



# Monthly Communicator

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

January 2008

Vol. 29



Jon S. Corzine, *Governor*

Jennifer Velez, *Commissioner*

David C. Alexander *Director*

## ***DDHH Sets Eyes on Challenges in 2008***

*Dear Friends and Colleagues:*

Much of the progress to date in addressing the social, economic and cultural needs of persons with hearing loss is due to the successful partnership of DDHH with other state and local organizations serving the Deaf and hard of hearing communities. This successful partnership sets a solid foundation for our continuing efforts to address future challenges in 2008.

At our last DDHH Advisory Council meeting, one of the activities conducted was a discussion of important issues facing the Deaf and hard of hearing community over the next few years. This discussion raised a number of comments, including commendations of current services provided by DDHH, as well as the identification of new, ongoing and long-term challenges.

DDHH was commended for providing communication access services at various public events throughout the state, and encouraged to continue these valuable services. Four primary areas of challenges were identified and are listed below:

- Provide education and awareness to the private and public sector to ensure that programs and services are communication accessible to people who are Deaf and hard of hearing.
- Increase outreach services to senior citizens about hearing loss and resources available to them.
- Continue to advocate for communication access to medical facilities.
- Enhance public awareness of the broad range of services and programs offered by DDHH.

These challenges reflect areas of ongoing effort by DDHH and will continue to be priorities of the division. In future editions of the Monthly Communicator, through the Director's Corner column and feature stories, I plan to share with you some of the activities and strategies being conducted to address these challenges. As we move forward, also feel free to contact DDHH with any suggestions that you think would be helpful.

I look forward to another year of accomplishments and working together.

*David Alexander, Director, Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*



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Language Story Hour*



*DDHH Director, David C. Alexander, goes undercover as students attending the December ASL Story Hour (at the Library for the Blind and Handicapped) receive a surprise visitor. Full story in the February issue of Monthly Communicator.*

### **Reminder**

The deadline for the March 2008 issue is February 1, 2008.  
Note: The deadline for the February issue was January 1, 2008.

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

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

### **Newsletter Subscription**

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

### **Monthly Communicator**

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

# Letter to the Editor



Nov. 26, 2007

Dear Editor:

On November 19, 2007, the Assembly Appropriations Committee voted favorably to pass Grace's Law out of committee. Our thanks go to Assemblymen Neil Cohen, Joseph Roberts, and Christopher Bateman for being sponsors of this bill, and to Chairwoman Nellie Pou for posting it. There are, in addition, 25 co-sponsors who support A289, "Grace's Law." This bill requires health insurers, the State Health Benefits Program and NJ Family Care to provide coverage for hearing aids for covered persons aged 15 and younger.

Today, many hard of hearing children under the age of 15 must struggle to understand what is being said in the classroom. Without hearing aids, the child may fall behind in class, experience language difficulties, have social or behavior problems, may not be able to achieve his/her full educational potential, and may have trouble finding a job. Most parents cannot shoulder the full cost of hearing aids, which can cost \$2,000 or more apiece, or \$5,000 or more for both ears. Furthermore, these hearing aids need to be replaced at least every four or five years throughout the child's school years, until he or she can enter the workforce. In the long run, the state of New Jersey may need to pay many thousands of dollars far beyond the cost of hearing aids in special education or remediation classes, counseling, social services or unemployment benefits. If a New Jersey family has medical insurance coverage, most policies do not include reimbursement for hearing aids. Some will pay only a few hundred dollars towards the cost of hearing aids.

The late Assemblyman Mel Cottrell (30th District) initially proposed Hearing Aid Insurance Legislation in May, 1998. Nine years have now passed, and still New Jersey does not have mandated hearing aid coverage at least for youngsters under the age of 15 years. Currently, the states of: Connecticut, Maryland, Kentucky, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri and Oklahoma have mandated insurance coverage for hearing aids for children, and pending bills in other states.

Please leave no hard of hearing child behind, please support A289/S1524, Grace's Law.

Carol Granaldi, co-founder, past president  
The Hearing Loss Association of America, New Jersey State Association  
[www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org) [info@hearingloss.org](mailto:info@hearingloss.org)

## My Gallaudet . . . Ten Years Later

### by Jason Weiland, DDHH Field Reperesentative

*Note: This article is the continuation from the December 2007 issue of Monthly Communicator.*

Never could there have been a more beautiful day to celebrate the ten years since graduating from Gallaudet University. As I browsed through the crowd on the steps of Chapel Hall, I re-connected with people I had not been in touch with since the day I left campus. Together, we smiled, laughed, and remembered, as the poor tormented photographer waved relentlessly to get our attention and move us along his busy photo schedule for the day. This was not an easy task, when you consider there were nearly 35 of us having 20 different conversations under the deep blue skies of the District of Columbia. Soon, we were on our way to Hotchkiss Field to join several other class reunions for the Homecoming March around the football field. In the present day, the State of New Jersey is my “home sweet home.” Those who I have come to call friends and colleagues, in my seven years in the Garden State, popped up on campus throughout the day. You don't realize how connected you are at Gallaudet until you attend the Homecoming events. The biggest event of the day was the Homecoming Court. Megan Klusza, a NJ resident, was named Homecoming Queen. I even bumped into Noah Beckman who was the Student Body Government president in 2006-2007 and Marianne Allegretti, both graduates of Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf (MKSD).



