

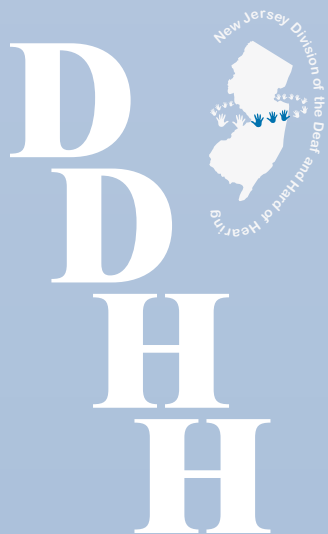
November 2010

Monthly Communicator

Vol. 31 No.10

Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner
David C. Alexander, Director



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*Deaf Dog, Deaf Me
by Carol Granaldi*

*Produced by DHS
Office of Publications*

21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act of 2010

(Source; National Association of the Deaf)

The "Twenty-first Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act," updates the Communications Act and establish new safeguards for disability access to ensure that people with disabilities are not left behind as technology changes and the United States migrates to the next generation of Internet-based and digital communication technologies. The following provisions are of particular interest to our community:

Communications Access

Hearing Aid Compatibility. Extends federal law that currently requires hearing aid compatibility on newly manufactured and imported telephones, to comparable customer premises equipment used to provide IP-enabled communication service. The purpose of this section is to make sure that people with hearing loss have access to telephone devices used with advanced technologies.

Relay Services. This section clarifies that telecommunications relay services (TRS) are intended to ensure that people who have hearing or speech disabilities can use relay services to engage in functionally equivalent telephone communication with all other people, not just people without a hearing or speech disability. This section also expands the relay service obligation to contribute to the Telecommunications Relay Services Fund to all providers of IP-enabled communication services that provide voice communication.

Access to Internet-Based Services and Equipment. This section creates new safeguards for Internet-based communications technologies (equipment, services and networks) to be accessible by people with disabilities, unless doing so would result in an undue burden. Where an undue burden would result, manufacturers and providers must make their equipment and services compatible with specialized equipment and services typically used by people with disabilities. The term "undue burden" has the same meaning given it in the Americans with Disabilities Act. This section also contains measures to improve the accountability and enforcement of disability safeguards under Section 255.

Universal Service. This section makes consumers with disabilities – as a distinct group – eligible to receive universal service support through two specific measures. It grants the FCC authority to designate broadband services needed for "phone communication" by people with disabilities as services eligible to receive support under the existing Lifeline and Linkup universal service programs. Second, it grants authority to the FCC to designate programs that distribute specialized equipment used to make telecommunications and Internet-enabled communication services accessible to individuals who are deaf-blind, as eligible for universal service support. Such support, however, is capped at \$10 million per year.

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Director's Corner

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



One of the goals of the DDHH is to work with staff from state agencies to enhance their awareness of hearing loss, and to ensure that their agency services are accessible to people with hearing loss. This past month, I met the new Director of the New Jersey Division on Civil Rights, Mr. Chinh Q. Le. This civil rights division is part of the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General /Department of Law and Public Safety. It is the agency primarily responsible for investigating discrimination complaints and eradicating illegal discrimination in New Jersey.

During our meeting, I shared information about DDHH programs and services. I also provided general information about hearing loss and the barriers often faced by people who are Deaf and hard of hearing in accessing state agencies for assistance. Mr. Le is most concerned about his agency being accessible to people with hearing loss. We continued to talk about new telecommunication technology and services, such as video relay services and CapTel phones. As a result, DDHH will provide consultation to DCR staff to enhance their awareness of hearing loss, and provide advisement in making their office's communication accessible to people who are Deaf and hard of hearing.

DDHH's interest in learning about the number of complaints of discrimination filed by people with hearing loss over the past ten years was also discussed. According to DCR data, the number of complaints has significantly dropped. In 2005, for example, forty-three complaints were filed with the DCR. To date, in 2010, only two complaints have been filed. This trend may be attributed in part to a decrease or lack of awareness of services available from the DCR. Both agencies plan to conduct joint public education and outreach initiatives so that people with hearing loss are more aware of the services available from the DCR, and learn how to file formal complaints.

As we move forward, DDHH will work collaboratively with DCR to implement initiatives resulting from our meeting. I am optimistic the combined efforts and partnership between our agencies will continue to protect the civil rights of New Jersey residents who are Deaf and hard of hearing.

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

Reminder:

The deadline for the January 2011 issue is December 1. The deadline for the December issue was November 1.

Send e-mail submissions to:
monthlycommunicator@dhs.state.nj.us.

Submissions should be "text only," in a standard word document (no pdf files). Photos, that accompany submissions are encouraged.

For a style sheet, contact the editor.

Newsletter Subscription:

If you would like to subscribe to [Monthly Communicator](#), send your request to the e-mail address above.
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Monthly Communicator

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



NWJAD
Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf

Meeting and Election

Saturday, November 13
Doors Open at 7:00 PM

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

Members - free
Non members - \$3

Refreshments will be sold (Alcoholic beverages are not served)

Find out the latest news. Help NWJAD plan future events.
Everyone including sign language students welcomed.

