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Monthly Communicator

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

April 2005

Vol. 26



No. 4

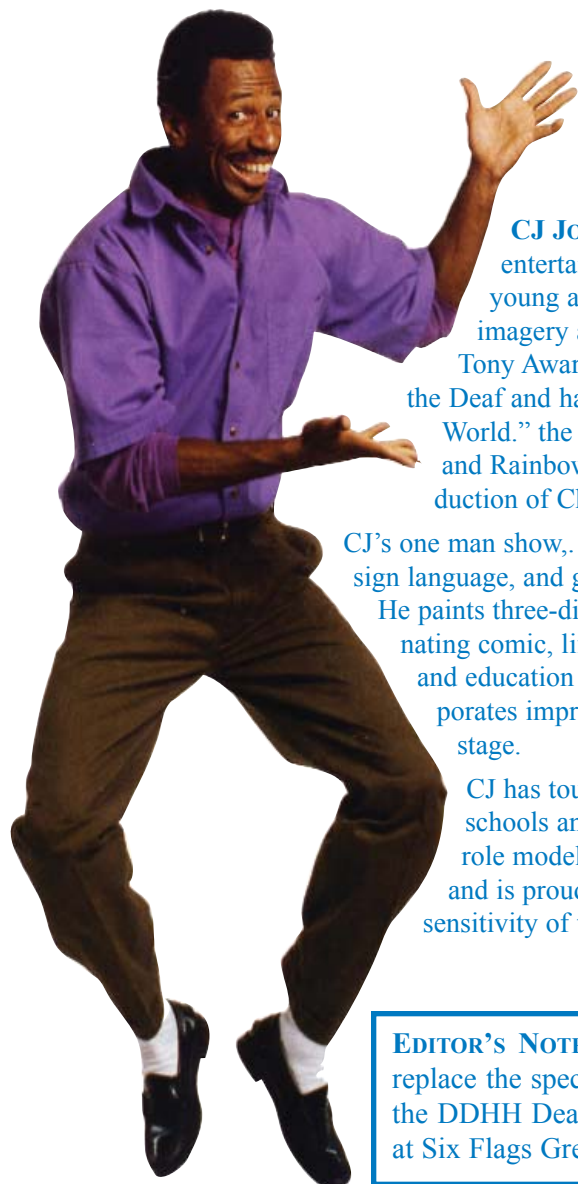
RICHARD J. CODEY, ACTING GOVERNOR

JAMES M. DAVY, COMMISSIONER

BRIAN C. SHOMO, DIRECTOR

DDHH Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day

C.J. Jones
THE Living Cartoon!



CJ JONES is an internationally known deaf entertainer who has been delighting audiences young and old with his unique style of visual imagery and storytelling. He received a Special Tony Award in 1977 for his work with Theater of the Deaf and has also appeared on NBC's "A Different World," the PBS television shows, "Sesame Street" and Rainbow's End," and in the national touring production of Children of a Lesser God."

CJ's one man show, the living cartoon, combines voiced and sign language, and gesturally riveting, colorful storytelling. He paints three-dimensional moving pictures of his fascinating comic, life experiences blending laughter, mime and education to delight all the senses. CJ always incorporates improvisational audience participating on stage.

CJ has toured extensively to primary and secondary schools and college campuses. As a black artist and role model, CJ promotes messages of self-esteem and is proud to promote increased awareness and sensitivity of the deaf traditions to people of all races.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The section on pages 19 - 23 will replace the special edition we have had in the past for the DDHH Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure on June 4.

Division of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Advisory Council Membership

Department Representatives

NJ Department of Health & Senior Services

Leslie M. Beres

Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf

Dennis Russell

NJ Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services

Nancy Yarosh

NJ Department of Education

Therese Sheehan

NJ Department of Human Services

John Walsh

NJ Commission on Higher Education

Josie Durkow

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Child of Deaf Adult

Lisa Chapland

5 Deaf Citizens

one vacancy

Steven Shevlin

Bonnie Thomas

Alan Peter Tenthoff

Rose Pizzo

5 Hard of Hearing Citizens

Wayne Roorda

Arlene London

Arlene Romoff

Two vacancies

NOTE: Department representatives serve indefinite terms.

Artificial Larynx Devices

The NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is including an Artificial Larynx Device in its Equipment Distribution Program. This apparatus is used by some people who have had their larynx surgically removed due to cancer. If anyone is interested in details of this initiative, please contact DDHH at 800-792-8339 V/TTY.

READERS NOTE:

The Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing realizes that the Monthly Communicator (MC) may not always be received as quickly as we would like. Therefore, it is always posted promptly on the DHS Web site for your perusal. Please check the Web site for the MC and other DDHH publications at:

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh

Although this is a monthly publication, the July and August issues are combined.

Monthly Communicator

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Editor: Ira C. Hock

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Division of the Deaf

and Hard of Hearing

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The Monthly Communicator is published by the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, 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 8,300 copies of the MC distributed monthly.

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

Will Your Hearing Aid or Cochlear Implant Processor Be Lost When You Are A Patient?

By Carol Granaldi

Of concern to a deaf or hard of hearing person who is reliant on hearing devices such as hearing aids or cochlear implant (CI) processors is the possibility of loss, damage or theft when one is a patient in a medical facility. It is true that hospitals and medical facilities often display disclaimers about a patient's personal belongings or valuables at the time of admission. However, they should view the patient's hearing devices as durable medical equipment which must be treated with the same care as an expensive prosthetic device such as an artificial limb, a body brace, prescription eyeglasses or any other equipment which disabled persons use in their daily lives. These certainly are not in the same category as jewelry, watches or other articles to which the disclaimers apply.

To a profoundly deafened patient, the personalized custom-fitted powerful hearing aid or CI processor is essential during waking hours to allow him/her to respond and interact with medical staff. This differs from a patient with a mild hearing loss who may be able to utilize a hospital-provided assistive listening device which some hospitals might have available. The customized hearing aid or CI processor, however, is far more costly and personalized and is not easily replaced if lost, damaged or stolen.