*Chapel Hall stands tall on a beautiful, sunny October afternoon.*

Like the students who roamed its campus over the past ten years, Gallaudet has changed. One of the first noticeable changes is that of lead-



*The campus continues to evolve with a new athletic field and a building under construction that replaced the old Hughes Gym.*

ership. President since 1988, former Gallaudet President I. King Jordan retired on December 31, 2006 with Provost Jane K. Fernandes set to assume the responsibilities of the



*Gallaudet University President Dr. Robert R. Davila interacts with students at homecoming.*

presidency. President Jordan's nearly 20 year legacy was left tarnished by a protest lead by students, faculty, and leaders of the deaf community nationwide as a result of the view that

Fernandes was hand picked and was not the leader Gallaudet needed to achieve a successful future. Dr. Robert R. Davila (*formerly chief executive officer of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) at the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in Rochester, NY*) was appointed President of Gallaudet on January 1, 2007. Since he joined the university, efforts to provide more opportunities for feedback from students, faculty, and staff are achieved through periodic town hall meetings. In addition, Davila has inserted himself as a visible figure of conversation for not only staff and students but also visitors. A true sense of being has been re-established. While Davila's appointment may be temporary, his presence is a welcome one.

When I first set foot in the Chapel Hall Memorial Building (HMB), it was a maze of wings practically glued together. The building hosted the majority of undergraduate classes on campus. Hughes Gym was the site of intramural sports and the strange looking, smelly



*Homecoming Queen Megan Klusza from New Jersey proudly displays her crown.*

indoor swimming pool. It also had tiny classroom which made teaching difficult and hard for people see each other. Since 1993, Gallaudet expanded and renovated HMB to



*Marianne Allegretti, a MKSD graduate, shares a smile with Jason Weiland for the camera.*

be a premier classroom model for other buildings to come and provide superior technology advancements necessary to further the education of its students. The Gallaudet University

Kellogg Conference Center (GUKCC) provides hotel accommodations and conference space with teleconferencing facilities and a full television studio. The Ely Student Center once was an oddly constructed building that had a drab feeling despite being the center of student life. Today, it is a beautiful student center with the revived Rathskellar restaurant, Bison Shop, and a renewed lease on life. The Student Academic Center is located adjacent to the building in a section of the former Hughes location and is represented as a "Smart Center." The Sorenson Language and Communication Center is currently under construction to be completed in 2008. Even the field house was renovated and expanded to include a swimming pool, racquetball courts, a dance studio, and a weight training room.

The campus life was another story back in those days. The Class of 97 held the much dreaded record of the most fire alarms in a single semester. I remember having six fire alarms in one night at the former Cogswell Hall

(which is now named Ballard North) and trudging my warm comforter and girlfriend across campus to Clerc Hall at 3:00 in the morning only to get hit with the blinking lights there. Rest

assured, a strict fire alarm policy has drastically reduced this trend from 10 years ago. I think instituting the policy of getting expelled for five years for falsely pulling the fire alarm had something to do with it.



*Sorenson Public VP-200 booths at the Jordan Student Academic Center*

As I walked around the football field and visited the numerous booths represented by the different fraternities and sororities on campus, I saw a tremendous sense of pride in not only themselves as a group but as students. Much of the attitude has changed from 10 years ago. The campus really does represent individuals coming from various degrees of hearing loss, whether they are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, late deafened, or an individual with a cochlear implant. Unfortunately, we don't always see it. While American Sign Language (ASL) is considered the norm on campus, all communication modes are well respected. In addition, all of the alumni I re-connected with are successful in their field of expertise in a variety of backgrounds. One thing that amazed me is the increasing number of deaf and hard of hearing people who are small business owners. Years ago, I didn't know of anyone who had their own business, now I meet many and to me, that was quite inspiring.



*Jason Weiland poses with members of the famed "Midnight Crew"*

In the past ten years, I have grown. Never did I think that come 2007, I'd be married and a government employee with two children (age 3 and 2 months). I'll be the first to admit that attending

Gallaudet was the best thing I did while growing up. I grew up being mainstreamed and found it difficult to find my place in life. The university opened doors and worlds to me that I struggled to access for a long time.

