

Monthly Communicator



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

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RICHARD J. CODEY, ACTING GOVERNOR JAMES M. DAVY, COMMISSIONER BRIAN C. SHOMO, DIRECTOR

Attorney General Announces Finding of Probable Cause in Deaf Discrimination Complaint

TRENTON - N.J. Attorney General Peter C. Harvey and the Division on Civil Rights announced today that the State has issued a Finding of Probable Cause against an Essex County auto supply firm for allegedly refusing service to a deaf man who tried to contact the business using a TTY or “telephone typewriter,” and the services of a New Jersey Relay operator.

The deaf man, Hamphil Hudson, of Orange, alleges in his complaint that Herman’s refused to accept a call he made to them using the TTY and the free services of a New Jersey Relay operator. A Finding of Probable Cause means the State has finished its investigation, and has determined there is sufficient evidence to support a reasonable suspicion that the actions of Herman’s Auto Parts and Supplies violated the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (LAD).

“We are long past the point where a business can announce to a person, ‘We don’t serve your kind.’ The Law Against Discrimination requires that businesses treat all customers equally, regardless of their mode of communication,” said Attorney General Harvey. “No one can decide not to do business with someone because he or she is deaf or hard of hearing.”

New Jersey is home to an estimated 720,000 of the nation’s 28 million persons who are deaf and hard of hearing. In 2004 alone, 950,000 relay operator calls were made through the New Jersey Relay Service. According to NECA, the National Exchange Carrier Association, 19.2 million minutes of phone time was used for relay

service nationwide between July 2004 and March 2005.

According to Harvey, persons who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech-impaired are able to converse by telephone using a TTY, which allows them to communicate by typing messages instead of talking into the telephone receiver. During a telephone conversation between a TTY user and someone without a TTY, a relay operator is used as an intermediary. The relay operator reads aloud what has been typed by the TTY user, and then types the spoken response from the hearing person in return. Harvey said the NJ Relay Service, accessible in New Jersey by dialing 7-1-1, is a free service.

“New Jersey is home to hundreds of thousands of persons who are either deaf or have some degree of hearing loss,” said the Attorney General. “Combining the use of a TTY and the services of a relay operator is a valuable means of communication for those individuals, as well as persons who are speech-impaired. Anyone who chooses to do so should be able to access businesses and services using this process.”

According to Division on Civil Rights Director J. Frank Vespa-Papaleo, Hudson alleges in his complaint that he made several calls to Herman’s, and when they heard the call was being handled by a relay operator, they responded “Oh, no!” and hung up. Hudson further alleges that, when the relay operator immediately called back, a different person answered the phone and said, “Herman’s Auto Parts and Supplies doesn’t deal with the hearing impaired.”

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DDHH News

The Monthly Communicator is now accessible on line for those who are blind and use the Jaws software. Each issue will be posted on the DDHH Web site as a pdf and a Microsoft Word file. For the last issue, check http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/publications_05.html

The DDHH now has copies of several brochures in Spanish. Please contact us at 800-792-8339 V/TTY if you would like a copy.

Conference Planning - The DDHH held a very successful conference on April 7, 2005 at the Marriott Hotel in Trenton NJ. The focus was the latest in technology for people with hearing loss. We are now planning the third annual conference and we need your help. We seek ideas of topics to be included in the next event which will be held in April 2006. Please send your suggestions to DDHH Director Brian C. Shomo at brian.shomo@dhs.state.nj.us, (609) 984-0390 Fax, or write to DDHH, PO Box 074, Trenton NJ 08625.

Job Available

Interpreters Needed: Passaic County Technical Institute in Wayne, NJ is seeking interpreters for the 2005 - 2006 school year. These are full time positions with salary and excellent health benefits. Please contact Candice Chaleff at (973) 389-4197 Voice or cchaleff@pcti.tec.nj.us



Interpreted Service will be held at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf, 2222 Vauxhall Road, Union, NJ 07083. Wayne H. Borngesser, President, can be reached at (908) 822-2490 TTY, wborn@rci.rutgers.edu. Rev. Donald L. Brand, Pastor, can be contacted at (908) 851-2004 TTY, (908) 686-5111 Fax, gracelu4u@yahoo.com, www.gracelutheranunion.org. Interpreted worship will be held Sunday morning 10:30 a.m. (Summer - 9:30 a.m.) Interpreted Sunday School Class 9:15 a.m and interpreted Bible Study first Sunday of the month following 10:30 a.m. worship.



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' DDHH 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. The deadline for submissions for this issue is June first.

The subsequent issue will be September, with an August first deadline.

Monthly Communicator

Director: Brian C. Shomo
Editor: Ira C. Hock

NJ Department of Human Services
Division of the Deaf
and Hard of Hearing
PO Box 074

Trenton, NJ 08625-0074
(609) 984-7281 V/TTY
800-792-8339 V/TTY
(609) 984-0390 Fax

ira.hock@dhs.state.nj.us

www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh

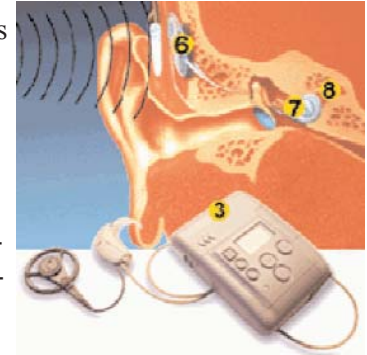
The Monthly Communicator is published by the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a state agency. DDHH provides information, referral, and advocacy to service recipients. Information or articles provided by others does not imply endorsement by DDHH or the State of New Jersey. There are currently 8,500 copies of the MC distributed monthly.

