

July/August 2008
Vol. 29 No. 7

Monthly Communicator

Jon S. Corzine, Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner

David C. Alexander, Director



Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day, Great Adventure - Good Fun and Success For Everyone!!



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*Produced by DHS
Office of Publications*

Director's Corner

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



On June 30, the New Jersey state budget was signed by Governor Corzine. The new budget embraces the broad themes of reducing the size and cost of government. The major priorities of this budget include the education of our children, providing property tax relief and caring for our most vulnerable citizens.

I am pleased to announce good news. The DDHH budget will continue at Fiscal Year 07-08 funding levels. This will enable DDHH to continue to fund the vital programs and services needed by New Jersey residents who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

One vital program operated by the DDHH is the 'Equipment Distribution Program,' which provides specialized telecommunication and audio/visual safety equipment at no cost to New Jersey residents who meet eligibility requirements. The equipment that is currently part of the distribution program includes: text, amplified and CapTel phones; audio/visual fire and carbon monoxide detectors; baby cry alert systems and artificial larynx devices.

The DDHH recognizes that many families are unable to afford the high cost of this specialized equipment. Our 'Equipment Distribution Program' ensures that despite one's economic status, all people who are Deaf or hard of hearing will be able to obtain the assistive technology necessary for communication access and independence. If you would like more information about the program, please call 800-792-8339 V/TTY or 609-984-7281.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David C. Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Reminder:

The deadline for the October issue is September 1. The deadline for the September issue was August 1.

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 above e-mail address.

Newsletter Subscription:

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

Monthly Communicator

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The Monthly Communicator is published by the New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), a state agency. DDHH provides information, referral, and advocacy to service recipients. Information or articles provided by others does not imply endorsement by DDHH or the State of New Jersey. There are currently 8,700 copies of the MC distributed monthly.

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

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am the hearing father of a Deaf child and I had concerns with the Letter to the Editor which appeared in Monthly Communicator's June issue written by Carol Granaldi.

My son is "culturally Deaf" if I dare perpetuate the use of that term. Many of the families that read your newsletter are "culturally Deaf". I see Monthly Communicator on the kitchen tables of Deaf people. And I would like to point out that the Deaf culture provides a wonderful support system for those of us with deafness in our bloodline. Examine the case of any child born Deaf who is failed by technology. ASL always works for them and doesn't need batteries.

My point is that such submissions as Ms. Granaldi's have an anti-ASL agenda and should be identified as such. Deaf and other ASL users may be unaware of such perspectives, as my family was at one time.

Sincerely,
Peter J Cherichello



Why Hearing Aids are not Appliances - A Rebuttal

Submitted by Granville Y. Brady, Jr., Au.D., F.A.A.A.

In response to the article "User Adjustable and Friendly Digital Hearing Aid" written by Hank Douma which appeared in the June issue of Monthly Communicator, it is all too common that some hearing impaired people think that anyone with a laptop computer and access to Internet hearing aid companies can achieve the perfect degree of hearing at a bargain base-ment price. After working with hearing aids for the past 35 years, I have learned these devices have advanced to the level where they are significantly better each year. Likewise, the digital programmable instruments may be easier to fit in some cases, but their complexity and myriad of features often makes them harder to adjust.

The all-too common perception that a person can "buy a hearing aid", but must be fitted with eyewear might be one reason why insurance companies and federal agencies consider them to be a consumer product and not a medically necessary device. This is coupled with a recent trend by Internet companies that have low operating costs to push products out with a "if we throw enough against the wall some of it might stick" mentality. How can a person with an uncorrected hearing loss of many years begin to grasp the need for changing neural plasticity in response to auditory stimulation by getting a hearing aid in the mail?

Mr. Douma believed that his audiologist became tired of his "complaints" as the hearing aids showed advanced age and his hearing undoubtedly grew worse. By programming his own hearing aids, he believes he has control over the situation. Admittedly the audiologist cannot experience what he hears. However, Mr. Douma cannot provide an objective assessment through real ear measures or sound field as to the efficacy of his Internet instruments. The allegation that hearing aids do not need the services of a licensed professional furthers the argument that hearing aids are more like television sets than medical devices to rehabilitate a loss of sensory function. If hearing aids continue to be viewed as consumer goods, who will be here to fit and adjust children with hearing losses? Audiologists surely will not be able to compete with Internet hearing aid companies and will no doubt fade from the medical community. Hospitals are already feeling pressure from low reimbursement rates and have reduced their audiology departments.

There are medical-legal issues that play into this as well. If a licensed audiologist tests a person who later buys hearing aids from the Internet and the loss is exacerbated because the aids are too powerful, who is to blame? If a person has an earmold impression taken by a professional and the resulting hearing aid causes a pressure sore or abrasion in a diabetic, who takes responsibility? Many older people take blood thinners that can result in excessive bleeding. What happens when a person attempts to take his own earmold impression and cuts the sensitive tissue in the ear canal?