For directions and information: www.nwjad.org,
or
Contact: NWJAD nwjad@nwjad.org

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

Look for location in the December issue of Monthly Communicator

The public is invited to attend.

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

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

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Emergency Access and Real-Time Text Support.

This section contains a specific requirement for real-time text support, to ensure that people with disabilities, especially individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or who have a speech disability, are able to communicate with others via text in an IP environment with the same reliability and interoperability as they receive via the public telephone network when using TTYs.

Video Programming

Capability, User Interfaces, and Video Programming

Guides and Menus. This section directs the FCC to conduct three inquiries: (1) to identify formats and software needed to transmit, receive and display closed captioning and video programming provided via Internet-enabled services and digital wireless services, including ways to transmit televised emergency information that is accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired; and (2) to identify ways to make user interfaces (controls such as turning these devices on and off, controlling volume and selecting programming) on television and other video programming devices accessible to people who are blind or visually impaired, and (3) to identify ways to make video programming guides and menus (typically on-screen) accessible in real-time to people who cannot read those guides or menus.

Closed-Captioning Decoder and Video Description

Capability. This section expands the scope of devices that must display closed captions under the Television Decoder Circuitry Act of 1990 from the present requirement of television sets with screens that are 13 inches or larger, to all video devices that receive or display video programming transmitted simultaneously with sound, including those that can receive or display programming carried over the Internet. The section also requires these devices to be able to transmit and deliver video descriptions. Video description is the provision of verbal descriptions of the on-screen visual elements of a show provided during natural pauses in dialogue.

Video Description and Closed Captioning.

This section reinstates the FCC's modest regulations on video description. Those rules, originally promulgated in 2001, were struck down by a U.S. Court of Appeals for lack of FCC authority. This section also authorizes the FCC to promulgate additional rules to (1) ensure that video description services can be transmitted and provided over digital TV technologies, (2) require non-visual access to on-screen emergency warnings and similar televised information and (3) increase the amount of video description required.

This section also adds a definition for video programming to include programming provided by, or generally considered comparable to programming provided by, a television broadcast station, even when distributed over the Internet. This will make sure that existing closed captioning obligations (and future video description obligations) apply to television-like video programming that is distributed or re-distributed over the Internet. It tasks the FCC with creating captioning rules for three types of television-like programming on the Internet: (1) pre-produced programming that was previously captioned for television viewing; (2) live television-like video programming; and (3) new programming provided by or generally considered to be comparable to programming provided by multichannel programming distributors (such as cable or satellite subscription TV services). This section is intended to ensure the continued accessibility of video programming to Americans with disabilities, as this programming migrates to the Internet.

User Interfaces. This section requires devices used to receive or display video programming, including devices used to receive and display Internet-based video programming, to be accessible by people with disabilities so that such individuals are able to access all functions of such devices related to video programming (such as turning these devices on and off, controlling volume and select programming). The section contains requirements for (1) audio output where on-screen text menus are used to control video programming functions, and (2) a conspicuous means of accessing closed captioning and video description, including a button on remote controls and first level access to these accessibility features when made available through on-screen menus.

Access Video Programming Guides and Menus.

This section requires multichannel video programming distributors (such as cable or satellite subscription TV services) to make their navigational programming guides accessible to people who cannot read the visual display, so that these individuals can make program selections.

For more information about this legislation and other activities of the Coalition of Organizations for Accessible Technology (COAT), visit www.COATaccess.org.

DDHH Field Representative Reports for November

Discovering Theatre in New Jersey

DDHH Field Representative Jason Weiland

When one thinks of New Jersey, the Jersey shore immediately comes to mind. With its many beaches, a happy summer flock take over small towns by the thousands for three short months of the year. "Jersey" is also well known for being the diner capital of the USA; and Southern Jersey has its own rightful reputation for its bountiful crop of blueberries that are famous nationwide. The "Garden State" is one of the most densely populated states in America and proud of its diverse way of life.

One hidden "Jersey" gem is the state's profound love for the cultural arts scene. Aside from Broadway in New York City, the performing arts and visual arts offerings have surpassed its peers. Even more unique is the New Jersey cultural arts community and their commitment to ensuring that their offerings are accessible to those who are Deaf, hard of hearing, blind, and individuals with a disability. New Jersey has been a pioneer in providing consumer access.

The Cultural Access Network (CAN) was created in 1992 as a project co-sponsored by the NJ State Council on the Arts and the New Jersey Theatre Alliance; CAN assists all cultural arts organizations in making their programs and facilities accessible to individuals with disabilities. Members of the network are individuals with expertise in the specific areas the CAN provides assistance. The CAN Web site (www.culturalaccessnetwork.org) provides a wealth of information on accessible cultural arts organizations in New Jersey including interpreters, CART, and Assistive Listening Devices.

Five theatres are major providers of services to the Deaf and hard of hearing in NJ, with Papermill Playhouse (www.papermill.org/) in

[continued on next page](#)

Hearing Loss and the Holidays

DDHH Field Representative Traci Burton



The holiday season is already upon us, which means there will be much socializing and festivities that include singing, ambient music, laughing, chatter and lots of wonderful food with the flatware clanging on plates. The background noise distracts our brain's ability to focus

on what the person you are trying to listen to is saying; because it is subjected to the competing noises. People with normal hearing can experience difficulty hearing in these circumstances, let alone one living with hearing loss. In effort to include all in the fun, below are some tips and pointers to help make that happen. Be realistic, honest and open with yourself (and others) about what you are able to hear.