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

The Cochlear Implant Center of New Jersey

By Patricia Connelly, Director of Audiology Services, University Hospital/New Jersey Medical School

Sandwiched between New York City and Philadelphia, many citizens of New Jersey look toward the “big cities” for many aspects of health care, including cochlear implantation, and are just not aware that University Hospital and New Jersey Medical School offer an innovative and exciting multi-disciplinary cochlear implant program for children and adults in Newark. As the principal teaching hospital for New Jersey Medical School, The University Hospital is the center of referral for many of the state’s most advanced medical services and specialty care programs. From the busiest trauma center in New Jersey to one of the best liver transplant programs in the country and scores of other programs in-between, University Hospital helps thousands of patients each year. The Cochlear Implant Center of New Jersey, a program of University Hospital and New Jersey Medical School, is proud to offer innovative treatment for adults and children with severe to profound hearing loss. The cochlear implant is exciting and hopeful news for people who have not been adequately helped by the traditional hearing aid.



Robert Jyung, MD is the Director of Otolaryngology/Neurotology at University Hospital/New Jersey Medical School and is certified by the American Board of Otolaryngology. He has recently arrived from Boston, where he was a faculty member at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary, a teaching hospital for Harvard Medical School. He received his M.D. from the University of Michigan and did his residency in otolaryngology at Washington University in St. Louis. After completing a two-year fellowship in otology/neurotology at the Mass. Eye and Ear Infirmary, he served as the director of otology/neurotology at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia for four years. He has extensive experience in all aspects of temporal bone surgery, focusing on cochlear implant surgery and chronic ear disease.

Lisa D. Bell, MA, CCC-A, Audiology Director of the Cochlear Implant Center of New Jersey and Clinical Audiologist at University Hospital has extensive training in all aspects of diagnostic audiology including electrophysiologic testing and hearing aids and has additional training in cochlear implant technology. Ms. Bell evaluates patients of all ages to determine if they meet the audiologic candidacy criteria for a cochlear implant. Mrs. Bell and her colleague, Connie Vandervliet, MA, CCC-A, Senior Audiologist, provide comprehensive support for the teachers and therapists of our children making school visits and monitoring the progress of our younger cochlear implant recipients.

In addition to Dr. Jyung and Mrs. Bell, the Cochlear Implant Center of New Jersey at The University Hospital/New Jersey Medical School offers comprehensive audiologic assessment for patients from birth, speech-language pathology, auditory rehabilitation, social services, psychologists, developmental specialists, neuro-radiologists, and a specialty operating room nursing team. This is truly a multi-dimensional program offering a variety of services unmatched by any other cochlear implant facility in the Garden State. In addition, University Hospital offers quality healthcare to those most in need bringing the gold standard of modern healthcare to the uninsured and underinsured. Several times a year the Cochlear Implant Center of New Jersey offers its patients a “Listening Clinic.” These special half-day sessions are presented separately for children, teens, and adults. They feature a representative from the cochlear implant manufacturer who is also implanted and demonstrates first-hand the advanced uses for the cochlear implant with various assistive listening devices, an external lapel microphone, telephones (regular and cellular), hook-ups to GameBoy games, TV, CD/MP3 players, and use of the cords and plugs. Hands-on participation is encouraged. Our first “Listening Clinic” was in 2003 and represented an industry innovation for persons with cochlear implants. The audiologists and staff at The Cochlear Implant Center of New Jersey are dedicated to providing our patients with the latest information on implantation and the optimization of hearing using an array of technologies.

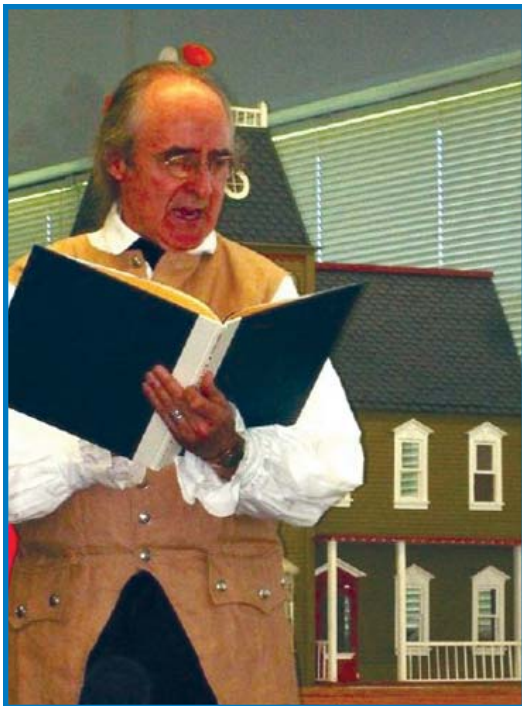
The Cochlear Implant Center of New Jersey at The University Hospital/New Jersey Medical School can be reached by e-mail at cochlear@umdnj.edu or by calling Lisa Bell directly at (973) 972-0189 Voice. We are located at 150 Bergen Street, Newark, NJ 07103. For additional information about cochlear implants and the University Hospital, visit us online at <http://www.theuniversityhospital.com/cochlearweb/index.shtml>.