This article is about exploring and learning along the way. This represents my experience. People often told me, "You can get a better education at a hearing university." Whether that is true or not, the choice is mine, yours, and theirs - the children of future generations. Gallaudet may not be for everyone, just as Yale and Harvard do not accept every bright and motivated student that mails in an application. The truth is, you chose your own path, whether it be Gallaudet, NTID, Rutgers, Stanford, University of Minnesota, Bergen Community College, or even the Fashion Institute of Technology. The existence of today's technology has made Gallaudet and others a better place to seek educational opportunities. Along with it come a variety of pro's and con's that one needs to consider before making a decision on where to go.

In closing, seek out options and lay them on the table. I often meet parents and students who are unaware of the tremendous number of options available to them in this day and age. The best thing one can do is provide as much information available and allow them to choose without bias.

*This is "My Gallaudet, My Life," what's yours?*



*The Weiland Family*

## Register Now for Statewide Partners in the Arts Festival

New Brunswick, NJ - Registration is now underway for the VSA (Very Special Arts) of New Jersey's annual statewide *Partners in the Arts* Festival to be held on Thursday, May 8 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Middlesex County College in Edison. *Partners in the Arts* provides opportunities for children and adults with and without disabilities to engage in an enriching and accessible celebration of the arts. Individuals and groups are invited to participate in a day of performances, exhibits, arts workshops, and more. Students will have the opportunity to engage in interactive and cooperative learning activities that support the New Jersey Core Curriculum Content Standards in the Visual and Performing Arts. Interested participants are also invited to register to present exhibits and performances for the festival audience. This event is offered free of charge. Support for this work is provided in part by the LEGO Children's Fund.

The festival is one of the many projects of VSA of New Jersey, a statewide nonprofit organization dedicated to enriching the lives and promoting the creative power of individuals with disabilities. Additional funding for the Partners in the Arts Festival is made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State; a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission; and the central office of VSA arts under an award from the U.S. Department of Education (however, content does not necessarily reflect the policy of the U.S. Department of Education and endorsement should not be assumed).

Individuals, schools, and organizations are invited to participate in this event. For registration materials, please contact VSA of New Jersey, 703 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, 732-745-3885, 745-3913 TTY or [info@vsanj.org](mailto:info@vsanj.org). Registration deadline is April 2, 2008, and early registration is strongly encouraged.



## Jon Gabry Speaks at Library's Festival

by Carol Castellano



Jon Gabry, son of POBC (Parents of Blind Children) Board member Kathy Gabry, spoke as part of a panel discussion at "Accessibility in the Arts," held by New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped during the 40th anniversary fall festival October celebration in Trenton, NJ. Jon, who has been Deaf-Blind since birth and now a high school senior, is a fine artist who works in watercolors, pastels, and sculpting. Last spring, he was awarded the Very Special Arts of New Jersey Student Arts Excellence Award in Visual Art (Fine Art) and a NJ Governor's Award in Arts Education.

During the panel discussion, Jon told the audience that he discovered his love of painting and working with clay when he was about four years old. He showed several of his recent works, including a watercolor of a hibiscus, a pastel still life, and an awesome sculpted bird complete with hundreds of carved feathers, a big, round belly, and long, skinny legs that was felt by many a hand that day. Jon said he particularly enjoys the process of creating his art: the planning, the set-up, the actual movement of his body as he paints or sculpts, and the visual and tactual results of the final product. He is taking a portfolio development class in high school and hopes to some day pursue a career in fine art. Congratulations, Jon!



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## "You are Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Wonderful!"

By Dawn West

Inspired by students in Mrs. G. A. Thomas class at Norman S. Weir School:

You are beautiful and handsome  
with your hearing aids and cochlear implants.  
You are beautiful and handsome  
if you don't have hearing aids and cochlear implants.

You are smart, intelligent and talented,  
just like hearing children.

You are brave and courageous:  
be proud of yourself as a person.  
Be proud of yourself  
whether you talk or don't talk.  
Be proud of yourself  
whether you can hear some things,  
a little bit, or nothing at all.  
Be proud of yourself  
like the person who hears everything.

Do the best that you can  
as a person and as a student  
whether you are hard of hearing or d/Deaf,  
just as a hearing person must do their best too.  
We all should accept each other as we are  
if it is the best we can be.

Remember Class:

You are d/Deaf, hard of hearing and WONDERFUL!  
Your individual "voices" profoundly tell your stories and  
sing your songs that are beautifully composed of your  
own musical notes. Your "signing hands" are motions of  
poetry which skillfully describes every human emotion  
and life experience. Your hands delicately and powerfully  
dance and float in the air to artfully and colorfully illus-  
trate the pictures that forms your sign language. Your  
hands and your voices dramatically, soulfully, dynamically  
and wonderfully express YOU.)