- ◆ If the party is in a restaurant, choose one that is quieter, as opposed to the noisy atmosphere of a sports bar. Also choose a table away from the kitchen, wait service station, bar, etc.
- ◆ Whether the party is in a restaurant or in a home, the individual with hearing loss should sit with their back to the window so the lighting is behind them and on the speaker's face.
- ◆ If possible, have the curtains/shades drawn.
- ◆ Ask to have the music turned down if it is too loud. Loud music not only makes it difficult to hear, but is harmful to all.

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DDHH Field Rep Reports for November (cont'd)

Jason Weiland (continued from previous page)

Millburn leading the way. George Street Playhouse (www.georgestreetplayhouse.org/) in New Brunswick, Two River Theatre (www.trtc.org) in Red Bank, McCarter Theatre Center (www.mccarter.org/) in Princeton, and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC njpac.org/) in Newark. Many theatres including offer discounted tickets for accessible shows. This is a wonderful opportunity to see a cultural arts program for the first time or to renew one's love for theatre again with the benefit of being able to understand the show with the various services provided.

Traci Burton (continued from previous page)

- ♦ If you are trying to converse with an individual with hearing loss, face them, speak clearly, enunciate your words, and try to speak into their better ear. Best of all, ask them how to best communicate.
- ♦ Instead of using the silver and fine china, opt for the quieter selection of plastic wear and holiday themed paper plates. This will cut down on the clatter of silverware hitting glass/porcelain.

- ♦ If you or a loved one may benefit from an assistive listening device, such as a Pocket Talker or a personal FM system, they are available for loan through the library system. These can be used with, or in some cases instead of, hearing aids.
- ♦ Give yourself a break. Listening in these situations is a lot of work so take a moment and step outside, help in the kitchen or find a place away from the activity.

These tips and pointers are just a springboard to better communication as we gather with loved ones at this festive time of year. It's important to remember that hearing loss is as individual as the person who has it and that communication is a two-way street. Hope these suggestions may be of use, and wishing you all a wonderful, safe and inclusive holiday season.

Traci Burton can be reached at
traci.burton@dhs.state.nj.us
or
609-984-7281 with any questions.

Family Resource Associates, Inc. Announces Services to Children with Hearing Loss

Family Resource Associates, Inc. (FRA); a private, non-profit agency located in Shrewsbury, New Jersey, is proud to provide services to children with hearing loss from birth to age three and their families, as well as to hearing children of Deaf parents. We have an excellent, highly experienced team of specialists who have been providing services to babies and young children for many years: Judy Stollo and Pier Phillips, both teachers of the Deaf, and Deborah Greenfield, speech pathologist, all with prior affiliation to the Neptune Township Early Intervention Program for Children with Hearing Loss.

This team uses multiple approaches to teach children with hearing loss, including those with cochlear implants. Additionally, Diana Meade has been offering sign language instruction to families individually or in small groups as needed. FRA has been providing services to children aged birth to three through the state early intervention system since 1979. Services can be arranged for children aged 0-3 with FRA's experienced staff by contacting the state's toll free referral number: 888 653 4463.

For additional information, you can send an e-mail to slevine@frainc.org.



Autumn means the theater season is back with all its excitement and dazzle. Thanks to Open Captioning, you can relax and enjoy the show. Attending a special captioned performances widely available in New York and New Jersey is welcoming. You may even run into someone you know or you invite friends with hearing loss – and people with normal hearing, who would enjoy seeing lyrics and not miss a word. Thanks to Open Captioning (OC), as actors speak, their words appear on an LED display screen on or near the stage – clearly visible to those sitting in a designated part of the orchestra.

A calendar for shows with Open Captioning on and off Broadway, in New Jersey, and around the country can be found at www.c2net.org. Another resource, www.tdf.org, lists captioned shows presented in New York by the Theater Development Fund.

To buy tickets, sign up for a TDF accessibility membership at www.tdf.org and order tickets in advance.

Members of the program can buy tickets offered at a discount, often fifty percent.

Here are just some of the upcoming shows offering captioned performances: "The Addams Family," "West Side Story," "Angels in America," "The Pitman Painters," "Banished Children of Eve" and "Wings."

In New Jersey, at: Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn, "Les Miserables," Dec. 19;

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, "South Pacific," Jan. 27, 2011;

McCarter Theatre Center in Princeton, "The How and the Why," Feb. 5, 2011. On Feb 13, 2011

The Paper Mill Playhouse will offer a captioned performance of "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." Radio City Music Hall has captioned performances of its world famous Christmas spectacular on Dec. 15 and Dec. 16. Tickets must be ordered through www.tdf.org/programs/tap.

Want to see the new movie your friends are talking about? Captions are offered at movie theaters across New Jersey.

Rear Window Technology (RWT) is a bit complicated – a reflective panel attached to designated theater seats shows captions transmitted from an LED screen at the rear of the theater – but the result is pure pleasure. You will probably find you enjoy going to the movies more than you have in years.