American Sign Language Story Hours Promote English Literacy for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

When Washington Crossed the Delaware

The NJ Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH), located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in

Trenton, held its monthly Children's American Sign Language Story Hour on March 8. In celebration of American History Month, storyteller and historical interpreter Lloyd Collins portrayed Dr.



John Greenwood, dentist to George Washington, and read When Washington Crossed the Delaware by Lynne Cheney.

Signed 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, NJLBH's monthly story hours enable Deaf and Hard of Hearing children to enjoy simultaneously ASL and English versions of books, enhancing English literacy skills.

First through third grade students from the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) attend the monthly story hours. Certified therapy dogs and their volunteer owners from the Kindred Souls Canine Center join the children at each monthly story hour,

and owner and trainer Pete Campione teaches the children a new hand signal each month. The dogs love interacting with the children attending the story hour, including home-schooled hearing children and students from three classes at the Hunterdon County ESC School in Lambertville. In two of the classes, the students range in age from 16 to 21, have multiple disabilities, and use sign language as part of their daily routine. Some students use sign language as their means of communication in conjunction with assistive technology devices. The other class has students who range in age from 10 to 13 and have learning disabilities. They are learning sign language in their class through their Speech Therapist and have used it as an educational tool, a means to learn about other people, and as a second language.

Over sixty-five people attended, and the story hour was a huge success. Dr. Greenwood wore an authentic eighteenth-century costume, complete with long



hair arranged in a queue and a tri-cornered hat, and captivated his audience. His listeners felt that they were with Washington on the day after Christmas 1776, when his rag-tag army of men and boys won the first real military victory of the American struggle for independence from England. He also demonstrated the use of Revolutionary War-era dental tools similar to the ones used by Dr Greenwood when he

Getting to Know . . . Jerry Petroff

By Jamie Weaver, DDHH Intern

JERRY G. PETROFF, PH.D. assistant professor at The College of New Jersey (TCNJ), is a resident of Cherry Hill, New Jersey. He is a proud father of two adopted sons, one from China and one from Cambodia. He is an advocate for people with disabilities.

Q. Please tell me how you became involved with the Deaf-Blind community.

A. In the late 60's I was studying theater at The College of New Jersey (formerly Trenton State College). I was also interested in working with children so I switched to Deaf education. My first position was as a Teacher of the Deaf at a school in Langhorne, Pa. I taught a small class of students where 75% of the class was Deaf-Blind. I loved it and knew I wanted to continue working with this population. I continued my training and took a job in a local school district working with students who were Deaf-Blind and continued on this route ever since.



Q. What is your educational background?

A. I earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Deaf Education, M.A. in Speech Pathology and Audiology and a Doctorate / Ph.D from Temple University. My terminal degree is in Psychological studies in special education with a specialization in alternate and early communication.

Q. What is your specialization at TCNJ?

A. My specialization is in the education of student with complex disabilities including deaf-blindness; special education teacher preparation and specific areas of Speech

Pathology and Audiology. I am interested in the overall issues of disability, sensory impairment, transition from school to adult life and communication.

Q. Does TCNJ or any other colleges have programs in Deaf-blindness?

A. Currently, there are not any in New Jersey, and very few in the nation. I would love to suggest to the college to begin offering these classes but at this point in time we are not in a growth period; our goal is to have programs that are very strong. In the future, I would like to make it a possibility at TCNJ. However, professors here are aware of deaf-blindness. There are several prominent schools that offer advanced degrees in the education of students with deaf-blindness including Boston College, Texas Tech, and Hunter College.

Q. What does the Deaf-Blind group at TCNJ do - what is their focus?

A. "DB-FACES: Deaf-Blind Family and Community Educational Supports" is a project of TCNJ which is federally funded by the office of special education programs. Formerly we were known as New Jersey Technical Assistance Project. I applied for the grant and the college received the funding for the many activities that we run including trainings, Web sites, and workshops. Every state has a similar program that offers technical assistance to the Deaf-Blind community. The group is responsible for keeping a registry of all Deaf-Blind individuals from age 0-21. We also make sure they receive training and technical assistance. DB-FACES mission statement, "Through a collaborative approach, will provide assistance to families, service providers and other community members to facilitate their efforts in supporting infants, toddlers, children and youth with deaf-blindness (auditory and visual challenges)." We are always looking for volunteers.

Contact Information:

D-B FACES Web site: <http://www.tcnj.edu/~dbfaces/>

Email: dbfaces@tcnj.edu (609) 637-5144 Voice

Q. Are you currently involved with any Deaf-Blind children?

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A. I used to be Project Director of DB-FACES, but now I am continuously working with children, families, and in the schools under the grant - which is what I enjoy the most.

Q. What other services are available?

A. Web site links, there is a great National Network and personal network, DB-LINK; they are available to anyone needing information about deaf-blindness at no cost. However, DB-LINK focuses on children and adult questions should be directed to the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults. Its mission is to enable each person who is Deaf-Blind to live and work in his or her community of choice.