A few years ago, a Deaf NJ couple sued a hospital and won the lawsuit because no interpreter was provided for their communication needs. By the same token, because personalized hearing devices are essential to profoundly deaf patients who do not use sign language, their use should not be denied when it is the patient's own device.

When medical staff loses, misplaces or damages hearing equipment, a deafened patient is deprived of his/her ability to communicate effectively. While a medical facility might assume the financial responsibility and reimburse the patient, replacement of hearing devices is more complicated than merely going to the store and buying a new one. Customized hearing aids and CI processors require

specialized professional fitting which is unlikely to be available on the premises, and certainly not quickly. Some profoundly deaf patients may, like myself, use both a hearing aid and a cochlear implant processor, and would be greatly distressed at the high cost of replacing them. Should both be lost, replacement costs could be close to \$10,000, so it is important that these expensive instruments be safeguarded while in a medical facility. If a patient is seriously ill, this loss could create an extremely stressful situation which could worsen an illness or hinder a recovery.



In the best of scenarios, a patient with specialized hearing devices will first visit the hospital's patient representative before admission, and discuss his/her specific communication needs which should be emphasized to the staff. He/she must explain that, in order to communicate effectively with medical personnel, he/she needs to use his/her own equipment. A strategy to safeguard the equipment can be agreed on. For example, a hearing aid or/and CI processor can be stored in its own case with an identifying label on it. This/these then can be placed in a zippered plastic bag with the patient's name clearly written on it. Some hospitals already provide specially marked containers to safeguard prescription eyeglasses, dentures, or similar articles. Most hospitals will attach an ID bracelet when a patient is admitted. It may be helpful to indicate with a second bracelet that the patient is deaf, and needs to use the special hearing devices found in the specially ID marked container, whose number is also written on the bracelet.

Surgery and recovery room staff should reassure the patient that the devices are close by and will be inserted or attached as soon as conditions allow. Until that time, communication might be in the form of writing on a pad, or other agreed upon method. If entering the hospital for same-day tests, procedures or surgery, it is important upon admission to strongly emphasize that one is wearing expensive hearing devices, and these must be identified, made readily available, and kept close by during the tests or procedures if they need to be removed. I am in

Continued on page 4

the habit of handwriting onto the admission papers declaring:

“The hospital is responsible for my hearing aid and cochlear implant processor, both of which have a combined value of close to \$10,000, are necessary to me as a deaf person, and I have provided containers identified with my name.” I then date and sign it, and ask the admission’s clerk for a copy. I feel that this would document that I was admitted with such equipment, and if it is lost, damaged or stolen, it is the hospital’s responsibility to cover the costs of replacement. After being a hospital patient dozens of times during the past 10 years, my hearing devices so far have been adequately protected due to my assertiveness.

Hopefully, in the future, all hospital admission forms would ask if any necessary hearing devices are accompanying the patient, and document this fact, and the staff would follow a protocol for safeguarding the devices. In my case, I wasn’t incapacitated at the time of admission for my surgeries, tests, or procedures, and I had the presence of mind to self-advocate for my hearing devices.

Unfortunately, many patients with hearing aids or CI processors are admitted to the hospital too ill or distracted by pain to oversee the care of their hearing aids or CI processors. They often are accompanied by a worried caregiver who may have too many details to think about, and safeguarding the hearing equipment may be overlooked.

When this happens, and hearing aids or CI processors are lost, it’s upsetting to both patient and caregiver, and the patient’s inability to effectively communicate hinders the staff. People of all ages with expensive hearing aids or/and CI processors may at any time find themselves in a medical facility and may be unable to completely hear and understand what is being said when their hearing devices are removed because of medical procedures. It’s important to ensure that the devices will not be lost, damaged or stolen during this time. Make sure the hospital staff is aware of its value to you, and that you expect them to be responsible for its safekeeping.

Here in New Jersey, Hackensack University Medical Center focuses on the hearing needs of patients from admission to discharge. Patients are assessed for degrees of hearing loss, use of personal hearing devices, the need for assistive listening devices, sign language interpreters, and audiology evaluations. Collaboration with the late Jack Mulligan, co-chairman of the Bergen County Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH) and a determined advocate for change, resulted in an increased

awareness of the unique challenges faced by deaf and hard of hearing patients when hospitalized.

The Departments of Medicine (Geriatrics), Audiology, and Nursing joined together to form the “The Triangle of MAN” to implement strategies that would “Open the Doors to Better Hearing” for patients with hearing loss. A staff awareness campaign, development of initiatives to identify and address hearing loss, educational materials about more effective communication, and a “Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day” have had a significant impact on the improvement of care and communication between deaf and hard of hearing patients and their caregivers at Hackensack University Medical Center. The following is a description of Hackensack University Medical Center’s admission procedures for patients with a hearing loss.

The security of patient hearing aids, cochlear implant (CI) processors, eyeglasses and dentures is very important at Hackensack University Medical Center. Immediately upon the patient’s admission to the hospital, nurses address hearing loss and the presence and use of patient valuables such as hearing aids, cochlear implants (CI) processors, eyeglasses and dentures. Using the HUMC “Admission Profile”, nurses document the use and immediate location of all valuables in the “Valuables” section. In the Cognitive/Sensory Perception Section, nurses ask the patient a specific question about hearing difficulty, “Do you have difficulty hearing even when a speaker faces you and speaks louder?” If the patient responds “Yes”, an assistive listening device, the “Pocketalker Pro Sound Amplifier”, is provided on loan to the patient for use throughout the hospital stay. The nurse will also ask about the use of hearing aids, cochlear implant or other assistive listening devices, and document if amplification systems are present, in use, left home, or not working. If the amplification system is not working, due to battery failure, staff will obtain a replacement battery. Patients are advised that four sizes of replacement hearing aid batteries are available 24/7 in the Hackensack University Medical Center Distribution Department.