To find what movies are playing with RWC and where, check the directory at www.mopix.org; Captioned trailers found at www.captionfish.org

Remember one thing when you enjoy a captioned performance, in the theater or at the movies. It never would have happened without advocacy by HLA NJ and other organizations. So...get involved and stay connected.

Request to join HLA NJ's e-mail contact list at: info@hearingloss.nj.org For information about HLA NJ, contact HLA NJ President Arlene Romoff at info@hearingloss.nj.org.

Visit www.hearingloss.nj.org, or plan to attend one of our local chapter meetings.

Winter 2010 Interpreted 12-Step Meetings in New Jersey

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) - A Twelve Step meeting for people to share their experience, strength, and hope in an effort to overcome their misuse of alcohol. There are no dues or fees. The only requirement to attend is a desire to stop drinking.

Narcotics Anonymous (NA) - A Twelve Step meeting for people to share their experience, strength and hope in an effort to overcome their misuse of drugs. There are no dues or fees. The only requirement to attend is a desire to stop using drugs.

Twelve Step Meeting (12 SM) - A 12 Step Meeting using the principles of Alcoholics Anonymous to address the problems of addictive behavior. There are 12 Step Meetings for addiction to alcohol, specific drugs, gambling, compulsive shopping, overeating, etc.

Al-anon meetings are 12 Step Meetings for people who are effected by a loved ones addictive behavior.

12 Step Meeting Access for Hard of Hearing and Late Deafened

There is a **FM Loop System** available at the-Al-an Club, Cass St. Trenton, NJ for all 12 step meetings. SOS has a FM system available to loan recovering persons or meeting places. Call SOS office to request other communication access services.

North Jersey Area

Sunday 6:30 PM

Grace Church on the Mount

Route 46 East

Netcong, NJ

(.5 miles from Netcong Circle)

Al-Anon: C, NS

Wednesday Noon - 1:30 PM

Recovery Cetner

(no signage out front)

16 Spring Street

Paterson, NJ

NA:C

Wednesday 7:30 PM

Assembly of God Church

30 Manning Ave

Butler, NJ

AA: O, SP, NS

Thursday 7:30 PM

Notre Dame of Mt. Carmel Church

75 Ridgedale Ave

Cedar Knolls, NJ

7:30 PM to 8:30 PM

AA: Open, Beginner Meeting

Central Jersey Area

Tuesday 6:45 AM

Attitude Adjustment

Al-An Club

761 Cass Street - 2nd Floor

Trenton, NJ

AA: I, O

Wednesday 6:15 PM

Deaf Meeting (no interpreter)

Silent Serenity

Al An Club

761 Cass Street - 2nd Floor

Trenton, NJ

Thursday 6:45 PM

Attitude Adjustment

Al An Club

761 Cass Street - 2nd Floor

Trenton, NJ

AA: I, O

South Jersey Area

Friday 7:30 PM

Southern Ocean County Hospital

Route 72

Manahawkin, NJ

AA: I, O, D

Additional Meetings

(services not provided by SOS)

Tuesday 8:00 PM

Deaf Meeting (no interpreter)

Circle of Hands - Closed Meeting,

Grace Epiphany Episcopal Church

224 Gowan St. & Ardleigh St.

Philadelphia, PA

Al-Anon: SP, D, Closed

Tuesday 8:00 PM

Deaf Meeting (no interpreter)

HANDS OF HOPE

Grace Epiphany Episcopal Church

224 Gowan St. & Ardleigh St.

Philadelphia, PA

AA: I, C, SP, D

Sunday 11:00 AM

(every other week)

Deaf Meeting (no interpreter)

Center for Family Services

108 Somerdale Road

Voorhees, NJ 08043

Abbreviations:

O - Open (Everyone Welcome)

C - Closed (For Alcoholics/Addicts only)

I - Interpreter provided for Deaf members

ASL - mtg. conducted in American Sign Language

D - Discussion

SP - Speaker, ST - Step, TP - Topic

B - Big Book or Beginner

NS - No Smoking

WC - Wheelchair Accessible

This 12 Step Meeting list was updated 10/08. If you have any questions, notice mistakes, or are aware of other 12 Step Support Groups that provide special communication access for the Deaf and hard of hearing in the New Jersey area please notify Signs of Sobriety, Inc. If you plan to travel or are interested in 12 Step Meetings in other states please call SOS office at 609-882-7177. For more information visit our Web site at www.signsofsobriety.org.

To arrange interpreter or communication services at a 12 Step meeting in your area e-mail Lisette Weiland at communication@signsofsobriety.org or call 609-882-7177 TTY

Deaf Dog, Deaf Me

by Carol Granaldi

My dog Missy was our family pet during the latter 1970's when our four boys were in elementary school. She was from a litter of mixed collie and golden retriever puppies. We all enjoyed her puppyhood, housebreaking her through the freezing winter of 1978, when most dogs refused to go outside into the bitter cold and ice. She had a sunny disposition, and was always a wonderful household companion. The boys enjoyed teaching her tricks, and she always got excited when she heard the leash chain rattling indicating that she'd be taken out for a walk.