DB-Link Contact Information: Web site: www.dblink.org, 800-438-9376 Voice, 800-854-7013 TTY

Helen Keller National Center Contact Information: Web site: <http://www.hknc.org>, (516) 944-8900 ext. 253 V/TTY, hkncinfo@hknc.org

Q. Do you have any suggestions for parents when they first find out their child has special needs?

A. Do your homework and use the wide range of support services available to you that include such projects as DB-FACES. Parents are champions for their children and can be powerful agents of change. Partner with your school district to assure your child receives an appropriate education with the necessary support services. I encourage parents to focus on assuring that their children are part of their community and families. Opportunities have improved so much in this time, there is technology that allows these special needs children to succeed in our society. Make sure they get everything they need and you will have to be there but have high expectations because they will make it. There are a million success stories out there. We have great teachers in New Jersey, and there are so many resources here, take advantage of them.

Q. How has technology changed the lives of Deaf-Blind? What improvements still need to be made?

A. Technology has improved so much; it is the best it has ever been. Refreshable Braille, cochlear implants, and infrared mobility canes are among a few technological

advances that have significantly improved the lives of people who are deaf-blind. Some improvements that could be made are the cost. Technology can be very expensive. There needs to be more outreach and awareness of the availability and use of technology. I think that we are on the right track, new technological solutions are developed every day, we just need to use them.

Q. Recently, there was discussion of TCNJ taking over governing Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD) instead of the Department of Education. Then, in January the president of TCNJ announced that TCNJ should not take over the control of Katzenbach, for reasons including the multimillion-dollar cost of renovating and upgrading facilities. How do you feel about this decision?

A. I am in favor of MKSD and TCNJ partnership. I don't think a school should be administered under the Department of Education. I think the Department of Education needs to monitor our schools. If done the right way, a partnership would help Katzenbach maintain the way it needs to be maintained as a statewide center and a center for the Deaf culture in our state. There are many other programs in our state, but it is critical to maintain our school for the Deaf. We have obligations to many people and it needs to be separated from the politics. I think it would be very positive for everyone. I don't think the appropriate level of resources have been provided to the school for many years. I think the Department of Education did the best job they could. However, I believe it is time to provide the school with the appropriate level of state resources and autonomy.

Q. Do you have any other news that may be interesting to our readers?

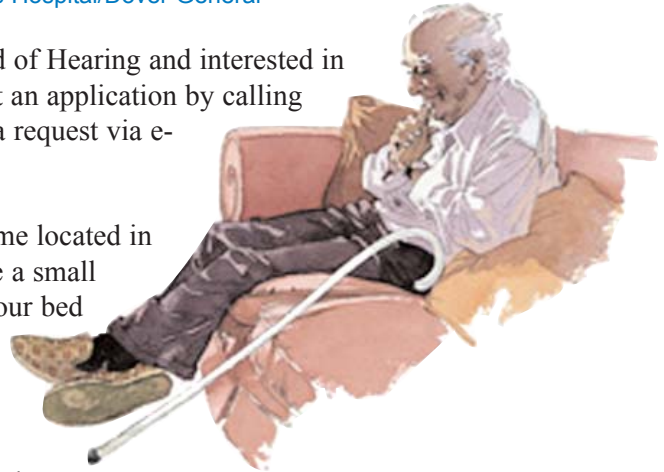
A. During the summer, I will be conducting an intense post secondary life survey of students with deaf-blindness; New Jersey vs. The Nation. There have been other studies conducted and the outcome is that youth who are deaf-blind are struggling. This study is directed to specifically look at New Jersey's students with deaf-blindness compared to the nation. It will include in-depth focus groups and interviews with parents and children to get to the root of the problem. This study will compare New Jersey residents to the nation, to see if the poor results that were found from the nationwide study correlate with the results in New Jersey. We need to make the systems supportive so these students can succeed in the future.

NJ Residents Only - The Dwelling Place

By Jack Deniz, Administrator of The Dwelling Place at Saint Clare's Hospital/Dover General

I am pleased to inform you, anyone who is Deaf and Hard of Hearing and interested in applying for admission to our nursing home, can request an application by calling (973) 989-3409 TTY, (973) 989-3539 Voice or sending a request via e-mail to: jdeniz@saintclares.org.

The Dwelling Place at Saint Clare's is a 106 bed nursing home located in the Dover General Hospital Campus of Saint Clare's. We are a small nursing home compared to others in our vicinity; therefore, our bed availability is limited. Our goal is to admit two to four deaf residents so that the residents will not be isolated and would have companionship while they live at our nursing home.



The Dwelling Place accepts private pay residents, residents who qualify for Medicare and Medicaid and most private insurances. Applicants who will require nursing home care under Medicaid must file an application for Medicaid benefits prior to their admission to the Dwelling Place. We accept any residents who are at least 18 years old and older, those who are recovering from serious illness or injury who require skilled nursing care during their recuperation and who can no longer live independently and need skilled nursing services and a supportive environment.

Our staff has received training on adaptable equipment for the deaf and hard of hearing. The staff also have been trained to utilize communication boards and special picture devices. Should we require an interpreter, the nursing home will obtain the services of an interpreter as needed. We encourage volunteers who can sign to come to our home to visit our residents and participate in recreational and social activities.

Additional info, contact Lila Taylor/Deaf Outreach Specialist, DAWN, Inc., 400 South Main Street, Suite #3, Wharton, NJ 07885 or call (973) 361-6032 TTY, (973) 361-5666 Voice, (973) 361-7086 Fax, Lltaylor09@aol.com.