Fortunately, the Internet sales of hearing aids might be short lived. Several respected hearing aid manufacturers refuse to sell their products to any company that deals directly with the public without professional oversight. Hearing aids cost a lot of money as does the effect of untreated hearing loss. People must decide whether having professional guidance is the best course of action or relying on the "Net to keep them hearing." Ask yourself the question, "Would I want my child or parent to get mail order hearing aids?"

Internet Hearing Aid Purchases: Caveat Emptor

by Patricia E. Connelly, Ph.D.

Mr. Hank Douma is to be congratulated on his mechanical proficiency and enterprising spirit. These characteristics have enabled him to adjust his own hearing aids and to use the Internet as a resource for new instruments. However, not every person with hearing loss shares these traits. Most continue to rely on professionals for their audiologic assessments, counseling, purchase advice, reprogramming, rehabilitative expertise, repairs, and advocacy. This reply is for those individuals who are not so facile with a screwdriver or a mouse.

The use of the word “middleman” by Mr. Douma directly and incontrovertibly refers to professionals licensed to dispense hearing aids, and this is a disparagement to people who dedicate their lives to helping others hear better and appreciate a better quality of life. A middleman is a person who plays only an economic role between the producer of goods and the retailer or consumer.

Licensed audiologists and hearing instrument specialists do far more for their patients than simply mark-up an item for resale. Among other things, they advise their patients that it is in their best interests to consider retiring older hearing aids (five-six years old) for new technology and a better solution to improving their hearing. Older hearing aids need more frequent repair. After all, they typically work 16 hours a day and are miniaturized amplification and dynamic compression systems, even the analog ones. It is unreasonable to expect these devices to work without repair for that long under the varying conditions of temperature, humidity, and handling, especially for New Jersey summers. In addition, original manufacturers’ parts are often not available after five years making their replacement impossible when one of these electronic components malfunction.

The best that can be hoped for in the repair of older hearing aids is an approximation of the original sound quality and dynamic processing; regrettably, that approximation often does not meet the user’s expectations. It’s unfortunate that Mr. Douma felt that he was “at the mercy of the ‘professional’ with digital hearing aids” since he’s free to exercise his option to seek advice from any another licensed person in New Jersey. His use of the quotation marks around the word “professional” seems sarcastic as if to question or discredit the people whose life-calling is to help others hear better. I am sorry that he did not have a favorable relationship with his audiologist because every hearing aid user should enjoy trust and have confidence in theirs.

As to the hearing aid professional’s reliance on what the “user tells him” in response to adjustments, all hearing

aid users should insist that their audiologist or hearing instrument specialist use an electroacoustic verification tool called real ear measurements. “Real ear” measures exactly what the hearing aid is doing in the user’s ear canal in terms of gain, output, frequency response, distortion, and the changes imposed by tweaking. These measurements are objective and accurate. They are a tool that establishes a personalized benchmark for each hearing aid’s performance as influenced by the acoustic characteristics of the user’s own ear. When linked to the user’s subjective impressions of the loudness, sound quality, and speech clarity of the hearing aid, real ear measurements serve a valuable function. The results are all visible to the user either on a screen or in print. All other hearing aids that a user owns can be objectively compared to this benchmark. When an aid is returned from repair, it can be restored to this standard.

If a person’s hearing changes or a new hearing aid is purchased, a new objective measurement is made and documented. Professionals no longer rely on what the users tell them, they measure it for themselves so that adjustments can be as accurate as technology allows. This is certainly not to diminish the hearing aid user’s input, rather its purpose is to objectify the user’s feedback about adjustments so that they can be replicated at any time using this tool. Speech mapping is another type of electroacoustic verification measure for validating a fitting. Either way, let it be known that we have very sophisticated tools to allow for accurate fittings and their documentation, tools that link the hearing aid’s performance to the user’s listening preferences. This service is certainly not available from the Internet warehouses.

Finally, for those individuals contemplating purchasing hearing aids over the Internet, well, let the buyer beware. Your hearing aid professional is under no obligation whatsoever to make an ear impression, educate you on the instrument’s full features and their use, troubleshoot feedback (that darned whistling), help you with repairs, adjustments, new earmolds, clean out the wax or grime that’s clogging the receiver port or microphone, stuck batteries, or warranty issues for any hearing aids you purchased over the Internet. Who will help you select new instruments should the ones you purchased not be satisfactory for any reason:

- You will have no professional relationship with anyone other than your home computer to assist you with long-term rehabilitative and adjustment issues. You will have no advocate with the manufacturer should there be a product issue. You have no state agency

Advocacy and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Submitted by Paul Arabas

One of the definitions in the dictionary for advocacy is “to be in support of a cause.” There are about 31 million people in the United States with a hearing loss. Ask some of these people if they are involved in advocacy for hard of hearing people and they will probably say, “I don’t have time for advocacy.” That is an interesting statement because you are always advocating.