At that time, the 70's for me was the era of peak activities as a mother and office worker for the local newspapers. I had, up to then, a considerable hearing loss, but managed fairly well with use of a hearing aid in my right ear. The left ear, once my better ear, no longer functioned with a hearing aid, so I relied on what I could through the hearing aid in my right ear. Our four sons had grown up with a mother who didn't hear normally, so they were accustomed to accommodating me when I needed "repeats." They understood my need to see their faces when I would speechread, and if I wasn't looking at them, they'd tell me "you're not listening, you're not looking at me." The rule in our household was: "Speak to me only when you can see the whites of my eyes."

After having Missy for a couple of years, I came to realize that I, was actually relying on her as a "hearing dog". She had several distinctive barks that told me that something was happening. The front doorbell ringing would set off a raucous bark and I would then follow up by going to the front door. When I couldn't hear the doorbell's high pitch sound from different parts of the house, I could always hear Missy's excited barking. Oftentimes, we would be sitting in the TV room, and Missy would hear something happening out of doors, and raise her head in alert. I'd

watch as her ears would "rotate" as though she was following something. She'd then bark a single quiet "woof" which we called the "who goes there?" bark. There were times, when our cat Abby would be on the front doorstep, and meow to be let in. Missy would go to the front door, drop her head down low, and quietly "woof" as though to reassure Abby that someone soon would let her in. Another bark is her "I gotta pee" bark at the back door. If no one came, she'd bark a decibel louder until I'd hear her and let her out." These were idyllic times for me and my family growing up, and a dog that I could rely on to tell me what was happening with things I couldn't hear.

As time went on, Missy entered her senior years, and I noticed that she was slowing down. She no longer responded to the rattling leash chain. She also developed arthritis, and was reluctant to walk too far. She didn't respond to her name and didn't raise her head in her "who goes there?" stance. She'd become oblivious to the environmental sounds and would stare off with a "spacey" look. She had become deaf, arthritic, and was becoming blind. My hearing dog could no longer help me, and she needed help herself. By then she was already 13 years old, and into old age. A visit to the vet confirmed this and it was recommended that she be put to sleep to relieve Missy of her disabilities. She had become incontinent, the final indignity. We decided to put her to sleep.

November 22, 1990 was a gloomy overcast foggy day, and we sadly guided Missy to our van, lifted her, and drove to the vet's office. When we opened the door, she stood uncertainly at the opening, and when I yanked her to come down, she fell to the ground. My heart was breaking. My husband Pete and I carried her into the office. While we held her, we said goodbye to our faithful friend, and let her go as the vet gave her a shot to relax her, and then the shot that would put her to sleep. He assured us that she would feel no pain. I'm writing this 20 years later, and the memory is still fresh, and brings

[continued on next page](#)

Deaf Dog continued from page 1



me to tears. I recall that she became different when her hearing failed her, just as a human would become different with developing deafness. Where once she reacted to the sound of her name, the leash chain rattling, the outdoors sounds, and our cat's meow, she now became quiet, unresponsive, and isolated, staring out into space. No one could ever tell me that deafness is a minor disability, not for humans, and certainly not for animals.

Missy wasn't a trained hearing dog companion, but she served me in so many ways by listening and alerting me to what was happening in my environment. Nowadays, I rely on my cochlear implants to listen to my household sounds. We recently have gotten another doggie, a Bichon Frise named Sadie. She is the love of our life, and once again I'm watching her behavior to tell me things that she can hear better than me. She's not a trained hearing dog companion either, but she serves me in many of the ways that Missy once did. But I will never forget my dog Missy who went deaf, along with me.

IT WOULDN'T BE HEAVEN

I explained to St. Peter I'd rather stay here,
Outside the heavenly gate.
I won't be a nuisance,
I won't even bark.
I'll very patiently wait.
I'll be here chewing
a celestial bone,
no matter how long you may be.
I'd miss you so much if I
went in alone,
It wouldn't be Heaven for me.

Author unknown



In Memoriam

Betty Stueber, HLA NJ member

On Friday, September 24, we bid a sad farewell to a beloved member of the Hearing Loss Association of America, Middlesex County Chapter - Betty Stueber. In his eulogy to her, Guy, her son in law said, "It wasn't just her family she was there for. When her hearing failed, she became a tireless advocate for people with hearing loss. She wasn't afraid to tell someone to look at her when they spoke to her." Always ready to help a newcomer, she quietly worked behind the scenes lending a hand wherever needed. Always willing to learn more about hearing loss, she attended DDHH AC meetings, HLAA meetings local, state and national – as well as conferences and other gatherings and events. Betty was a very special lady. May she rest in peace.

New Jersey School for the Deaf
14th Annual Basketball Tip Off Tournament

Hosted on the Katzenbach Campus
Friday December 10 and Saturday December 11



Friday, December 10

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

Saturday, December 11

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

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



Biennial Conference



NOVEMBER 5, 6, and 7

Hilton Woodbridge, 120 Wood Avenue South Iselin, NJ 08830, 732-494-6200 Voice
Co-sponsored by: The New Jersey Division of The Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH)

Special workshop targeted to Deaf interpreters,
"Toward Effective Practice: Competencies of the Deaf Interpreter"
presented by Eileen Forestal
Sunday November 7

**Registration for the conference is closed.
For more information, visit www.njrid.org.**

Walk4Hearing Garden State NJ Kickoff

by Carol Granaldi

On Sunday, September 12, at the new, state of the art, Montclair State University (Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders and Center for Audiology and Speech Language Pathology) in Bloomfield, NJ, the spirits were high during the Walk4Hearing's 3rd Annual Kick Off party. The Walk4Hearing is an annual event of the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey.