*Dawn West is a self-published poet (My Poetry is a Window into My Soul: poetry) with a profound hearing loss who lives in New Jersey. Dawn uses her poetry to educate others on the subject of hearing loss and deafness by sharing her personal experiences. She recently had the privilege of meeting a class of hard of hearing and Deaf elementary school students and shared some of her work with them. This experience inspired Dawn to write the poem "You are Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Wonderful!" The poem was written to remind these students and reinforce in them that they are "wonderful" just as they are.*



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

Submitted by Tara McMenamain

### *Petway Slices Up Pizza Hut*

On Wednesday, November 7, the Deaf students at Petway Elementary School visited the local Pizza Hut as part of their Community Outings Program. The lesson began in the classroom a week prior to the trip. Teachers Tara McMenamain and Jennifer Lilla taught the students the difference between restaurants with and without waiters/waitresses, how to read a bill and how to calculate a 20 percent gratuity.



*Teachers Jennifer, Lilla and Tara explain the job of a waiter/waitress.*

Once at Pizza Hut, the Petway students received a tour of the kitchen and actually got to make their

own pan pizza! After completing the tour, the students returned to their table and practiced ordering their drinks and meals without the help of an interpreter. These strategies were practiced prior to the trip in the students' speech classes.



*Ethan Shadinger (1st grade), Ethan Herscher (2nd grade), Alexis Holland (3rd grade), and Isabella Jimenez (3rd grade) learn about the dough in the pizza making process from Manager, Cheryl Dutton and Interpreter, Billie Riggins.*

After enjoying the pizza they made for themselves, each student received an actual bill. It was during this time that they figured out the 20 percent gratuity, how much they would have to pay (including the gratuity) and the change they would receive.

While there, the Petway staff and students educated the employees of Pizza Hut on how to best service Deaf patrons. It was a great learning experience for both the students as well as the workers at Pizza Hut. Next month, the students will visit Communications Services for the Deaf (CSD) on Landis Ave. Vineland, NJ.



*Ethan Shadinger (1st grade) makes his own personal pan pizza with help from Manager, Cheryl Dutton.*



*Thalia Jimenez (5th grade), Gerardo Franco (5th grade), Leslie Perez (4th grade), and Destiny Ferrer (5th grade) get set to make their own pan pizzas on the Make Table.*



*The Deaf students at Petway order lunch without an interpreter.*

# ALDA-NJ THROWS A BOFFO PARTY!

by Elinore Bullock, ALDA-NJ coordinator

Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA)-NJ departed from its customary Bring-A-Dish Holiday Party format (bringing of a dish to a private home), electing instead to hold their event in a public place and charging a fee to cover the food cost. The party “just grew” as Topsy would say.

As ALDA-NJ coordinator, my original plan was simply to move the venue for the party so that those in wheelchairs could have access, when we were still considering the Bring-A-Dish format.

I sent an e-mail to the ALDA-NJ list asking for possible sites.

Sandi Enfield, who lives in a condo with a clubhouse, volunteered the use of the clubhouse. Diane Smith-Gale then

offered her assistance. I accepted gladly, little knowing how that decision would snowball. Diane informed me of other ladies who were “in the know” about certain aspects of party planning, scouting out other possible sites, and lending a hand.

Before I knew it, we were a committee of eight. All with ideas, energy, offers to cook, to help, to shop, to plan...and

most of all, to e-mail each other. These wonderful ladies are: Diane Smith-Gale, Sandi Enfield, Violet Stein-Rosen, Kathy Bradicich (and her son who volunteered as DJ...and her mother, Pat Dougherty, who vol-

untered to prepare sausages and peppers), Laura Berger, Suzanne Gossett, Kathleen Treni and me. We all cooked up a storm for many days prior to and even on the day of the party. The men in our lives also pitched in with setting-up and cleaning-up. Bless ‘em!

Reflecting more on the event, The Season’s Glen Clubhouse in Mt. Arlington was the perfect place to hold the party. Decorated with seasonal greens and smelling of baking appetizers, it welcomed about sixty-five hungry people to come out of the cold. A variety of entrees followed appetizer, and the food was so delicious some people asked who the caterers were! There were also desserts! Among the highlights, were two big holiday cakes infused with alcohol, chocolate-coated fruits, cookies, cupcakes, more! Bill Bradicich’s DJ talents were much appreciated and several people danced to his lively tunes.

The most beautiful thing about this party was that members of other organizations, those whose communication modes and hearing loss were different from our own, were invited along with the ALDA-NJ membership. We felt the mingling in a happy setting would lend to greater understanding. It worked!

Many wanted to know if we would do it again - The answer is - Just wait until next year!