If the hearing aid is not working for other reasons, staff will refer this information to the family or significant other. An audiological consultation is recommended when a hearing difficulty is identified on the patient’s admission profile. During the audiological consultation, the audiologist evaluates, diagnoses, and recommends treatment for the patient’s hearing loss. This may include

Continued from page 4

rehabilitative services that can begin as an inpatient, ENT consultation or referral back to their own physician for further workup.

A Pilot Program began on March 1, 2005 that provide patients with a bag with compartments to hold hearing aids, eyeglasses, and dentures. A Velcro strap allows the bag to be strapped to the patient's wrist, bed rail, or stretcher in order to have all items secured throughout their hospital stay. A section on the outside of the case holds a patient identification card.

It is our hope that Hackensack University Medical Center's initiatives and the Pilot Program will serve as models nationwide to promote immediate and effective communication by identifying and addressing hearing loss between deaf and hard of hearing patients and their caregivers; to safeguard patient valuables such as hearing aids or cochlear implant processors against loss, damage, or theft; to help patients with hearing difficulties feel more respected by the healthcare system, and to promote

quicker recoveries for patients with hearing loss.

For their contribution to this article, I want to thank the following: Joan Rittgers, RN, BSN, Geriatric Research Nurse, Division of Geriatrics, Hackensack University Medical Center; Maryrose McInerney, Ph.D., CCC-A, Director of Audiology, Hackensack University Medical Center; Myrna Gomez, MA, Administrative Director, Consumer Affairs and Guest Services, Hackensack University Medical Center and the late Jack Mulligan, SHHH Bergen County's Group leader, to whom this article is dedicated.

About The Author: Carol Granaldi has been a National SHHH member since 1984; was a recipient of the National SHHH's Advocacy Award presented by the late Howard E. "Rocky" Stone; and is the co-founder of the SHHH-New Jersey State Association; and she has served on many state level advisory boards. She resides in Ocean County, New Jersey as a resident of a retirement community.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

Here we go again! The New Jersey lawmakers are getting ready to push insurers to cover costs less important than children's hearing aids without referring them to the Mandate Health Commission and yet this Senate continues to stall hearing aid insurance coverage because it needs to be reviewed by the Mandate Health Commission. One of the hearing aid bills A1766, Grace's Law, passed the full Assembly last June. Still it sits.

Unfortunately, the Senate Health Committee isn't referring anything to the Commission because it costs the state \$25,000 for each review. So every day that passes is another struggle for the deaf and hard of hearing community. They either continue to live in a silent world or experience financial difficulties. I am the parent of a hard of hearing daughter who knows full well the financial burden of purchasing \$5000 hearing aids every few years so she can be successful in school and participate in our hearing world. This child begs for new batteries when they die and immediately puts her aids on when she wakes up, because she wants to hear! It boggles my mind that insurance companies continue to deny them their sense of hearing. I've been under the impression for the last five years that hearing aid insurance legislation has been stalled because of our ongoing budget deficit and that the legislators are swayed by lobbyists for the medical insurance companies who say that insurance costs will rise if this bill is passed; hence the need for the Mandate Health Commission. (I've got copies of studies that prove the cost is minimal!) Every day that hearing aid legislation is stalled and I look at my little girl learning to speak because of her hearing aids I am ashamed of our lawmakers priorities.

By the way, similar legislation has already been passed in Connecticut, Maryland, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, and Oklahoma and other states are following suit.

Who is going to be the voices for those who have no voice or vote? Help get Grace's Law on lawmakers agendas. Join our outcry! Please tell all this to your local legislators. Log onto the legislative Web site for names and other information about hearing aid insurance legislation at www.njleg.state.nj.us/.

Please contact Sen. Joseph F. Vitale, chair of the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, phone number (732) 855-7441 Voice, and urge him to post A1766/S1253 "Grace's Law" for a vote.

Sincerely,
Jeanine Gleba
Washington, NJ



ASL Story Hours Promote English Literacy for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

The NJ Library for the Blind and Handicapped's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program (DHHAP) held two ASL Story Hours for children on January 11 and February 8, 2005. Voiced by ASL Interpreters provided by the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation illustrating each page along with the reader, the story hours enable deaf and hard of hearing children to enjoy simultaneous ASL and English versions of books. Home schoolers and the public are welcome. The story hours have become popular events. On the average, 60 children and adults attend each one.

On January 11, Deaf Storyteller Darlene Sarnouski signed the heartwarming true story, "Caesar: On Deaf Ears," about a deaf dog rescued from an animal shelter by a caring family. She also displayed photos of "Caesar's" author, Loren Spiotta-DiMare, illustrator, and the real-life Caesar.

On February 8, in celebration of Black History Month, Brian C. Shomo, Director of the DDHH signed the book "I Like Myself!" by Karen Beaumont, about an irrepressible young African-American girl who exults in her unique identity. Following his presentation, two third grade students, eight-year-old Morgan Bock, and nine-year-old Sskyiah Hughes from the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf signed short stories of their own composition. Literacy is about reading AND writing, and what a fabulous job they did! Mr. Shomo autographed and donated a copy of the book to the MKSD school library. DHHAP Coordinator Christine Olsen, with assistance from DHHAP volunteer John Lewis, unveiled their display of photographs chronicling story hours from October to December of 2004, and the children had a wonderful time searching out their own faces and their favorite dogs.

Certified therapy dogs and their volunteer owners from the Kindred Souls Canine Center join the children at each story hour, and owner and trainer Pete Campione teaches the children hand signals used to train dogs, who love interacting with the kids. One of the most popular

therapy dogs is Rio, a greyhound who is deaf, and Rio's owner is learning ASL so as to better communicate with the deaf and hard of hearing community. What dedication!

Wonderful workshops and events such as these story hours are scheduled by Christine O. Olsen, Coordinator of the DHHAP at the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH). Contact Christine at 877-882-5593 TTY or colsen@njstatelib.org.