Arlene Romoff, HLA New Jersey State Affiliate President, introduced the Dean of CHSS, Dr. Marietta Morrissey who greeted more than 50 attendees. Lois Walker, W4H Chairperson, presented the day's agenda, and then invited those attending to enjoy a bountiful lunch.

Following the lunch, Sandy Spekman, W4H Scholarship Chairperson, introduced the scholarship recipients: Max Mandel, Lauren Payne (accepted by her mother, Suzanne), and Amanda Hamlin (whose mother Victoria Hamlin accepted for her).

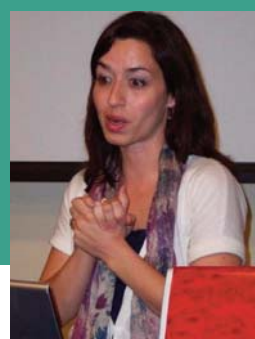
David Cooper and Annemarie DiPierro, both audiology students at MSU, were presented certificates of appreciation for their volunteer work on the Walk4Hearing Committee for the past three years.

Ronnie Adler, who is National Walk Coordinator, gave a rousing talk to the audience about team building, fund raising and alliance sharing. A videotape of many Walks around the USA was shown, all with happy enthusiastic faces and comments about participating.

Gabe DeMarco, a hard of hearing five year old boy who wears two hearing aids, brought his family to the Kick Off. His mom, Karen DeMarco, addressed the audience and told about their progression from Gabe's diagnosis when tested as an infant, early intervention with hearing aids and mainstreaming Gabe when he reached school age.

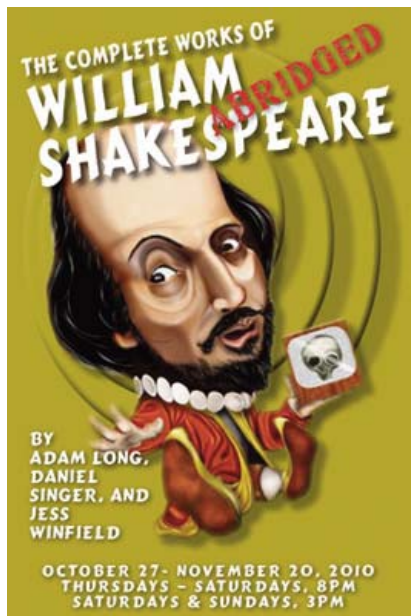
The final speaker was a surprise visitor, Assemblyman Tom Giblin, 34th district, who addressed the audience. He said he would support the HLA NJ in any legislative matters that arise, and he was donating to the fundraiser as well. Following the speakers, a social time was enjoyed by all.

Visit www.walk4hearing.org
Click "Fall Walks, Garden State NJ."
For more information, contact Lois Walker,
lois.walker@comcast.net.



Cape May Stage Offers Sign Interpreted Performance of

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)



Cape May Stage, Cape May's premier professional Equity theatre, with the generous support of PNC Arts Alive, is proud to announce the ASL interpreted performance of one of London's longest running plays, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)* on Friday, November 19 at 8:00 PM.

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) was written and performed by Adam Long, Daniel Singer, and Jess Winfield and is a madcap romp through everything ever written by the greatest writer of the English language. Three actors perform each of Shakespeare's plays in the first act, in styles wildly divergent from their original: *Titus Andronicus*, for example, is performed as a cooking show and *Othello* is told through gangsta rap. All of Shakespeare's histories are told as a football game using the British Crown as the football, and all of his comedies are reduced to one reading, the justification being that they all use the same plots, anyway. At the end of the first

act, the actors realize they've left out the greatest play of them all, *Hamlet*, and the second act is spent rectifying this. In all, it's two hilarious and enlightening hours of theater that you're unlikely to experience anywhere else.

Theatrical interpreters for the Deaf Celeste Herse and Anne Maselli will interpret the November 19 performance which will take place at the Robert Shackleton Playhouse at Bank and Lafayette Streets in Cape May. Herse, a local interpreter in the South Jersey area, is thrilled to return to Cape May Stage this fall after previously interpreting several of the Stage's productions last season. "I love theater because it takes you to different places and signing performances is such a unique experience," explains Herse. Herse will be joined with interpreter, Anne Maselli to interpret this performance. "Having a partner to work with on stage allows for clearer interaction and is more meaningful for the Deaf audience," states Herse.

PNC Financial Services Group is the presenting sponsor of Cape May Stage's ASL Interpreted Performance. This production is generously sponsored by Sturdy Savings Bank and co-sponsored by The Fudge Kitchen.