# American Sign Language Story Hour

*submitted by Christine Olsen*

The New Jersey State Library for the Blind and Handicapped (LBH) held its monthly Children's American Sign Language (ASL) Story Hour on November 13, 2007. Deaf storyteller, Darlene Sarnouski, signed the seasonal story, A Turkey for Thanksgiving, by Eve Bunting. This is a good-natured tale about Mr. Moose obliging Mrs. Moose by trying to find a turkey to join them at the Thanksgiving table – rather than on it. When Mr. Moose finally finds Turkey, it takes Mr. Moose quite a bit of cajoling and convincing to convince Turkey to come to dinner. When Turkey sees his chair at the table he is very excited to share in the festivities. In addition to Turkey, several other forest guests are invited to join in The Moose Family Thanksgiving celebration.



*Deaf Storyteller Darlene Sarnouski signs the story, "A Turkey for Thanksgiving" while Kim Arrigo holds book.*

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

This story hour was made accessible by ASL interpreters provided by the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), a division of the New Jersey Department of Human Services, and accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation illustrating each page along with the storyteller. The story hour promotes English literacy skills for the Deaf and hard of hearing by enabling them to enjoy simultaneously ASL and English versions of books.

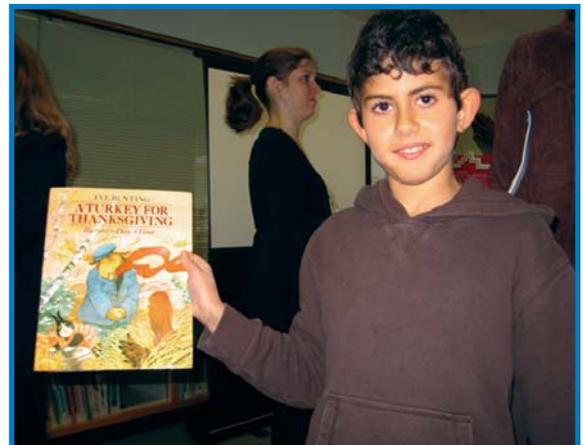
Workshops and events such as the story hour are scheduled by Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program at the New Jersey State Library for the Blind and Handicapped. LBH is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton.

For more information about the DHHAP program and story hours, contact Christine at 877-882-5593 TTY or [colsen@njstatelib.org](mailto:colsen@njstatelib.org). The December ASL Story Hour at LBH took place on December 11, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. More information on that session will appear in the February Monthly Communicator. For assistance with NJLBH and its programs, call Anne McArthur at 609-530-3242.



*Coordinator Christine Olsen shows MKSD students a Display Board of photos from previous ASL Story Hours.*

Ms. Sarnouski was wonderfully descriptive in her storytelling and included the children by asking them questions about the animals in the story and about their memories of Thanksgiving. The children are always excited to share their own experiences and stories with the group. Afterwards, the children shared in their own Thanksgiving feast with snacks and drinks in the library cafeteria.

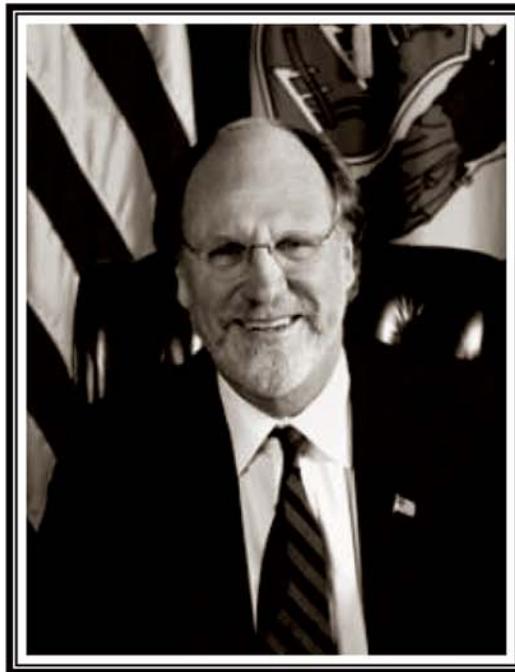


*MKSD student proudly displays book from November ASL Storytelling.*



## **Please join Governor Jon S. Corzine as he hosts a Community Dialogue on the Financial Restructuring of New Jersey in all 21 counties.**

**The Community Dialogues will be an opportunity to listen to the Governor's vision for the future and will be followed by an open question and answer session.**



**Please check the state website at <http://www.state.nj.us> for the complete list of locations and dates to find a Community Dialogue near you. These events are free and open to the public.**

**Each Community Dialogue will provide full accessibility to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community. Open Captioning (CART), sign language interpreters and assistive listening devices will be provided.**



# Marie Katzenbach School For The Deaf

## *Sign Language Classes*

### *Spring 2008*

Sponsored by Katzenbach Parent and Staff Organization and the Katzenbach Parent and Staff Education Foundation, Inc.

Classes held at the Marie Katzenbach School For The Deaf,  
320 Sullivan Way, West Trenton, New Jersey 08628  
Tuesday evenings 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.  
March 4 to May 13, (no class March 25)  
\$70 (Walk-in registration \$80.)  
Note: No refunds after the third class  
(Checks will not be deposited until after the third class.)