Every time you buy a product, you are advocating for that product and against its competitors. Every time you see an uncaptioned video at a theater or your doctor’s office, or anywhere else, and you don’t complain about it, you are advocating against captioned videos. Every time you go to a play, a church service, a lecture or a movie, and you don’t ask for an assistive listening device, or captioning or whatever accommodations work for you, you are advocating to keep people with a hearing loss excluded from mainstream American life. So don’t think you that you do not have time to advocate.

The only question is, “Are you advocating for things that promote the cause of hearing loss, or are you advocating against them?” Advocacy can occur at four levels: by an individual through self-advocacy or small group of individuals at the grass roots level; at the local level through self-help groups; at the state level through state associations or state government agencies; or at the national level.

Advocacy at the individual level requires that an individual must first be open about their hearing loss and be willing to disclose it to others. A self-advocate knows what is needed to communicate and participate fully and has the confidence to request it from others. They learn all they can about the cause and impact of hearing loss, understand their legislative rights, keep up with the latest technology that can benefit them, and are familiar with community, state and national resources. They routinely practice interactive strategies to enhance communications and reduce stress. An example is to request and use assistive devices at local theaters and thank the manager at the theater for providing them to help hear better.

Advocacy at the local level through self-help groups can be more effective than at the individual level for hard of

hearing causes because more people are involved in the process. Each of the individuals can make contacts and use the support group name to help the cause. An example is asking a local government agency to provide CART and assistive listening devices, so hard of hearing people can better understand what is happening at the meeting. There are three local hearing loss support chapters of the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey: Bergen County chapter, Middlesex County chapter and Ocean/Monmouth County Chapter. Information about these three chapters is available at www.info@hearingloss-NJ.org.

At the state associations and government agency level, there are several organizations representing people with hearing loss in New Jersey. One such group is the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey (HLAA-NJ). At the government level, the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH) advocates for people with hearing loss and works collaboratively with consumer groups. The HLAA-NJ group, for example, has representation and provides input to the DDHH advisory council. These groups advocate together for accessible accommodations, including full communication access at public events and many other services for people with a hearing loss in the state of New Jersey.

At the national level, organizations promote new and improved technology, medical research, and legislation to help people across the country with hearing loss. There are at least three national organizations of interest to people with a hearing loss. The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) in Bethesda, MD, the Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA) in Rockford, IL near Chicago, and the Say What Club (SWC) an Internet based group for people with hearing loss. One example of advocacy at this level is to pass legislation to provide tax credits for people who purchase a hearing aid, in order to keep costs reasonable. Another example is HLAA coordinating Walk4Hearing programs in several cities to make hearing loss an issue of national concern and to raise funds to provide financial support at the national and local level. These Walks serve to promote the organization’s vital work and mission of outreach and advocacy to people with hearing loss.

Continued next page

The following are some interesting questions you might ask yourself about advocacy:

- ❖ When was the first time you advocated for yourself and why?;
- ❖ When did you become an advocate for other people?;
- ❖ Why did you pick the organization you currently represent?; and,
- ❖ Tell about a touching or funny experience that has happened as an advocate.

Remember nothing happens if you do not take action!

A successful advocate should be aware of legal rights under the ADA. In the past, many older Americans experienced age discrimination in the work place, especially if they had a hearing loss. Many other people with disabilities, including those with a hearing loss, are unaware of several laws which protect their civil rights. Others are reluctant to ask for accommodations that would help them participate in everyday activities. The ADA is comprehensive federal legislation affirming the rights of persons with disabilities, including hearing loss, to equal access.

The ADA was enacted in 1990 to protect people with physical or cognitive disabilities. It ensures that all Americans have access to employment (Title I), public services and public transportation (Title II), public accommodations (Title III), and telecommunications (Title IV). The ADA states that no individual may be discriminated against on the basis of a disability in the “full and equal enjoyment ” of the services or facilities of any place of “public accommodations.” Because hearing loss is considered a disability, you are protected under the law.

If you feel discriminated against, you have several options. First try negotiation, then try mediation and if that fails you have the following legal options:

- ❖ In employment, file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC);
- ❖ In public accommodations, file a complaint with the US Attorney General, who may file lawsuits to stop discrimination and obtain monetary damages and penalties.
- ❖ In transportation, file a complaint with the US Department of Transportation.

