productions and one of our staff members, Camille Lorello, is one of the actresses.

Camden County Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services hosted an Open House on October 31, 2007 with a theme focused on disability awareness. Hanif Watson received a Consumer Certificate, from Angel Lucas, Hireability, in recognition of his hard work and dedication in completion of the program. Congratulations to Mr. Watson on this achievement!



## New Jersey Registry of Interpreters (NJRID) for the Deaf, Inc. Hosts ASL to English Workshop

On October 20, 2007, NJRID sponsored its most recent in a series of workshops, "ASL to English Interpreting: Make It Sound Natural." The goal of the workshops was how to make your interpretation sound like a source presentation. The presenter, Carolyn Ressler's, use of anecdotes and humor made the day informative and enjoyable. The day went fast and there was a lot of information for attendees to absorb.



Ms. Ressler addressed things that we do as interpreters, that can cause voice interpretation to sound like just that, an interpretation, instead of a natural presentation. Included in these are lexical errors, register conservation, distortion, omissions and additions, among other things. Ressler suggested that interpreters broaden their view of interpreting assignments to include situational factors that surround the event. Will the presenter use humor or rhetorical questions? Will there be audience participation? One key point made is the need to attend to what is not said. Is the presenter using a pause for impact or is this time we can use to "catch up"?

There were several "hands on" activities. During one of the workshops, participants broke into groups of 2 or 3 people. While one person voiced, the others in the group listened.

The listeners "job" was to provide feedback including whether the work was a literal translation, noting grammatical errors, or the addition of hedgers and fillers. During one video clip the listeners were to figure out if the interpretation was of for a male or female speaker. Another activity was developing pre-interpreting scripts. These scripts are useful for handling concepts such as name signs, schools for the deaf, mainstream programs, and ASL handshape stories or poetry.



The workshops were over too soon and provided much valuable information that can be used to improve interpretation from ASL to English, and hopefully "making it sound natural."



Cheryl Vail, President (bottom left) and (clockwise) Michele Tursi, Member At Large, Peggy Klotz, Secretary, Lauren Kafka, Member At Large, Bernadette Class, Treasurer, Marguerite Weiss, Vice-President

# ALDA Garden State Hosts Workshop on Hearing Dog Programs

by ALDA President Sheila Shuford

On November 1, the Association for Late Deafened Adults (ALDA), Garden State Chapter had a very successful and interesting workshop at the East Brunswick Library on “Hearing Dog Programs.” The workshop was a powerhouse and we thank all our presenters. The workshop consisted of presentations from three different groups. Jane Nagy, who is the volunteer president of the NJ Chapter of Canine Companions in Independence, spoke about puppy raising and training in the five regional centers. Jane also covered information on matching the puppies to the appropriate owners. Matching is based on many factors from personality and temperament to matching the owner’s physical ability. Jane Schlou, a well known ALDA member, followed with a presentation of Remy who is her beloved wonder dog and “ears.”

Jane told us about traveling to California, meeting Remy and being a bit overwhelmed by her size. As they trained together and became a team, Jane realized they were meant for each other! Jane told us stories of how Remy fits into Jane’s work life at school, and how she needed to advocate for Remy with the school even though they serve special needs children and in theory had accepted Remy. Jane has a family dog that is a pet and Jane talked about how she introduced the working dog to the pet and family with good effect. Jane said, “Remy is trained for specific situations but is so alert to the needs of others she responds in unusual difficult situations with patience and care for those involved.” Jane told us that the dogs are so well trained that they do not beg for food. She said, “they are trained by tossing french fries, and taught *not* to respond!” With the talk turning to french fries, we stopped for lunch. My thanks to each person who provided a part of the excellent spread.

After lunch, Kristen Law from Canines for Disabled Kids talked about assistance dogs and the law. Assistance animals are tools and are protected by the federal law, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The law guarantees that all disabled people have the legal right to assistance animals in areas open to the general public. Policies that prohibit pets, do not apply to assistance animals, even in facilities that sell or prepare food. Assistance animals come in all different breeds and are not required to wear special items to identify themselves when working. Kristen did say that wearing identifying items make it much easier for the public to accept the working dog.

Allergies and fear of animals are not valid reasons for denying or refusing service to people using service animals. Assistance animals are an extension of the people they help. Kristen also said, “a person may not be required to give identification that the dog is a trained assistance dog. They may do so if they wish but it is not required and the demeanor of the dog is the best proof of being an assistance dog.”