#### *Classes Offered:*

**Beginner One:** For people with little or no knowledge of SIGN; concentration on fingerspelling and vocabulary using English word order with some ASL features.

**Beginner Two:** For those who have completed Beginner One or have had another sign class; Course continues vocabulary development using English word order with some ASL features.

**Conversation One or Two:** For people who have taken at least two sign language courses and want to practice expressive and receptive skills. Some vocabulary and grammatical lessons will be included, but the emphasis is on becoming more fluent. Conversation Two is mostly non-voiced.

**Children's ASL:** A children's class may be offered if enough pre-register.

Dependent on enrollment of eight or more people. Classes may be split by ability/experience depending on enrollment. People enrolling may change classes at the beginning to fit their needs.

For information, call Rebecca Woodward, program coordinator,  
(609) 530-3131 or 530-3130. or [Rebecca\\_Woodward@MKSD.state.nj.us](mailto:Rebecca_Woodward@MKSD.state.nj.us)

No confirmation of registration will be sent. You will be contacted only if there is a problem with the class. Classes are flexible. You may switch levels as needed.

Please indicate whether adult(s), MKSD staff, or child (over 12 years old).

Note that classes are not appropriate for children under 12 years.

Call for further information.

# SAVE THE DATE

*125th Anniversary of NJSD/MKSD*



*80th Anniversary of  
Alumni Association of the NJSD/MKSD*



*25th Anniversary of Katzenbach Parent Staff Organization*

**Date:** October 10, 11 and 12, 2008  
(Columbus weekend)

**Location:** NJSD/MKSD Campus

**Friday October 10 – Registration, Opening Ceremony, and Shows**

**Saturday October 11 – Registration and Events**

**Saturday night – Sit Down Banquet at Angeloni's Cedar Gardens**

**661 Route #33, Hamilton, NJ (Adults Only)**

**Sunday October 12 – Fall festival/KPSO event**

**Hotel at Hyatt Regency Princeton, 103 Carnegie Center, Princeton, NJ**

Check [www.mkzd.org](http://www.mkzd.org) for  
information on this big event!

Thomas Sparks, Jr., Chairman

[PhySparks70@aol.com](mailto:PhySparks70@aol.com)

856-374-1043 FAX

# Winter 2008 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

Monday 7:30 p.m.  
Plainfield Connection  
First Unitarian Church  
724 Park Ave.  
Plainfield, NJ  
NA: I, O, SP, BB

Wednesday 8:00 p.m.  
St. Peter's Episcopal Church  
271 Roseland Ave  
Essex Fells, NJ  
Al-Anon: I, O, NS

## Central Jersey Area

Sunday 6:30 p.m.  
Monmouth Medical Center  
2nd Avenue, 323  
Long Branch, NJ  
NA: D, I, O, SP

Monday 8:00 p.m.  
Trinity Episcopal Church  
65 West Front Street  
Red Bank, NJ  
AA: I, O, S

## Central Jersey Area cont'd

Tuesday 6:45 a.m.  
Attitude Adjustment  
Al-An Club  
761 Cass Street  
2nd Floor, Trenton, NJ  
AA: I, O

Wednesday 6:15 p.m.  
DEAF MEETING – no interpreter  
Silent Serenity  
Al-An Club  
761 Cass Street  
2nd Floor  
Trenton, NJ

Thursday 6:45 a.m.  
Attitude Adjustment  
Al-An Club  
761 Cass Street  
2nd Floor, Trenton, NJ  
AA: I, O

Thursday 8:00 p.m.  
St. Paul United Church of Christ  
62 South Main Street  
(School Bldg Behind The Church)  
Milltown, NJ  
(732-828-0020)  
AA: I, O, SP, NS, W

## South Jersey Area

Friday 7:30 p.m.  
Southern Ocean County Hospital  
Route 72  
Manahawkin, NJ  
AA: I, O, D

Tuesday 8:00 p.m.  
DEAF MEETING – 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 p.m.  
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 a.m.  
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 11/07. 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 website at [www.signsofsobriety.org](http://www.signsofsobriety.org).

To arrange interpreter or communication services at a 12 Step meeting in your area, email Lisette Weiland at [communication@signsofsobriety.org](mailto:communication@signsofsobriety.org) or call 609-882-7177 -TTY.