CapTel Contact Information

There was an article in the March MC on page 13 about CapTel, the telephone service that has captioning. It is not available to most New Jersey residents. However, federal employees, veterans, and U.S. tribal members may be eligible. The article omitted the contact information, which is stated below. An application may be obtained at:

<http://www.captionedtelephone.com/availability/Federal.phtml> (888) 269-7477 Voice, (800) 482-2424 TTY, CapTel@ultratec.com.



NOTE: Ultratec provides equipment application forms and instructions only as a convenience to CapTel users. Ultratec is NOT involved with the application process, and therefore cannot answer questions about the status of your application. Should you have any questions about the status of your Federal CapTel application, call Joyce Walker at (202) 585-1922 Voice or send e-mail to randy.g.murbach@mail.sprint.com.

Intoxicated Driver Program Agreement

Submitted by Clara Smit Esq.

In the first case of its kind in New Jersey and one of the first across the nation, the New Jersey Department of Health Intoxicated Driver Program and Burlington County Intoxicated Driver Resource Center have entered



into agreements to provide widespread injunctive relief for all deaf individuals having to enter into an Intoxicated Driver Program. This is a program which requires individuals to take classes following a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) conviction.

A profoundly deaf individual who communicates primarily in American Sign Language filed a complaint in Federal Court for the failure to provide interpreters and closed captioning. These facilities will utilize certain protocol to ensure

that reasonable accommodations will be provided to future deaf individuals under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination. These Settlement Agreements are believed to be among the most comprehensive agreements with Intoxicated Driver Programs in the country and will result in global changes in the New Jersey Intoxicated Driver Programs.

After experiencing the frustration and emotional anguish of having to sit through two days of classes which included long speeches, a movie without closed captioning, reading and writing in a workbook and question and answer sessions without any understanding as to what took place, a deaf woman decided to sue New Jersey Department of Health Intoxicated Driver Program and Burlington County Intoxicated Driver Resource Center so this would not happen to other deaf individuals. The failure to provide accommodations such as an interpreter were not provided to this deaf individual despite her requests prior to her attending these classes. She was told two days prior to the classes when she called to confirm that an interpreter had been arranged for her, that no interpreter would be provided to her since everyone else would be doing mostly reading and writing. Since she was court ordered to attend these classes, she was left with no other choice but to go to the class without any accommodations for her disability.

However, after her first day of classes she realized that the classes also included a movie with no closed captioning, long speeches and question and answer sessions that

she could not participate due to her inability to communicate and the failure of the Resource Center to provide accommodation for her disability. This deaf individual was represented in the case by Clara R. Smit, an attorney in East Brunswick who specializes in serving the deaf, Rosaline Hayes Crawford and Marc Charmatz of the National Association of the Deaf.

After almost two years of litigation the New Jersey Department of Health Intoxicated Driver Program and Burlington County Intoxicated Driver Resource Center agreed to settle the case with payment of an undisclosed amount of monetary damages, attorneys' fees and injunctive relief in the Settlement Agreements. These Settlement Agreements provide for signage to be posted throughout the Intoxicated Driver Resource Centers to alert both individuals and staff alike to the facilities' responsibility to provide interpreters and movies with closed captioning to deaf individuals who require same for effective communication. In addition the Settlement Agreements mandate that the Resource Centers' follow several steps to ensure all possible efforts are made to obtain an interpreter or accommodations whenever required for the classes. The Resource Centers will also designate an ADA Coordinator to accept and process requests for auxiliary aids or services to accommodate individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing. A TTY number for deaf or hard of hearing individuals will also be implemented so they can contact the Resource Centers. Training and policy changes to implement the Settlement Agreements will also become part of the Resource Centers' administrative policies as required as part of the agreements.

Ms. Smit along with Rosaline Hayes Crawford and Marc Charmatz of the National Association of the Deaf are all extremely pleased and excited with these settlements and hopes to see major changes in Intoxicated Driver Resource Centers across the country, in their policies and practices. Although the ADA, the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination and the Rehabilitation Act, specifically require that a Intoxicated Driver Resource Program provide reasonable accommodation, such as interpreters to the deaf, it is only recently that deaf people have begun to feel empowered to start bringing these lawsuits. Communication difficulties in the past created extremely limited access to the legal community and the courts in general for deaf individuals. Thus, Clara R. Smit, who is fluent in American Sign Language and whose parents are deaf, and the National Association of the Deaf seek to make change and bring awareness through the bringing of these lawsuits.

Vespa-Papaleo said the ownership of Herman's has told Division on Civil Rights investigators that there are legitimate business reasons for refusing relay calls. According to Vespa-Papaleo, the owner explained that the last time a relay call was accepted at Herman's, a large order totaling \$2,000 was placed using a fraudulent credit card.

Although the apparent fraud was detected prior to the actual shipping of any merchandise, the owner said she decided not to accept any more relay calls, the Director noted.

"It is a shame that, just because of one unfortunate experience, a business would treat everyone who makes use of a via communications tool like the New Jersey Relay Service as if they were going to commit fraud," said Vespa-Papaleo. Brian C. Shomo, Director of the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing within the New Jersey Department of Human Services, applauded Attorney General Harvey and the Division on Civil Rights for pursuing this case.