All three presenters told stories of flying with their dogs. Since dogs do not sit on the seats, they fly for free. People who travel with assistance dogs may ask for the bulkhead seat that provide ample floor space for the dog. Dogs are trained for toilet needs that can be time for the flight time.

A dog accompanied each speaker. Jane Nagy had a six-month-old trainee with her. Jane explained that the training was not complete but as she spoke and waved her hands expressively the puppy immediately alertly responded. A bond was already created. It was suggested, if any person was considering an assistance dog then it would be good to register for one as soon as possible. If you register, you can remove your name if you change your mind. There is normally a long wait that can be avoided by registering promptly.

To register or for more information about Canine Companions, call the regional center at 1-800-572-BARK (2275). Canine for Disabled Kids and legal information can be reached at 978-422-5299 or [www.canineforkids.org](http://www.canineforkids.org).





## Union County College Spring 2008 Classes

Educational Interpreter Professional Development Center (EIPDC)  
American Sign Language - English Interpreting Program  
American Sign Language & Deaf Studies Program

January 24 – May 19, 2008

Registration Opens Monday, November 5

Please register for online courses by December 15. There are 20 seats available.  
College policy states that if the class is not full, then the class does not run.  
ASL now offered as a modern language or an elective.

EIP (Educational Interpreting Program) Online Classes

EIP 210-300 "Methods of Instruction for Educational Interpreters" – 3 Credits  
Regular Tuition & Fees; Chargeback available

EIP 203-300 "Child Development for Educational Interpreters" – 3 Credits  
Regular Tuition & Fees; Chargeback available

EIP 204-300 "Ethics and Laws for Educational Interpreters" – 3 Credits  
Regular Tuition & Fees; Chargeback available

For more information, please contact:  
Cindy Williams at (908) 412-3574 or [clwilliams@ucc.edu](mailto:clwilliams@ucc.edu)  
Eileen Forestal at [forestal@ucc.edu](mailto:forestal@ucc.edu)

Please check the UCC Course Catalog or UCC Web site for ASL/English Interpreting Courses.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

**Teacher of the Deaf** position available in the Parsippany-Troy Hills School District. TOD needed to fill a maternity leave position from January 08 to mid April 08. Interested applicants, please send your resume to Parsippany-Troy Hills Schools; Attn. Special Services/MaryRose Scalo, 292 Parsippany Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Questions regarding this position please call 973-682-2815 ext. 3047

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**Education, Director**, Center for The Deaf & Hard of Hearing--Camden County College seeks a Director at its Blackwood, NJ campus for the operation of the Center for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing. Req. MS/MA and 5 yrs' exp. in education of the deaf/hard of hearing + RID cert. or fluency in ASL. Should understand the deaf community and know applicable issues and trends to their education such as 504/ADA policy/ implementation. Should also possess experience in grants development/ management and proven PC skills . Apply on our website at: jobs.camdencc.edu. EOE M/F/D/V

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## Deaf Services Center

**Milestones Community Healthcare, Inc.**

**614 N. Easton Road, Glenside, PA 19038**

215-884-9770 TTY/Voice; 215-884-9774 FAX/VP

Deaf Services Center (DSC) offers culturally competent, linguistically accessible treatment for individuals who are Deaf or hard of hearing and in need of behavioral health services. This is an opportunity for a motivated individual to join a dedicated group of professionals who give new meaning to the term teamwork.

## Full & Part Time Employment Opportunities:

**Case Manager:** (Full time position) This position provides resources and support to clients and their families who reside in the community. Duties include the following: Assess service needs of consumers, both adults and children, to insure continuum of care; develop service plans; independent living skills instructions, advocate for access to public & private services and programs such as medical, vocational and other services.

**Residential Counselor:** (Stand by positions available)

This position provides direct client services including encouraging client independence in areas such as skills in daily living and community integration. Duties include the following: Provide supported living and training to Deaf consumers with mental illness and/or developmental disabilities living in the community; promote consumers' independence and social relationships. Positions open for weekend and evening shifts.

We are growing! Come be a part of our professional team!