# NEW JERSEY THEATRE ALLIANCE OPEN CAPTION CALENDAR

**Sunday, January 27 at 7:30 p.m.**

Paper Mill Playhouse  
Brookside Drive, Millburn 07041  
Box Office: (973) 376- 4343;  
Business Office: (973) 379- 3636 TTY; (973) 376-2181;  
www.papermill.org  
Essex County



## ***The Miracle Worker***

Written by William Gibson. Before Helen Keller became a world famous speaker, author, and advocate, she was a blind, deaf, and mostly mute child living in Alabama in the 1880's. Misunderstood, pitied, and consequently spoiled by her family, at the age of six she terrorized the household with her tantrums and tricks. Then, Anne Sullivan arrived. She was merely 20 years old herself, but Anne held the key that would unlock the door between Helen and the world. William Gibson's Tony Award-winning play (adapted into the Academy Award-winning film) unfolds the trials and tribulations Anne and Helen encountered as they forged what would become a 49-year-long friendship. From their isolation in the family cottage house to the watershed moment when Helen finally understood the concept of language and communication, *The Miracle Worker* is a profoundly moving retelling of the groundbreaking work of two pioneers, as well as the tender relationship between them.

**Friday, February 1st at 8:00 p.m.**

Playwrights Theatre  
33 Green Village Road, P.O. Box 1295, Madison 07940  
Box Office: (973) 514-1787, ext. 30  
info@ptnj.org; www.ptnj.org  
Morris County



## ***Flying Crows***

By Jim Glossman (adapted from Jim Lehrer's novel). Detective Lt. Randy Benton has been asked to do one last inspection of the dilapidated Kansas City Union Station just prior to its massive renovation in 1997. When he discovers Birdie, apparently an escaped lunatic who has been living in the railroad station since 1933, Benton finds far more questions about his past than answers. From the author and adapter of *The Special Prisoner*, *Flying Crows* is a moving, multi-layered story about old friendships, broken minds, and some vital loose ends from a massacre everyone thought was solved long ago.

**Saturday, February 9 at 2:00 p.m.**

George Street Playhouse  
9 Livingston Avenue  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901  
(732) 846 - 2895  
(732) 247 - 9151 FAX  
www.gsponline.org  
Middlesex County



## ***Sight Unseen***

By Donald Margulies. Pulitzer prize winner Donald Margulies' Obie Award winning play about a celebrated artist who, in spite of a successful career, longs for something missing from his life. His yearning leads him to the home of Patricia – the lover he abruptly ended his affair with ten years prior.

# JOB OPPORTUNITIES

## Sussex County Community College

Is looking for instructors to teach Sign Language I on Monday evenings, 6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. and Sign Language II on Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:40 p.m. - 2:55 p.m. This is for the spring semester beginning January 22 and ending May 13. Interested individuals should send their resume to SCCC, Human Resources, 1 College Hill Road, Newton, NJ 07860.



# RELIGIOUS ACCESS



## Open Bible Baptist Church

2625 E. Main Street (Exit 24 off Rt. 55 one mile east on Rt. 49)  
Millville, NJ 08332

Services Interpreted:  
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Morning 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday Evening 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

For information contact, C.J. at [revcjelwood@yahoo.com](mailto:revcjelwood@yahoo.com)

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## Solid Rock Baptist Church

announces  
Beginner Sign Language Class - Spring 2008

Sponsored by: Solid Rock Baptist Church, School of the Scriptures Located at 420 South White Horse Pike, Berlin NJ 08009

Tuesday Evenings, January 22 - April 22  
8:30 p.m - 9:20 p.m.

\$45 (No charge with this Ad)

For more information, contact Diane Chapelle, Class Instructor  
856-625-9363 Voice; [diane\\_chapelle@verizon.net](mailto:diane_chapelle@verizon.net)

# Communicator Signboard



## BRIDGE PLAYERS THEATRE COMPANY

Proudly Presents

“DON’T DRESS FOR DINNER,”

THE PERFECT RECIPE FOR A HILARIOUS COMEDY

Directed by Maureen Broadbent, Broad Street United Methodist Church,  
Broad Street, Burlington, NJ.



A selection of delectable desserts and beverages will be served at intermission - all included in the ticket price! Tickets \$18. Performances Fridays at 8:00 p.m. - February 1, 8, 15 & 22; Saturdays at 8:00 p.m.- February 2, 9, 16 & 23; Sunday February 10th at 3:00 p.m.\*  
Dinner theater package also available.

\*The performance on February 10th will be sign-interpreted.

Assistive Listening Devices available upon request on February 8, 9 & 10.

For more information or to order tickets, please call 856-303-7620 or visit  
[www.BridgePlayersTheatre.com](http://www.BridgePlayersTheatre.com)

*Funding is made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts from a grant to the Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Department of Resource Conservation, Division of Cultural Affairs & Tourism.*

## N W J A D

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

Is Proud To Host Our Fundraising Event

Saturday, January 12, 2008

Doors Open at 2:00 p.m.

Members & Senior Citizen: \$8 - Non-members: \$10

You must be 21 years and up to play.

Limit 150 People !

WIN CASH

Refreshments will be sold (No Alcoholic Beverages will be served); PLEASE donate dessert.