The DHHAP is one of the several services available to New Jersey residents through the NJLBH located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton and is a division of the New Jersey State Library and provides public library services to

those who can't see to read a book or to hold one. It offers over 96,000 books and magazines in Braille,

recorded and large print formats; broadcasts seven New Jersey newspapers through a radio reading service; loans assistive technology from the NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired and administers telephone access to 150 nationwide newspapers through Commission-sponsored NFB-NEWSLINE; provides audio-described videos; loans Assistive Listening Devices for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and offers monthly ASL Story Hours for first, second and third graders from the

MKSD and the public. The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped has the largest Braille collection in the state, 13,000 volumes, and is used by people ranging from four to 107 years old. Of the Library's 12,000 customers, over 1900 are 21 or younger.

The New Jersey State Library, located at 185 West State Street in Trenton, fosters the development of library services in New Jersey's 451 public libraries. Last year, attendance in New Jersey's public libraries was 41,753,411 with total circulation of almost 52 million, an increase of almost 300,000. For more information on the State Library and its programs contact Tina Keresztury at (609) 292-8151 or tkeresztury@njstatelib.org. For more information about the NJLBH, contact Anne McArthur at (609) 530-3242 or amcarther@njstatelib.org.



Getting to Know . . . Sarah Jerger, Psy.S

Interviewed by Todd R. Olsen, Interpreter Referral Service Coordinator, DDHH

In September 2004, Sarah Jerger became the new school psychologist for the Specialized Child Study Team at Katzenbach, the New Jersey School for the Deaf. Sarah grew up in Ohio, where she spent most of her education mainstreamed in a public school system. She currently lives in Pennsylvania.



Q. What is your role at Katzenbach, NJ School for the Deaf?

A. My primary responsibility is to do psychological evaluations on children who are Deaf in the state of NJ, by request of their school districts. These evaluations are mostly for triennial reviews to make sure that their placement is appropriate for them, and that they are receiving the services they need. I feel that in order to get valid and accurate evaluation results, it is essential to have a school psychologist who is familiar with Deaf Culture, as well as being fluent in American Sign Language. I remember being evaluated by a school psychologist when I was in elementary school by the use of a sign language interpreter, and I did not feel any rapport was established between the psychologist and myself. Establishing rapport is a crucial part of the testing process because that alone could validate test results based on the child's motivation level - their motivation to perform to their best of ability.

Our team is part of the State of NJ Department of Education and office is located at Katzenbach. I evaluate the students at Katzenbach and enjoy the beautiful campus. My supervisor, Mary Henneberry, is wonderful. She is very helpful and always has a lot of ideas and feedback which has helped me grow as a school psychologist working with children who are Deaf.

One of the perks about my job is that I travel across the state of NJ which enables me to learn more about the state (as a newcomer) as well as learning about all the

different school districts that serve students who are Deaf. I love that fact that I am able to work with kids in the mainstreamed setting and at Deaf schools, which offers me a wide array of experiences.

Q. Where did you go to college to become a school psychologist?

A. After I graduated from high school, I attended Rochester Institute of Technology where I received my Bachelor's of Science in Psychology. For my graduate studies, I went to Gallaudet for my Master's of Art in Developmental Psychology and Specialist Degree in School Psychology. As part of my school psychology training, I did an internship for a year at the California School for the Deaf-Fremont.

Q. How were you hired at Katzenbach, NJ School for the Deaf?

A. During my internship year, I sent my resume to several different schools for the Deaf across the nation. They contacted me and I came out for an interview. About a week later, I was offered the job, thus the reason why I moved to NJ. What I really enjoy about this job is the opportunity to test a wide variety of Deaf children at schools for the Deaf and in mainstreamed settings.

Q. Why did you become interested in this field?

A. While I was in college, I worked at Deaf camps during the summers and immensely enjoyed working with children. Along with that, my psychology courses made me realize that I wanted a career working with children.

Q. What are your future goals?

A. I would like to work towards a Ph.D., with the possible goal of becoming a professor for school psychology. One of my other passions is teaching. I would love the opportunity to teach in the future.

To contact Sarah for more information related to this article, e-mail her at: Sarah_Jerger@mkds.state.nj.us

Events Around the Towns . . .

Happy Hands Summer Day Camp 2005

Four weeks of fun and friends filled with activities for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children!

Established in 1988, Camden County College (CCC) offers a 4-week day camp for Deaf and Hard of Hearing children between 5 and 12 years of age. It will be held on the Blackwood Campus of CCC located about 13 miles from Camden. The 320-acre campus is centrally located for students living throughout the South Jersey area. The Happy Hands Day Camp is staffed with fully qualified individuals, and certified teachers who have years of experience working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. The camp will provide snacks and beverages. Campers should bring their own lunches. A \$10 deposit is required (non-refundable).

Weeks of:

July 11 - 15, July 18 - 22, July 25 - 29, and August 1 - 5

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 a.m.

\$125 per week - Children may enroll for 1, 2, 3 or 4 weeks.

Sports, water games, computers, arts and crafts, language development, field trips, and much more.

Info: Rachel McGarry, (856) 227-7200 ext. 4746 V/TTY,
(856) 374-5056 Fax, rmcgarry@camdencc.edu.



NJSD/MKSD Alumni Class Reunion

Attention: NJSD/MKSD Alumni Members. My name is Ann (Adamca) Downs, class of 1972. I am chairperson for the NJSD/MKSD Alumni Class Reunion. We are planning a reunion in 2006. I need your help by providing me with your full name (with maiden name), home address, e-mail address, phone, Voice, TTY, Fax and the year you graduated. This will be kept confidential for the alumni reunion committee purpose only. Please get back to me as soon as you can so we can make this as successful as possible. E-mail information to: AlumniNJSDMKSD@aol.com or address to Michael W. Sullivan, C/O NJSD/MKSD Alumni Reunion, PO Box 281, Brodheadsville, PA 19822-0281

New Jersey Folk Festival

Located at the Eagleton Institute at Rutgers University, George Street & Ryders Lane.