Send your letter of intent and resumes to:

Linda Sivigny, Office Manager/HR

Milestones Community Healthcare, Inc. - Deaf Services Center,

614 N. Easton Road, Glenside, PA 19038

lsivigny@salisb.com or 215-884-9774 FAX



# JOB OPPORTUNITIES (CONT'D)

## Substitute Positions: Educational Interpreter

Union Street School for the Deaf and Hackensack High School, Program for the Deaf, Bergen County Special Services, seeks substitute educational interpreters for the 2007/2008 school year. EIPA certified. This is an excellent opportunity for future full time employment in expanding Total Communication Programs for the Deaf, elementary, middle and high school, Hackensack. Contact: Candi Mascia Reed, Supervisor, 201.343.6000 x6400

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## Open Auditions for Children of a Lesser God

Freehold, NJ - Center Players, downtown Freehold's resident theater company will be holding open auditions for its Signature Series presentation of Children of a Lesser God, written by Mark Medoff and directed by Charlie Fraser with Lou Palermo. Auditions will be held Monday, December 3 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.; Wednesday, December 5 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.; and Sunday, December 9 from 3:00 p.m. -5:00 p.m.

A signing interpreter will be available during the Sunday auditions for Deaf or hard of hearing actors. Callbacks, if needed, will be held Monday, December 10 from 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Callbacks, if needed, will be held Monday, December 10 7:30- 9:00 p.m. All auditions will be held at Center Playhouse, 35 South Street, Freehold [corner of Mechanic Street and South Street (a.k.a. Route 79)]. The show will open Friday, March 7, and run 5 weekends through Sunday, April 13, 2008. No show will be presented the weekend of March 21 in observance of Easter. Prior knowledge of sign language will be helpful for all actors, and required for the role of Sarah.

We need seven actors, one assistant stage manager and script proctor\assistant director to also serve as understudies. Actors auditioning for the role of Sarah on December 3 or 5 should be prepared to, also, attend the Sunday December 9 audition, if requested by the director. While all audition sessions are open, it is strongly suggested that you R.S.V.P as to which session you will be attending. Actors should bring a headshot, and resume. Actors auditioning for the role of Sarah should be prepared to perform an improvisational scene, which is to be determined. Other actors should prepare a dramatic monologue of their choosing, not to exceed three minutes in length, and may be asked to read other scenes. Non-union, no pay.

To schedule an audition or for more information, contact Charlie Fraser, 973-204-5406, [charlie@charliefraser.com](mailto:charlie@charliefraser.com) or Mark Lamhut at [marklamhut@comcast.net](mailto:marklamhut@comcast.net).



## RELIGIOUS ACCESS

### TEMPLE SHOLOM

385 Howland Avenue, River Edge, NJ 07661 - 201 489-2463, ext. 201, Voice  
[administrator@tsholom.net](mailto:administrator@tsholom.net)

[www.tsholom.net](http://www.tsholom.net)

Rabbi Neal Borovitz

Cantor Ronit Josephson



Temple Sholom's welcoming reform synagogue provides a sign language interpreter for monthly Family Shabbat services on the following Friday nights: December 7, February 1, March 7, April 4, and May 8. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. and are followed by a delicious Oneg Shabbat.



## ST. JAMES' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

214 Washington Street, Hackettstown, NJ 07840 announces Christmas Eve interpreted services at 4:40 p.m. blessing of the Creche and Holy Eucharist. This is especially suitable for young children. 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist with Choir and Bell Choir, carol singing before at 6:45. The church is located in easy distance for those who live in Morris, Warren, Sussex or Hunterdon counties. Interpreted services are offered every Sunday at the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services. The Rector is The Rev. Dr. Cathy Deats. The Deacon is The Rev. Sheila Shuford who is deaf. or more information contact Sheila at scshuford@optonline.net.



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## MINISTRY WITH THE DEAF

**Christmas Social - Sunday, December 16, 2007**

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

Doors open at 10:30 a.m. - No early birds, please! St. John of God School Gym, 1145 Delsea Drive (Rt. 47), Westville, New Jersey 08093. *(Please Note Change of Address)*.

Menu: Stuffed Shells, Meatballs, Ham, Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Rolls, Desserts, Hot & Cold Beverages. Please bring a dessert! -

Gift: Please bring only one (1) gift for each of your children for Santa Claus to give out. Don't 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!

Please buy your tickets in advance. - Ticket Prices In Advance: \$10 per person (13 years old & up); \$6 per child (4-12 years old); \$25 per family; Free Children (3 years old and under. )  
Deadline: December 9, 2007 - No Refunds. Ticket Prices At Door (Cash Only) \$12 per person (13 years old & up); \$8 per child (4-12 years old); \$30 per family; Free for Children 3 years and under. 50/50 chances! Door prizes & more! Win an airblown inflatable 6 ft. Light-up snow globe!