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

For directions or more information,

[www.nwjad.org](http://www.nwjad.org)

or contact us at [NWJAD@nwajd.org](mailto:NWJAD@nwajd.org)

# Communicator Signboard

## *“Sign” up Today!*



### ***American Sign Language Classes Start January 8*** **The Lake Drive School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children**

Presents sign language classes for families who have a child with hearing loss, educators, and everyone interested in learning how to sign.

Beginner and Intermediate Classes will be taught by Suzanne Maglio and Linda Russell, Teachers of the Deaf at The Lake Drive School.

Tuesdays, January 8 to March 18, 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

\$50 for ten classes

Professional development credits available for educators.

The Lake Drive School, 10 Lake Drive, Mountain Lakes, NJ, 973-299-0166, [www.mtlakes.org/ld](http://www.mtlakes.org/ld)  
The Lake Drive Program offers New Jersey's most comprehensive continuum of educational opportunities for children with hearing loss from birth through high school graduation.

To “sign” up or for more information, contact Beth Bachmann at 973-299-0166, [bbachmann@mtlakes.org](mailto:bbachmann@mtlakes.org).

## **Garden State Deaf Bowlers League**

**Proudly presents**

**7TH ANNUAL MOONLIGHT/NO-TAP BOWLING EVENT**

**\$2,000 PRIZE GIVEAWAY BASED ON 40 COUPLES**

**1:4 PRIZE RATIO**

Saturday February 9, 2008 - 10:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

at Laurel Lanes, 2825 Route 73, South Maple Shade, NJ 08052

\$80 Per Couple. Couple may be male/female or female/female.

(Breakdown of entry fee: \$25 prize fee, \$13 lane fee, \$2 expense fee, \$40 per person, \$80 per couple)

Admission will open at 8:30 p.m. and close 9:45 p.m.

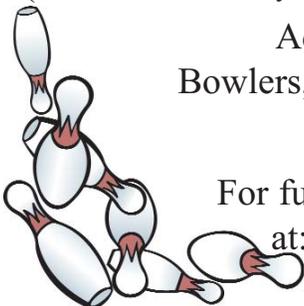
Bowlers, please bring your own partner. We will not set up teams.

There will be a bake sale and 50/50 Chance.

For further inquiries, contact Loraine Kegerreis, Chairperson,

at: [Minnie10@myway.com](mailto:Minnie10@myway.com) or call 609-499-3075 TTY

after 6:00 p.m. Monday - Friday.



# Communicator Signboard

## AMERICAN DEAF EXPOSITION

Hosts



**United States America Deaf Basketball Organization (USADBO)  
Second Annual Men And Women Basketball Tournament  
March 26, 27, 28, and 29, 2008  
at PAL Parsippany Police Athletic League  
22 Baldwin Road Parsippany, New Jersey 07054 (off Route 46)**

\$40 Early Bird Combo on Sale  
\$45 before December 19, \$50 before January 19, \$60 before February 19.  
Full Price Combo Ticket at Door.

*Purchase in advance as we expect this event to be sold out with capacity at 1,100.*

Breakdown of events and costs during March 26, 27, 28 & 29, 2008

Registration - \$10 (all must pay one time)

Wednesday, March 26 - Evening Entertainment \$10.

Thursday, March 27 - Preliminary Games for 8 Men and 4 Women teams \$10.

Friday evening, March 28 - Semi-Finals games \$20.

Saturday afternoon, March 29 - Championship Games \$10.

Saturday Award and Entertainment Night \$20.

Program Book \$10.

USADBO Hall of Fame Buffet Friday, March 28 - 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
not included. Price and Inductee to be announced in 2008.

16 Vendor Booth Exhibit - Refreshments on sale!

Make check payable to American Deaf Exposition and  
mail to: P.O. Box 251, Carle Place, NY 11514

For Hotel, Direction and Free Brochure, please go to:  
[www.njdeafexposition.com](http://www.njdeafexposition.com) and [www.usadbo.com](http://www.usadbo.com)

# Calendar of Events 2008

## **DDHH Advisory Council Meeting**

Friday January 25

East Brunswick Public Library

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

Call DDHH office to confirm your attendance:

609-984-7281 V/TTY

**NJSD/MKSD 125th Anniversary**  
and

**NJSD/MKSD Alumni Association**

80th Anniversary

October 10, 11 and 12, 2008

Columbus Weekend

Check [www.mkzd.org](http://www.mkzd.org) for more information:

Thomas Sparks, Jr., Chairman,

[PhySparks70@aol.com](mailto:PhySparks70@aol.com)

856-374-1043 FAX

## **Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day 2008**

Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson, NJ

Saturday June 14

### **DDHH Office - Days Closed**

New Year's Day, Martin Luther King's Birthday (1/21), Lincoln's Birthday (2/12 ),

Washington's Birthday (2/18) Observed

Regular Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

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

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