Saturday April 30

10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Rain or shine!

Joining us will be

ASL interpreter Janice Nierstedt

Free admission!

For more information or driving directions, visit
<http://njfolkfest.rutgers.edu>,
or call us at (732) 932-5775 Voice



ALDA-GS (Association of Late-Deafened Adults-Garden State)

is pleased to announce the availability of a \$1000 scholarship to a deaf or hard of hearing high school student or adult in New Jersey. The scholarship offer extends to deaf or hard of hearing graduating high school student or adult who has been accepted at an accredited college, university, or trade school for the year 2005. Apply to: Diana Fanuel, Scholarship Chair, ALDA-GS, 3-11 Lyons Ave., Fair Lawn, NJ 07410-6164 or ALDAFANN@Hotmail.com. Completed applications must be received by May 15, 2005

Communicator Signboard

**Camden County College
Educational Interpreter Professional Development Center
Presents a Panel Discussion:**

“Educational Interpreters: Deaf Students’ Perspectives”

April 12

6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Criminal Justice Amphitheater, Blackwood Campus

Moderator: Mr. Dennis Jones

This event will be interpreted.

Come and find out the Deaf students’ perspectives on educational interpreters including:

Successes, struggles, preferences, suggestions

Question and answer session to follow.

RSVP to: Rachel McGarry, Assessment Coordinator, rmcgarry@camdencc.edu

(856)227-7200 ext. 4560 V/TTY, (856) 374-5056 Fax

Metropolitan Asian Deaf Association Collaborative Project: Deaf Community & Video Relay Service

sponsored by UCC ASL & Deaf Studies and ASL-English Interpreting Programs

Guest Speaker: Arthur Moore (Sprint),

“Enjoying the Sprint Relay”

Panelists: Margie English (MCI), Peter Rozynski, Arthur Moore (Sprint), Sean Gerlis (Sorenson)

Panel Discussion Questions:

Do you support the FCC that makes a new law that Deaf and Hard of Hearing people should pay the video relay service bill?

Why or why not? Should the Video Relay Service be expanded across the U.S. and other countries? Why or why not?

Union Community College, Cranford Campus, 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, NJ 07016-1599,

Room: South Lecture Hall, Science Building

Saturday, April 16 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Early Admission: \$5 member/\$8 non-member

At door: \$7 member/\$10 non-member

Refreshments will be served. Interpreters will be provided.

Make a check or money order payable to “Metropolitan Asian Deaf Association”

and include on memo line “DCVRS on April 16, 2005.” Mail to MADA,

ATTN: Mee Eng-Naturale, P.A.C.C., PO Box 36-20323, New York, NY 10129

Info: Laura Frank, syounger68@yahoo.com or Mee Eng-Naturale at sunshuijc@yahoo.com.

www.mada-nynj.org

Communicator Signboard

4th Annual Deaf Vegas Night

North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.

Saturday, April 16 at 7 p.m.

at Knights of Columbus, 39 Washington Street, Lodi, NJ

Doors open from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Texas Hold'em Poker, Black Jack,
Roulette Wheel, 7-Card Stud, 5 Card Poker

Players must be at least 21 years old.

Refreshments on sale, 50/50 chances, bank nite, cash bar

Donations in advance; Member \$8, Non-member \$9, at door \$10,

Senior citizen (65+) \$6.50, at door - senior citizen \$ 7.50.

Make check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc. with your list of names,
and mail to John Rivera, 21 Patton Drive, Apt. D, Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

Tickets will be given at door.

Deadline is April 10

Chairman Peter Vandenberg and the Committees

Info: *Petleen@aol.com*



Ocean County College

2nd Annual Deaf Awareness Day

Saturday, April 23, 2005

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

Deaf vendors in the gymnasium and free Deaf entertainment. There will be classrooms set up for children's games in ASL as well as for Deaf Culture! Come and enjoy a wonderful day of free fun and exposure to the Deaf Community.

OCC's cafeteria will be open from 9:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

At 7:00 p.m., the OCC's Interpreter Training Program will be hosting their fundraiser Rock and Roll Concert.

Tickets cost \$12 for adults and \$8 for children 12 years old and under.

Info: Kathy Basilotto, CI at (732) 255-0400, ext. 2256 Voice,
(732) 255-0407 TTY or *kbasilotto@ocean.edu*

Communicator Signboard

Interpreter's Forum Interpreting in the Legal Setting Saturday, April 23

Main Lecture Hall at Cranford Campus, Union County College,
1033 Springfield Road, Cranford, NJ

Doors will open at 12:00 p.m.

Presentation starts at 1:00 p.m.

Free admission

Presenters:

Linda Lamitola - Legal interpreter

Bud Schrader - CDI

Social with light refreshments will follow presentations.

Info: uccsignclub@yahoo.com or visit www.uccsignclub.org

Home Buying Tips for People With Hearing Loss

Are you looking to buy your first home?

Is refinancing your mortgage a good financial decision?

Want to discover how to buy and sell real estate to make a profit?

Learn more about home-buying.

Workshop provided by American Tradition Mortgage and co-sponsored by New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

May 7

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

Holiday Inn Carteret-Rahway, 1000 Roosevelt Avenue, Carteret, NJ, 07008

Who: People With Hearing Loss

Cost: FREE

(ASL Interpreters, CART, and Assistive Listening
Devices provided by DDHH)

Refreshments will be provided.

RSVP and info by April 19 to: Marc Friedman at
(732) 266-5563 Voice or mmfried@comcast.net.



Communicator Signboard

North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.

“WINGO”

Knights of Columbus, 39 Washington Street, Lodi, NJ

Saturday, May 14, 7 p.m.

Games start at 8 p.m.