"This case is important in ensuring protection for all those who rely on the relay services to conduct daily business," said Shomo. "This will educate others about the importance of relay service usage, too. All too often, an unin-

formed recipient will hang up because a call is from a deaf or hard of hearing person using the relay services." Shomo added that anyone with a question about services for the deaf and hard of hearing, including relay services, interpreter services and assistive listening devices, can call the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at (609) 984-7281.

The Division on Civil Rights is responsible for enforcement of the New Jersey Law Against Discrimination and the Family Leave Act. Specifically, the Division investigates allegations of discrimination in employment, housing, places of public accommodation and credit. Now that the Division has issued a Finding of Probable Cause, the case will be referred for Conciliation. If Conciliation is not successful, the case will be sent to an Administrative Law Judge for a non-jury trial.

The Division on Civil Rights has six offices located in Newark, Trenton, Atlantic City, Camden, Jersey City and Paterson. The Division recently established its first-ever Disabilities and Public Accommodations Unit, which conducted this investigation. Further information about the Division is available by visiting www.NJCivilRights.org.

RIL Hosts Workshop for Girl Scouts

by Patricia Doris, Office Manager, Resources For Independent Living, Inc.

On March 19, 2005, Resources For Independent Living, Inc. (RIL) hosted a workshop for several troops of the Girl Scouts of the South Jersey Pines. The purpose of this event was to promote disability awareness and earn the girls their "Include Me Too" badge. It took place at the Crossing of Riverside, an adult living complex (formerly Zurbrugg Hospital) who was kind enough to lend us use of their space for the day.

Approximately 185 scouts and 50 troop leaders, presenters, parents and volunteers took part in the all day event, which was held in two sessions. After a brief welcome at each session, the girls were divided into three groups. The groups were given a 20-minute presentation on each of three disabilities hosted by RIL personnel. Dennis Deering, with the help of several young volunteers, demonstrated wheelchair usage and etiquette. Joseph Zesski led the blind group aided by three volunteers. The girls learned about assistive devices and technology for the blind and visually impaired, Braille, and how the white cane is used. They met a beautiful black Labrador Retriever, a seeing-eye dog and were taught the services he provides for his owner.

Madeline Yuhas conducted the deaf portion of the workshop. Maddie is an Independent Living Specialist at

RIL. With the assistance of interpreters, Monica Ayer and Victor Collazo, she told the girls of her personal experience with deafness, how technology is now able to help the deaf and hard of hearing, and how some deaf people are now using hearing ear dogs in a manner similar to the way a blind person uses a seeing-eye dog. She taught them the alphabet in sign. Monica and Victor spoke briefly about what motivated them to choose interpreting as a career and they each shared a few of their experiences.

The floor was then opened for questioning. Judging from the well-thought-out and intelligent questions that were asked, it was obvious that the girls had been very attentive to what they were learning. For example, one Girl Scout asked how deaf people could watch television. Maddie told them about closed-captioning. Another wanted to know how she was able to wake up in the morning since she couldn't hear an alarm clock. Maddie explained that her alarm clock flashes light at her and vibrates - as equally annoying as a loud ringing clock is to hearing folks, I'm sure! At the conclusion of each session, the entire group assembled again in the lobby. Maddie taught us all how to recite the "Girl Scout Pledge" in sign language. If you are interested in having RIL provide a disability awareness workshop for your group, or would like more information about our services, please contact us at (609) 747-7745 Voice, (609) 747-1870 Fax, or (609) 747-1875 TTY for details.

New Jersey Captioned Movie Theaters

AMC THEATRES

AMC Bridgewater Commons 7
Auditorium #5
400 Commons Way, Ste. 380
Bridgewater, NJ 08807
Off 202/206, near Routes 22,28,
and 287
(908) 725-2005

AMC Clifton Commons (2 audi-
toriums equipped)
Auditorium #1 and #16
405 Route 3 East
Clifton
(973) 614-0966

AMC Deptford 14
Auditorium #1
31740 Clements Bridge Road
Deptford, NJ
(856) 848-3507

AMC Essex Green 9
Auditorium #9
495 Prospect Avenue
West Orange, NJ 07052
Exit 8A off RT. 280
(973) 731-7755

AMC Hamilton 24 (2 auditoriums
equipped)
Auditorium #2 and #23
325 Sloan Avenue
Hamilton, NJ 08619
Quakerbridge RD and Sloan Ave
(609) 890-7937

CLEARVIEW CINEMAS

Clearview Kinnelon Cinemas
Auditorium #4
25 Kinnelon Cinemas
Kinnelon, NJ
(973) 492-5005

Clearview Mansfield Cinemas
Auditorium #5
1 Mansfield Plaza
Hackettstown, NJ

Clearview Morristown
Headquarters 10
Auditorium #9
72 Headquarters Plaza
Morristown, NJ
(973) 470-CLVW-#565

Clearview Ocean Township -
Middlebrook Galleria Cinema 10
Auditorium #10
Middlebrook Shopping Center
Ocean Township, NJ

Clearview Parsippany Cinemas
Auditorium #9
3165 Rt. 46
Parsippany, NJ 08520
(973)-335-7466

Clearview Succasunna Cinema 10
Auditorium #2
21 Sunset Strip
Succasunna, NJ 07876
(973) 470-CLVW-#918

LOEWS THEATRES

Loews Brick Plaza - RWC Only
Auditorium #1
3 Brick Plaza
Brick, NJ
(732) 262-1545