Tickets are \$35 adults (\$40 on Saturday evenings), \$30 seniors, and \$12.50 students. Monthly Communicator readers are being offered half price tickets to attend the interpreted performance on November 19. Discounts may be redeemed online by entering the coupon code ASL50 during checkout, or by mentioning it over the phone with the box office. Call 609-884-1341 for reservations and information, or visit www.capemaystage.com.

ASL Interpreted Performance: November 19, 8:00 PM.

Religious Access

Holiday Buffet and Gingo Night



Hosted by ICDA/MWD

Saturday, December 11

6:30 PM - 11:30 PM

Game starts at 8:00 PM

\$35 per person includes food, games and door prizes.

Must pay by November 24, 2010

\$15 per person for games only (free hot and cold beverages and desserts)

Sunday best dress code (no Jeans and no sneakers, please)

Holy Saviour Church (New Location) 50 Emerald Avenue, Westmont, NJ 08108 2398
McDaid Hall, corner of Cambridge and Virginia Avenue (Big ramp on Virginia Ave.)

Doors will open at 6:30 PM for those attending buffet. Food will be served at 6:30 PM

No early birds please.

Games only? Come at 7:30 PM. Pay at the door (cash only)

50/50 tickets will be sold

Please bring a donation of toys for the kids and receive three free 50/50 tickets.

(Limit three free 50/50 tickets per person)

Contest for everyone at Gingo Night: "Best Dressed"

For information, contact Betty Ann: mwdbak@yahoo.com

Buffet Menu

Garden salad, baked ziti and meatballs, sausage w/green peppers, onions and sauce,
chicken franchise, green beans almondine, roasted red potatoes, cakes and cookies
hot and cold beverages.

Adults only (18 years and older)

Include name, address, and send check payable to: Ministry with the Deaf
and mail to: Att: Mark Fleming, 309 S. Lowell Avenue, Bellmawr, NJ 08031
No refunds.

Religious Access

Cornerstone's Ministry with the Deaf Changes Location

Cornerstone Presbyterian Church has a new worship location at the Christa McAuliffe Middle School, 35 South Hope Chapel Rd. in Jackson, near Jackson Crossing Shopping Center. Cornerstone Church has an active Ministry with the Deaf with an interpreter who signs the 9:30 worship service. For more information, call our pastor, Dr. Rob Morrison 732-928-2424 Voice or check www.cornerstonepcusa.com.

Taste and See Deaf Chat

Jackson Baptist Church in Jackson, New Jersey is pleased to announce our Taste and See Deaf Chat to be held on the second Friday of each month. The night will begin with a short message from the Bible, followed by refreshments and socializing with good friends. All are welcome. Deaf, hard of hearing, hearing, as well as those interested in ASL and learning more about God's Word, and meeting some new friends.

Each meeting will begin at 6:30 PM and the message from God's Word promptly at 7:00 PM. Though the meeting officially will end around 9:00 PM no one needs to rush out. Jackson Baptist also provides signing for the Deaf and hard of hearing community during our 11:00 AM worship service.

Jackson Baptist Church is located at 360 Bennetts Mills Road Jackson, New Jersey 08527 For more details, directions to the church or questions you may have either call the church at 732-928-0080 Voice or visit www.jacksonbaptist.org/pages/Deaf_Ministry.

Christmas Banquet and Drama

Grace Bible Chapel of the Deaf
100 Oakdale Road, Chester, NJ 07930

December 4

Noon to 6:00 PM

Deaf Guest Speaker : Rev Carter Bearden from Georgia

\$15 dollars for adults, \$5 dollars for children (age 6 through 12), free for children (5 and under)
Deadline November 20, 2010

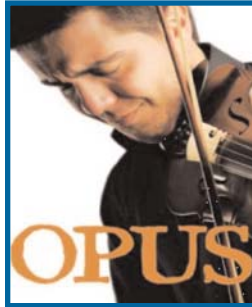
Must pay in advance by mail (no pay at door due to order food).
Send name, number of adults (x \$15), number of children (x \$5),
number of children under 5 years of age (free).

Make check payable to Grace Bible Chapel and mail to
Att: Roy Siskind, 288 Janine Way, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
For more information, contact Roy Siskind, Rojogolfer@hotmail.com
or Michael Sarsfield, MS1262@aol.com



Communicator Signboard

Open Captioned Performance



By Michael Hollinger

Saturday November 13 at 3:00 PM

When one member of an esteemed string quartet is fired before career making performance, the others must quickly find a replacement.

Two River Theater, 21 Bridge Avenue, Red Bank, NJ 07701

Tickets are \$15 per person for those using this service.

For more information, Michele Klinsky at mklinsky@trtc.org or 732-345-1400, ext 1808 Voice



ASL Shadow Interpreted Production of



November 14, 7:00 PM
and

Student Matinee performances on
November 9 and 10, 10:00 AM

All tickets are \$25. Student matinee and group rates available.
All seats reserved. Contact Susan Dewey 856-858-5230 ext 207 or
visit www.ritztheatreco.org

Box office hours Tues.- Fri. 1:00 PM - 6:00 PM and two hours before showtime.

Communicator Signboard

ALDA NJ Holiday Party

(Association of Late Deafened Adults – New Jersey)

December 4

Noon to 5:00 PM (early arrivals will be directed to the bar by the manager)

Nanni's Ristorante 53 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

Directions at www.nanni.com/directions.html

\$50 per person

Hors d'oeuvres served butler style. Gourmet buffet dinner includes carving stations, one glass of wine and dessert.