\$1,000 in cash to be given away based on 200 people attending

Refreshments on sale, NJCCD Affair Banknite, 50/50 Chances

Let's Have Fun & Play With Cards To Win \$ \$

Chairperson - Beverly Golden, Co-Chairperson - Matilda O'Klock

Donation in advance - Members and Non-Members \$10 each, at door - \$12 each

To order tickets in advance, make a check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc.
and mail to Beverly Golden, 26 Thomas Street, Clifton, NJ 07013 with your name and
address, the number of tickets and name(s) provided.

Deadline: May 7, 2005

Info: Beverly Golden at *TBGolden0206@msn.com*

Deaf Ministry's One-Day Conference

Saturday, May 14

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

“Jesus, The Good Shepherd” - John 10

Speaker: Rev. Kenton Hoxie

Trinity Baptist Church, 160 Changebridge Road, Montville, NJ 07045

Cost: \$10 per person (Lunch and refreshments will be supplied.)

(Please make checks payable to Trinity Baptist Church - Deaf Ministries)

A “love offering” will be collected for the guest speaker(s).

Info: Leslie Bunn, (973) 252-9651 V/TTY, (973) 252-1317 Fax, *lesliebunn@att.net.com*

Communicator Signboard

OPEN HOUSE

Camden County College, MidAtlantic Post-Secondary Center
For Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

Saturday, April 30

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Papiano Gymnasium, Blackwood Campus

Interpreters provided

Info: Camden County College, Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students,
PO Box 200 College Drive, Blackwood, NJ 08012

(856) 374-4855 TTY, (856) 227-7200 ext. 4506 Voice, (856) 374-5003 Fax,

djones@camdencc.edu

www.camdencc.edu

NWJAD, Inc. (Northwest Jersey Assn. of the Deaf, Inc.)

Hold-Em-Poker Tournament !

A Fund-Raiser For Deaf Youth Programs.

Win cash! The MORE Players, the BIGGER Cash Prizes!

Saturday, April 30

Registration begins at 3:00 p.m. - Tournament Starts at 4:00 p.m.

(\$40 per player members & Non-members - no payment at door-send form below)

(\$5 - Fans per person - pay at door only) Eligible players MUST be 21 years and up

All games, prizes, times subject to change at any time.

Deadline: April 22

Co-Chairs: Kevin Mona & Tom Montemorano

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

Info & Directions: www.nwjad.org, nwjad@nwjad.org

REGISTRATION FORM for PLAYERS Only

Please make a check or money order payable to: NWJAD, Inc. and mail to:

Tom Montemorano, 52 Heritage Ct., Towaco, NJ 07082



Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Email address: _____

TTY/Phone Number: ____ / ____ / ____ Total: \$ ____

Communicator Signboard



County College of Morris Proudly Hosts

CCM Fashion Club's 3rd Annual Fashion Show!

Special Guest Models!

Miss Deaf NJ: Joanne Karayiannidis, Joey Garth

Thursday, May 5

5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Skylands Reception Center, Rt. 10, Randolph, NJ

5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Appetizers, Cash Bar, Social

7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Fashion Show!

(Over 100 Models!)

Cost: \$10 per person

(Adults, Teens, Children of all Ages)

Fashion Show Coordinator: Lee Tenthoff

Info: Lee's e-mail: leet4pc@aol.com or (973) 884-3348 Voice

Interpreters Will Be Provided

Deaf Senior Citizens of Northwest Jersey

**DAWN, Inc. is sponsoring a monthly social
for all Deaf Senior Citizens of Northwest Jersey.**

Non-Seniors and Interpreter Students are Welcome!

May 6

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church, 215 Boulevard, Mountain Lakes, NJ

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Ms. Kathleen Banta (1:30 - 2:30)

Visiting Nurse Association

Topic: Lifeline (How it Works)

Lifeline provides peace of mind for you and your family. It is there for you when others can't be 24 hrs a day. ASL/Voice interpreter will be provided.

Refreshments served. Parking is available in the church parking lot.

If you need other special accommodations, call the office at the numbers listed below at least two weeks prior to the event.

Info: Lila Taylor, Deaf Outreach Specialist, ltaylor09@aol.com

DAWN, Inc., 400 S. Main St., Suite #3, Wharton, NJ 07885

(973) 361-5666 Voice, (973) 361-7086 Fax, (973) 361-6032 TTY, 888-383-DAWN, info@dawninc.org

Communicator Signboard

NWJAD, Inc.
(Northwest Jersey Assn. Of the Deaf, Inc.)
ASL Comedy Night!

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

A Fund-Raiser for Deaf Youth Events

Saturday, May 7

Doors Open at 7:30 p.m.

Admission: \$5 - Members

\$10 Non-Members

Refreshments Will Be Sold (Alcohol Is Not Served)

Chairperson: Joey Garth

Come & Laugh With Us!

Info/Directions: www.nwjad.org, nwjad@nwjad.org



Miss Deaf New Jersey Pageant's Luncheon and Fashion Show

Saturday, May 14

12 - 4 p.m.

The Crab Trap Restaurant

2 Broadway (on the Somers Point Circle before you cross over into Ocean City), Somers Point, NJ 08244

1 Choice of 3 Entrees: Grilled Filet Mignon, Chicken Cordon Bleu, Baked Stuffed Shrimp

Includes Tossed Salad, Baked Potato, Seasoned Vegetables, Dessert, Coffee & Tea

Admission: \$25 per person (includes luncheon, show and door prizes)

**Deadline: May 7 non-refundable and not sold at the door,
must reserve tickets via email/postal mail.**

Purchase tickets through: AnnMarie Buraczeski-Ellis, Chairlady at buraczeski@juno.com

Postal Mail: Checks payable to MDNJP and mailed to: Dawn LaCatena, Treasurer of the MDNJP
406 Prospect Avenue, Apt. 4E, Hackensack, NJ 07601

Info: Ms. Buraczeski-Ellis at buraczeski@juno.com

Please circle one: Filet Mignon Chicken Cordon Bleu Stuffed Shrimp

How many tickets: _____ X 25 = \$ _____

**Come on and see the new Contestants who will compete in
the July 23, 2005 Miss Deaf New Jersey Pageant!**

Communicator Signboard

Gingo Night

Hosted by Deaf Ministry

Saturday, May 14

6 p.m.-12 a.m. - Game starts at 7:30 p.m.