Loews Cherry Hill Theatre -
RWC Only (2 auditoriums
equipped)
Auditorium #15 and Auditorium
#16
2121 Route 38
Cherry Hill, NJ
(856) 486-7420

Loews East Hanover - RWC Only
Auditorium #3
145 US Highway Route 10
East Hanover, NJ
(973) 515-1200

Loews Freehold Metroplex 14 -
RWC Only
Auditorium #2
101 Trotters Way
Freehold, NJ
(908) 396-2530

Loews Jersey Gardens - RWC
Only (2 auditoriums equipped)
Auditorium #9 and #12
641 Kapkowski Parkway
Elizabeth, NJ
(908) 289-1855

Loews Meadow Six - RWC Only
Auditorium #5
800 Plaza Drive
Secaucus, NJ
(201) 866-0276

Loews Menlo Park 12 - RWC
Only
Auditorium #8
390 Menlo Park 12
Edison, NJ
(732) 321-9093

Loews Monmouth Mall 15 - RWC
Only
Auditorium #2
180 State Rt. 35S
Eatontown, NJ
(732) 935-0789

Loews Mountainside 10 - RWC
Only
Auditorium #1
1021 Route 22 East
Mountainside, NJ
(908) 232-6587

Loews New Brunswick - RWC
Only
Auditorium #1
15 US Highway 1
New Brunswick, NJ
(732) 846-2275

Loews Newport Centre 11 - RWC
Only
Auditorium #1
30 Mall Drive West
Jersey City, NJ
(201) 626-3258

Loews Paramus Route 4 - RWC
Only
Auditorium #7
260 East Route 4
Paramus, NJ
(201) 487-7910

Loews Plaza 8 - RWC Only
Auditorium #3
4915 Harmon Meadow Blvd
Secaucus, NJ
(201) 902-9206

Loews Ridgefield Park 3 - RWC
Only
Auditorium #7
75 Challenger Road
Ridgefield Park, NJ
(201) 440-9178

Loews Route Seventeen 3 - RWC
Only
Auditorium #3
S-85 Route 17
Paramus, NJ
(201) 843-3420

Loews Seacourt 10 - RWC Only
Auditorium #6
635 Bay Avenue
Toms River, NJ
(732) 505-3405

Loews Wayne 14 - RWC Only
Auditorium #10
67 Willowbrook Blvd
Wayne, NJ
(973) 890-0509

NATIONAL AMUSEMENTS

National Amusements All Jersey
Auditorium #1
104-180 Foundry Street
(In the Ironbound Section of
Newark)
Newark, NJ 07103
(973) 817-7130

National Amusements Amboy
Auditorium #7
U.S. Highway 9 and Route 35
Sayreville, NJ 08871
(732) 721-3308

National Amusements Edgewater
Auditorium #3
339 River Road
Edgewater, NJ 07020
(201) 943-4257

National Amusements Hazlet
Auditorium #2
Route 35 at Miller Ave Jughandle
Hazlet, NJ 07730
(732) 888-4654

National Amusements Showcase
Cinema Atco
Auditorium #4
178 White Horse Pike
Atco, NJ 08004
(856) 768-7804

National Amusements Town
Center
Auditorium #5
319 Route 130 North
East Windsor, NJ 08520
(609) 371-8470

Continued from page 4

crafted George Washington's dentures. After the story hour, Mr. Collins presented an autographed copy of the book to the MKSD school library.

Dr. Seuss Signed

The NJ Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH), located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton, held its monthly Children's American Sign Language Story Hour on March 8. Deaf storyteller John B. Lewis signed Dr. Seuss's ABC by Dr. Seuss (Theodor S. Geisel). Dr. Seuss's 101st birthday is on March 2, and March 13 marks the beginning of Deaf History Month.

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, NJLBH's monthly story hours enable Deaf and Hard of Hearing children to enjoy simultaneously ASL and English versions of books, enhancing English literacy skills. The story hour also showcases the writing skills of two third grade Deaf & Hard of Hearing students from the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD), 9-year-old AJ Ryan and 9-year-old Eric Sarnouski, who signed short stories of their own composition following Mr. Lewis' presentation. Literacy is about reading AND writing, and what a fabulous job they did!

Despite a snow storm, over 70 people attended, and the story hour was a huge success. Mr. Lewis, wear-

ing a "Cat in the Hat" hat, was a fascinating storyteller. He selected one volunteer from the

Katzenbach School students in the audience to join him in signing the ABC and words illustrating letters from the alphabet.

Workshops and events such as the story hour are scheduled by Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program (DHHAP) at the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH). For more information on the DHHAP program and story hours, contact

Christine Olsen at 1-877-882-5593 (TTY) or colsen@njstatelib.org.

The NJLBH, located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton, 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 7 New Jersey newspapers statewide through a radio reading service; loans assistive technology from the NJ Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and administers telephone access to 112 nationwide newspapers through Commission-sponsored NFB-NEWSLINE. For more information on the NJLBH, contact Anne

McArthur at (609) 530-3242 or amcarthur@njstatelib.org. For more information on the State Library and its programs contact Tina Keresztury at (609) 292-8151 or tkeresztury@njstatelib.org.



DDHH Office Forced to Close in April

On April 4 and 5, 2005, the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was unable to open its Trenton office. Due to flooding, cars were not permitted to travel near the building. Pictured below are two photos of the flood conditions at that time. DDHH apologizes to those of you who attempted to contact the division while the office was closed.