Cash Bar available.

Nice casual holiday attire (No jeans, sweatshirts or T shirts)

Make checks payable to ALDA NJ.

Send the check to Elinore Bullock, 3 Tamarack Farm Lane, Califon, NJ 07830-3415

elinorebullock7@embarqmail.com, 908-832-5082 Voice

RSVP by November 19. Seating limited to 90 people.

Not ready to go home at 5:00 PM? Nanni's bar will be available, for nightcap or coffee and more laughs.



Tri State Deaf Latino Association, PA/NJ/DE

2nd Annual Holiday Party

Spirit of Philadelphia

Holiday dinner buffet/Three hour river cruise



Saturday, December 11, 2010

Boarding Time: 7:00 PM (cruise 7:30 PM 10:30 PM)

Penn's Landing, Pier 3 Columbus Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19106

\$80 per person

Dress Code: Formal Holiday dress

Cruise includes bountiful dinner buffet, skyline views, entertainment, live DJ for dancing.

Buffet includes tossed garden salad, carved roasted turkey, cob smoked ham, chicken fontina, wild alaskan salmon, penne pasta with choice of marinara or pesto, garlic, sage mashed potatoes, holiday yams, green beans with tossed almonds, cornbread stuffing, dessert.

\$5 photos for individuals or couples available (Go to TSDLA Funds)

Penn's Landing parking lot \$12 per car. Additional parking available across the street

Mayra Castro, Chairperson at eventcoordinator@tsdla@gmail.com

No transfers, refunds or exchanges or cancellations.

Must be paid in full by November 8. Please include name, address, e-mail, VP, number of guests (x \$80 each).

First come, first served. Limited to 120 guests.

Make check payable to TSDLA c/o Mayra Castro, 3506 Palisade Avenue, 1st Fl, Union City, NJ 07087.

Communicator Signboard

Atlantic County Society of the Deaf

hosts the annual

Christmas Dinner

at

Tuckahoe Inn Restaurant and Tavern, 1 Harbor Road and Route 9, Beesley's Point, NJ
(Exit 25 on the GSP)



Saturday, December 18
6:00 PM



Donation: Member - \$35; Non member - \$45.

Deadline: December 11, 2010

No refunds. Proper attire required (no jeans) Adults only

Appetizers, tossed salad, sliced prime rib, stuffed chicken breast, baby crab cakes served with potato and vegetable, rolls and butter, homemade dessert, coffee, tea or iced tea. Cash bar.

Chinese auction, money prizes, bank nite giveaway, many more new surprises

Make money order/check payable to ACSD and mail to
Atlantic County Society of the Deaf c/o Christmas Dinner
PO Box 3088, Margate, NJ 08402

For more information: ACSD66@aol.com.

Chairperson: John Werner and committee



Yoga for the Deaf

We now offer classes in two different locations:

SaKula Yoga Studio 325 Main Street, Metuchen, NJ

Class held every Thursday night 5:45 PM to 6:45 PM at the Main studio.

Class will be held in ASL and in voice.

and

Centerspace Studio 900 Easton Avenue (in Somerset Village Plaza), Somerset, NJ

Class held every second and fourth Friday of the month from 7:30 PM to 8:30 PM.

Class will be held in ASL only.

Cost of class: \$10

For more information: NJYogafortheDeaf@yahoo.com or visit www.justuyoga.com.

Communicator Signboard

North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.
presents

Christmas and Hanukkah Holiday Dinner Party

Buttonwood Manor on 845 Route 34 in Matawan, NJ

Saturday, December 11

Noon to 5:00 PM

\$ 50 per person Ticket(s) picked up at the door. No ticket purchase at door.

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

Sit Down Luncheon Menu Plan including:

Fresh fruit cup, soup du jour or pasta (pick one); fresh garden or caesar salad
Choice of three entrees - London broil with sherry mushroom sauce, breast of chicken
marsala or tilapia bruschetta; chef's choice of potato and vegetables; ice cream cake roll;
assorted rolls and butter, coffee, decaf, tea, unlimited soda

Cash Bar

Foods available for people who have diabetes.
Please indicate on the back of the flyer.

For tickets and directions to the Buttonwood Manor,
please visit www.njccdsite.org.
Deadline date for ordering tickets is November 30.
Make your reservation early.
Limited to 175 people (first come, first served basis).

Chairman Wayne Borngesser,
Co Chairman - Kevin Fennessey and Committees

For more information, contact Wayne Borngesser at
wborngesser@yahoo.com or at 732-662-2237 VP



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

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Dated Material Please Rush

Calendar of Events 2011

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting

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

Look for location in the December issue of
Monthly Communicator

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

Family Learning Conference Saturday, April 16 Freehold, NJ

Watch for more information in upcoming
issues of Monthly Communicator

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day Saturday, June 17 Six Flags Great Adventure Jackson, NJ

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

DDHH Office – Days Closed

**Tuesday, November 2 – Election Day; Thursday, November 11 – Veteran's Day;
Thursday, November 25 – Thanksgiving Day**