\$7 per person if paid in advance,\$10 per person if paid at door

St. John of God School Gym, 1145 Delsea Drive (Route 47), Westville, NJ 08093

No outside food & beverages allowed.

Doors open at 6 p.m. No early birds please!

If paying at door, cash only. Food will be on sale until 7 p.m.

Desserts will be on sale during intermission.

Info: (856) 795-6481 V/TTY, (856) 482-5657 Fax, deafministrynj@yahoo.com

Make check/money order payable to Deaf Ministry and
mail with your name, address and e-mail address to: 525 Doe Lane, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Note: Adults only (21 years old and up)

Mail no later than May 7

No children! No refunds!

Deaf Ministry's 25th Anniversary Potluck Luncheon

Sunday, May 22

Mass - 10 a.m.

Luncheon (School) - 11a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Gregory's Church

340 Evesham Avenue

Magnolia, New Jersey 08089

Bring a dish or make a donation.

Please see Eleanor Marshall for what dish to bring.

Rolls, Meats and Hot/Cold Beverages will be provided.

Info: Contact Sister Bonnie at (856) 795-6481 Voice,
Gracemarie Newman at (856) 482-5657 Fax, or deafministrynj@yahoo.com

Communicator Signboard



Come join the
Lakewood BlueClaws

Friday, August 26

as they host
**Deaf Awareness Night at
First Energy Park**

First pitch is at 7:05 p.m.

Fireworks will follow immediately after the game.
Groups of 25 or more may receive a discounted rate and
will be recognized on the scoreboard during the game.

For information or to book your group outing,
please call (732) 901-7000 Voice (option 3),
or visit www.lakewoodblueclaws.com

Don't miss out!

Adam Q. Sciorsci, Group Sales Manager
Lakewood BlueClaws -
A Single Affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies

Annual Holocaust Memorial 62nd Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

**May 5
7:30 p.m.**

Congregational Shomrei Torah
19 - 20 Morlot Avenue
Fair Lawn, New Jersey

Sign Language Interpreter provided
Info: Wallace Greene, Publicity Chairman, (201) 488-6800 Voice

Communicator Signboard

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day
at

Trenton Thunder Baseball

Trenton Thunder

vs.

Reading Phillies

7:05 p.m.

May 12

Mercer County Waterfront Park
One Thunder Road
Trenton, New Jersey 08611



Watch the Thunder take on the Phillies with your family and friends
and browse deaf and hard of hearing exhibitions sponsored by the
NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the ballpark concourse.

Contact Brian Fox at (609) 394-3300 ext. 117 Voice or
bfox@trentonthunder.com for more information about tickets.

Liberty Science Center Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day

In collaboration with the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and Signs of Sobriety,
Liberty Science Center will have a fun-filled day of exciting workshops,
deaf and hard of hearing exhibitions, and communication access.

May 15

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

Liberty Science Center, 251 Phillip Street, Liberty State Park, Jersey City, NJ 07305
Directions: www.LSC.org

Cost: 150 free General Admission vouchers are available on a first come,
first serve basis through Signs of Sobriety by contacting
Lisette Weiland at lweiland@signsofsobriety.org or
(609) 882-7677. At the door, general admission is \$10.00.
IMAX theater and Hi Def Cinema are available for an additional cost.

Sponsored by Liberty Science Center, NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Signs of Sobriety

NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will provide ASL interpreters,
CART (Computer Aided Real-Time Captioning), and Assistive Listening Devices

**21st ANNUAL
DEAF & HARD OF HEARING
AWARENESS DAY**

**SIX FLAGS GREAT ADVENTURE
SATURDAY, JUNE 4th**

New Jersey Relay Service is the proud sponsor
of entertainment at the Showcase Theater.
Enjoy the comedy of **CJ Jones** at 2 pm.

Visit our table and learn how
New Jersey Relay Service
makes communication easier.

www.att.com/relay/nj

New Jersey Relay Service is provided through AT&T Relay Services.

Ticket Sellers

For additional info contact Lauren Lercher:
GATickets@aol.com, (732) 613-8172 TTY

Association of Late-Deafened Adults-GS

P.O. Box 145
Freehold, NJ 07728-0145
Yupyup4@juno.com

Burlington County College: ASL Club

Signs of Success
11 Harmon Road
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060
larsignsofsuccess@yahoo.com

Bruce Street School for the Deaf

333 Clinton Place
Newark, NJ 07112
MJMansbach@aol.com

Deaf & Hearing Connection

The College of New Jersey
PO Box 7718
Ewing, NJ 08628
DeafHC@tcnj.edu

Deaf-Blind League of New Jersey
214 Scalera Street
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-3967
Munn96@aol.com

Deaf Golf Association, Inc.

400 Glastonbury Lane
Somerset, NJ 08873
RickRadNJ@aol.com

Empire State Deaf Golf Association

264 Swinnerton Street
Staten Island, NY 10307-1641
Sourpeas@aol.com

Metropolitan Asian Deaf Association

PO Box 36-20323, P.A.C.C.
New York, NY 10129
Sunshuijc@yahoo.com

Miss Deaf NJ Pageant

406 Prospect Ave. Apt. 4E
Hackensack, NJ 07601
Unicgfrnys05@aol.com

New Jersey Association of the Deaf

3608 Park Avenue
Edison, NJ 08820-2506
Geocha7383@aol.com

New Jersey Association of the Deaf-Blind

24K Worlds Fair Drive
Somerset, NJ 08873
Kgalindez@njadb.org

New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week, Inc.