Sight of the DDHH office at 222 S. Warren Street, Trenton, NJ on April 4 and 5, 2005.



Sight of Route 29 entering Trenton on April 4 and 5, 2005.

Communicator Signboard

Deaf Ministry's 25th Anniversary Picnic

Saturday, July 9 (Rain or Shine)

1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Laurel Acres Park - Church Street South, Mount Laurel, NJ (Pavilion with tables & benches under a roof!)

Volleyball, softball, horseshoes & more!

Admission - Paid in advance (Deadline: July 2,)

Includes hoagie lunch, chips and cold beverage.

\$7 per person (13 years old & up), \$5 per child (4 - 12 years old),

Children 3 years old and under - Free!

Bring a dessert and receive 3 free 50/50 tickets

Door prize, 50/50 chances

**Bring your own fishing equipment, beverages, cooler, blankets, sports equipment
bikes, roller blades, sunscreen lotion, insect repellent, etc.**

No alcoholic beverages allowed!

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

To pay admission, see Gracemarie or Dennis Newman, or mail a check or money order payable to the Deaf Ministry with your name, address, e-mail, numbers of adults, children attending and total cost with choice of numbers of regular hoagie or Italian hoagie to: 525 Doe Lane, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034



Dawn's Annual Picnic

Everyone welcome!

Join us for a day of fun, food and games.

Saturday, July 16, 2005

12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Hedden Park, Dover, NJ (Covered Pavilion)

Cost for members/non-members to be determined.

ASL/Voice Interpreters will be provided.

For more information or directions, call DAWN, Inc.,

400 South Main St., Suite 3,

Wharton, NJ 07885 Info: (973) 361-5666 Voice or

(973) 361-6032 TTY

Communicator Signboard

Ocean Deaf Club, Inc.
20th Annual Outing & Picnic

Saturday, August 13 12 noon - 6 p.m.

Gillie Park, Manchester Ave., Forked River, NJ

Buffet includes: BBQ ribs, hot dogs, hamburgers, corn on cob,
sausage & peppers, pasta salad, BBQ chicken, baked beans,
potato salad, cole slaw, potato chips &
veggie platter & dip, fresh fruit salad, soda, coffee, tea, dessert.

Basket raffle, playground available

Admission: member - \$25, non-member- \$28,

children under 12- \$10, children under 3 - free

Make your reservation before July 29 - no walk-ins

Info: *odcpresident2@aol.com*

DIRECTIONS: Garden State Parkway to exit 74,

Forked River, Take Lacey Rd East.

Before the first traffic light there will be a jug handle on right. Take that jug handle crossing over Lacey Rd.

You are now on Manchester BLVD. The park is on the left about 1/4 mile on left side.

Take the second left into park. Make a check or money order payable to

Ocean Deaf Club, Inc. Mail to Ocean Deaf Club, Inc.

Attn: Picnic, P.O. Box 34, Lakehurst, NJ 08733-0034

North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.
proudly hosts

SUMMER PICNIC

Saturday, July 23, from 12 noon to 6 p.m.

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

Rain or Shine

Great food, drinks, games

Meet people and make new friends.

Donations in advance: Members - \$16, Non-Members- \$18, Children under 12 - Free

Pay at door- \$20 per person, Bring your own lawn chairs.

To order tickets in advance by mail, make a check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc.

and mail to: Tim Golden, c/o NJCCD, 26 Thomas Street, Clifton, NJ 07013

Deadline for mailing is July 17

Info: Ronald Rozynski at *RERBOWL44@aol.com*

Communicator Signboard

McCarter Theatre Center
Princeton, NJ
Sign Language Interpreted performance
William Shakespeare's

“HAMLET”

directed by Daniel Fish

This original, approachable and eye-opening Hamlet makes this repertory standard feel like a brand new play. Compellingly re-imagined for eight actors and the intimacy of the Berlind stage, this is a must-see Hamlet.

Saturday, June 11, 2005 at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets: \$10

Info: www.mccarter.org, marketing@mccarter.org,
(609) 252-0915 TTY, (609)-258-6527 Voice

Something special is happening at Evangel Church!
Deaf and children of deaf parents, come to our construction site and find out
what's "Building Character Like Jesus" is all about!
Construction Zone Vacation Bible School -

“Building Character Like Jesus”

Tuesday - Thursday, July 5 - 7

6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Evangel Church, 1251 Terrill Road, Scotch Plains, NJ 07076

Register and get a free picnic supper at 5 p.m!

For more information and to get registration form, contact Pastor Nancy

Tonnessen: (908) 322-9300 Voice, (908) 322- 4553 Voice, pastornancy@evangelchurch.com

Calendar of Events 2005

Saturday, June 11

**Northwest Jersey Assn. of the Deaf, Inc. (NWJAD)
Wallyball, Raquetball & Swim Fun Night for All
Spa 23, Rt. 23 South, Pompton Plains, NJ
see last month's issue for more info
www.nwjad.org**

July 29

**DDHH Advisory Council Meeting
MKSD Jochem Center
9:30 - 3:00 p.m. - Public Welcome**

September 18

**New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week, Inc.
Deaf Fest 2005
Place: TBA
Info: www.njdaw.org**

DDHH Office Closed - May 30, July 4, September 5

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

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