Christmas play by CCD children! To buy tickets, see Gracemarie Newman or mail a check payable to the Ministry With the Deaf and send to: 525 Doe Lane, Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034. For more information: 856-795-6481 TTY/Voice; 856-482-5657 FAX, deafministrynj@yahoo.com



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## APOSTOLIC TABERNACLE CHURCH

923 W. Washington Avenue, Pleasantville, NJ 08232

**Services:** Sunday School (children & adults) 11:00 a.m. - Worship service, Sunday 12:00 p.m.  
Bible Study, Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Interpreters available for all services. Join us for a blessed time of worship



# Communicator Signboard



## RUNNING RABBIT THEATRE'S Treasure Island (the musical)

The entire production of Treasure Islands uses song,  
spoken word and American Sign Language  
in this Swashbuckling Adventure.

Direction and Libretto by Paul Whelihan - Music by Marc Baron - Lyrics by Ian August  
November 30 - December 16

Luna Stage Company  
695 Bloomfield Avenue, Montclair, NJ

Tickets \$14 - \$18  
(discount rates for groups of 10 or more)  
973-744-3309  
lunastage.org or rrfamilytheatre.org



Deaf social group at the Hamilton Mall, Mays Landing  
(in the food court, near Arby's and Foot Locker)

Come CHAT, enjoy FOOD, FELLOWSHIP & FRIENDS (old & new friends)!

Open to Deaf, Hard of Hearing, interpreters and sign language students

Meet on the last Monday of every month at 6:30 p.m.

Any questions, please contact Nancy Palmer - [suepal70@comcast.net](mailto:suepal70@comcast.net)

# Communicator Signboard



## ATLANTIC COUNTY SOCIETY OF THE DEAF

*hosts*

### TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

*Mac's*

**908 Shore Road; Somers Point, NJ 08244**

**[www.macsrestaurant.com](http://www.macsrestaurant.com)**

***Saturday, December 15, 2007 - 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.***

#### *Dinner Buffet Menu:*

*Fresh Fruits - Imported & Domestic Cheese with Assorted Crackers*

*Baby Greens with Grape Tomatoes*

*Oven Roasted Chicken with Asparagus, Mushrooms And Tomatoes*

*Herb Roasted Top Round of Beef with Au Jus And Horseradish Sauce*

*Salmon with A Sweet Bell Pepper Sauce*

*Seasonal Vegetables - Desserts - Coffee & Tea*

*Beer, Wine, Brands of Liquors and Soda on Cash Basis*

*Dj - 50/50 - Bank Nite Giveaway .*

*Money In Envelopes - Chinese Auction*

*Member - \$25 Non-member \$35. - Deadline: December 5*

*Mail payment to: A.C.S.D., c/o Christmas Dinner,*

*PO Box 3088.Margate, NJ 08234*

*Make Check/Money Order payable to:*

*Atlantic County Society of the Deaf*

*Chairperson: John & Rosemary Werner*

*Any questions, contact us at: [RoseFish12@aol.com](mailto:RoseFish12@aol.com)*

*Dress up, no kids allowed.*

*Tickets will not be sold at the door. No refund.*



# Calendar of Events 2007/2008



## **South Jersey Deaf Club, Inc.**

1st Anniversary and 2nd Holiday Celebration  
December 2, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Vanity Fare (Best Western Hotel)  
Lakewood, NJ 08701

## **Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.**

21st Annual Holiday Banquet  
Dec. 15  
Grand Chalet, Wayne, NJ  
Info: [www.nwjad.org](http://www.nwjad.org)

## **DDHH Advisory Council Meeting**

Friday January 25  
East Brunswick Public Library  
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Call DDHH office to confirm your attendance,  
609-984-7281.

**Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day 2008**  
at Great Adventure  
Saturday June 14

**NJSD/MKSD 125th Anniversary**  
and  
**NJSD/MKSD Alumni Association**  
80th Anniversary  
October 10, 11 and 12, 2008  
Columbus weekend

Check [www.mksd.org](http://www.mksd.org) for more information  
Thomas Sparks, Jr., Chairman,  
[PhySparks70@aol.com](mailto:PhySparks70@aol.com)  
856-374-1043 FAX

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

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