27 Elberta Road
Maplewood, NJ 07040
Zup14@aol.com

New Jersey Deaf Sports, Inc.

26 N. Shore Blvd.
Helmetta, NJ 08828-1233
NJDeafSportsInc@aol.com

New Jersey Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf

814 Leland Avenue
Plainfield, NJ 07062-2144
Plt311@comcast.net

New Jersey Registry Interpreters for the Deaf

83 Hawkins Road
Tabernacle, NJ 08088
Megellis@verizon.net

NYC Deaf & Hard of Hearing Parents Association

PO Box 20293
Brooklyn, NY 11201
NYCDeafHHParents@aol.com

North Hunterdon High School's

Say It In Sign Club
14 Rt. 31
Annandale, NJ 08801
cmarko@nhweb.net

North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf

76 Hoffman Avenue
Lake Hiawatha, NJ 07034
RERBOWL44@aol.com

Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.

52 Heritage Court
Towaco, NJ 07082
Tmontemo@att.com

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf

2222 Vauxhall Road
Union, NJ 07083
Gracelu4u@yahoo.com

Signs of Sobriety, Inc.

100 Scotch Road
Ewing, New Jersey 08628
Info@signsofsobriety.org

US Deaflympic Teams

17 Drexel Hill Drive
Kendall Park, NJ 08824
Martin4648@aol.com

see page 23 for prices

Interpreters, Assistive Listening Devices, Realtime Captioning

Stations

**First Aid/Security
Awareness Day Ticket Booth
Main Gate/Theme Park Entrance
Guest Relations/Main Park
Guest Relations/Safari Park
Photo Greeters
Photo Booth (photo pick-up)
Stroller Rental**

Shows

**Bugs Bunny Kids Show
Dolphin Show
Water Ski Show
Batman Stunt Show
(New) Spirit of the Tiger Show
Pick up a flyer at Guest Relations for show times**

Six Flags Great Adventure Directions

**Route 537
Jackson, NJ 08527
(732) 928-1821 Voice**

From New Jersey Area: Take NJ Turnpike to Exit 7A, I-195 East to Exit 16A or Garden State Parkway, Exit 98, I-195 West to Exit 16, then one mile West on Rte. 537 to Six Flags.

From Philadelphia: Take the Ben Franklin Bridge to Route 38 East. Proceed to Route 295 North to NJ Turnpike North to Exit 7A. Take I-195 East to Exit 16A, then one mile West on Rte. 537 to Six Flags.

From New York Area: Take the George Washington Bridge, Lincoln Tunnel or Holland Tunnel to NJ Turnpike South to Exit 7A. Proceed on I-195 East to Exit 16A, then one mile West on Rte. 537 to Six Flags.

Alternative Transportation: NJ Transit offers bus service from New York City, Newark, Camden & Philadelphia to Six Flags Great Adventure. For the bus operating schedule, call New Jersey Transit at (800) 772-2222 in New Jersey, (800) 626-7433 outside New Jersey or (800) 772-2287 TTY.

Some Facts About Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day

Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ

DDHH started this successful annual program in New Jersey in 1984.

DDHH recommended Six Flags Great Adventure appoint a ticket sales coordinator through the New Jersey Association of the Deaf (NJAD).

DDHH recommended NJAD enlist other Deaf and Hard of Hearing organizations to help share in the fund raising and ticket sales. These organizations receive a percentage for each ticket sold.

DDHH expanded this program to *Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day*, making sure the accessibility needs of all people with hearing loss are satisfied.

DDHH recommended that NJAD and New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week, Inc. (NJ DAW) become partners in administering ticket sales to help raise funds for September's Deaf Awareness Week Projects, including the biennial Deaf Fest. This partnership means that NJAD and NJ DAW split the administrative fee that is part of each ticket sold.

DDHH supports its annual program as follows:

Schedules all performers for the Awareness Day program which is funded by AT&T NJ Relay Services.

Selects, coordinates and pays for all communication access from 10:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.

Publishes and distributes more than 8,500 special edition Monthly Communicator newsletters to announce and promote this event.

Distributes 90,000 state pay check inserts advertising this event.

New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
and
Six Flags Great Adventure Theme Park & Safari
proudly present
21st Annual Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Awareness Day

Saturday, June 4, 2005
10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Enjoy thrills, chills, special entertainment, friends and fun.
Interpreters, captioning and assistive listening devices available.
Performance in the afternoon in the Showcase Theatre by:

CJ Jones

Emcee will be Chris Tester

Pre-Purchased Tickets

Theme Park & Safari

Special Event Price: \$27, Regular Price:
\$47.99 + tax, Season in Advance \$80.

Ticket seller must receive your order by May 20.

See ticket seller list in this issue.

Tickets Purchased June 4

Special Event Price: \$30, Season - \$85

On sale at Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ticket Booth
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.



Hurricane Harbor

Advanced ticket \$27, on June 4: \$30, Season Pass \$85

Look for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ticket Booth left, and before main entrance.
Tickets may be used all season long through 2005 except June 11.

For additional information about Six Flags contact: (732) 928-2000 Voice

Calendar of Events 2005

Friday, April 29
DDHH Advisory Council Meeting

E. Brunswick Public Library
Open to the Public
Contact: 800-792-8339 V/TTY

Saturday, May 7
Northwest Jersey Assn. of the Deaf, Inc.
(NWJAD)

ASL Comedy Night
www.nwjad.org

Saturday, June 4
**DDHH 21 Annual Deaf and Hard
of Hearing Awareness Day**

Featuring CJ Jones
Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ
Tickets info: Lauren Lercher
GATickets@aol.com

Saturday, June 11
Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.
(NWJAD)

**Wallyball, Raquetball
&**

Swim Fun Night for All !
Spa 23, Rt. 23 South, Pompton Plains, NJ
www.nwjad.org

DDHH Office Closed - May 30, July 4

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Dated Material Please Rush

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