- ❖ In state and local government operations, file a complaint with federal agencies to be designated by the US Attorney General.
- ❖ In telecommunications, file a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission.

If you live in the state of New Jersey you have another option. You can file a complaint with the Division on Civil Rights (DCR), which enforces the state’s Law Against Discrimination (LAD). The DCR investigates your case for you and are essentially your lawyers. The LAD may be more powerful in New Jersey than the ADA and just requires “reasonable accommodations,” so you may want to follow that route. If you live in another state, you need to find out if your state provides you with a similar option.

Experience has shown that an individual seeking legal remedies covering advocacy in the workplace or other situations, should consider the following steps:

- ❖ Understand the problem considering the viewpoint of all interested parties;
- ❖ Think about possible solutions being creative & brainstorming options;
- ❖ See if there are any precedents;
- ❖ Be sure the person you are speaking to has the authority to make changes;
- ❖ Be persistent, polite and firm. Shouting and screaming is rarely productive;
- ❖ Praise and give thanks for good efforts to accommodate hearing loss.

This article is intended to help hard of hearing people realize that advocacy happens whether we like it or not. It provides an education about advocacy and the ADA and encourages you to become a better self-advocate for others with a hearing loss.

Comments about this article may be sent to the author at the following address:

Paul Arabas
12 Douglas Drive
Long Valley, NJ 07853
pfarabas@yahoo.com

DDHH Hosts Regional Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network Trainings

Submitted by Jason Weiland, DDHH Field Representative

Since the 2005 natural disaster of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, the United States has stepped up their planning and understanding of emergency preparedness within the community.

Katrina caught many unprepared for the devastation and chaos in the weeks and months ahead.



Among those lost in the provision of services were individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, hard of hearing, late-deafened, and individuals with cochlear implants.

Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (TDI Inc.) received a grant in 2005 to develop the Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network (CEPIN) whose mission focuses on community emergency preparedness for those who are Deaf or hard of hearing. The project, which was developed with a US Department of Homeland Security grant, is the only emergency preparedness training that focuses on the specific needs of this population.

In April 2008, New Jersey joined a growing number of other states in providing this important training to Deaf and hard of hearing individuals as well as emergency responders. This training was provided through a partnership with the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness, and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management. Trainings were provided in Sayreville (Middlesex County), Egg Harbor Township (Atlantic County), and Lyndhurst (Bergen County). Neil McDevitt, the national coordinator of CEPIN, was joined during the week by presenters Lise Hamlin of Virginia and Andrew Perlman of Pennsylvania. Glenna Cooper of Oklahoma was hard at work during the week with

logistics at the three locations, registration, and other technical aspects of the event.

Attended by more than 90 people and (with 18 of 21 counties represented by emergency personnel) the three regional trainings aim to bring first responders, emergency management coordinators, and service providers together with Deaf and hard of hearing



consumers for the purpose of developing a strong collaboration between the community and emergency personnel. Perlman, who is also a fire fighter, worked with the consumers in attendance and led a discussion on the differences between an emergency and a disaster. Many came away with a better understanding of how emergency personnel operate during a disaster. In addition, they also learned some basic steps to take in order to prepare themselves and their families in the event of a disaster. Learning to take the initiative to prepare your family can range from setting up a “Go Kit,” which includes necessities like hearing aid batteries, change of clothes, non-perishable food, water, a portable radio, pager charger, and other important items.

Ms. Hamlin worked with emergency responders and personnel during their discussion of the morning module, “Understanding Hearing Loss and Communication Barriers.” Hamlin covered the various aspects of hearing loss and many misconceptions that service personnel may have regarding people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. Before lunch, both groups came back together to share details from their separate sessions. Both groups came away with a better understanding of each other and their roles,

overseeing the people you buy the product from or consumer protections guaranteed by the purchase as you do when you seek them from a person licensed by our state to dispense hearing aids;

- You might be in control for tweaking to your heart's content, but you certainly have no control when it comes to the fitting expertise, care, education, advocacy, and inter-personal satisfaction that come with trusting your audiologist or hearing aid dispenser;
- And you have no recourse should you become dissatisfied, disillusioned, or discouraged with those Internet hearing aids.

When you need to replace your old hearing aids or are thinking it's time to consider your first ones, trust your fitting to a licensed professional. Internet purchases of hearing aids may be satisfactory for low-maintenance people with great mechanical inclinations and computer skills who want to be in control. However, it leaves much to be desired for anything more than putting the devices in your ears and tweaking them. You deserve and should insist that your hearing aids be fit personally by someone licensed to do so, one who keeps abreast of new developments and technologies through continuing professional education, is accountable to a code of ethical conduct and governmental oversight, has the necessary equipment to individualize and optimize your fitting, and is available to you in person. Caveat emptor to those who venture into the Internet for their hearing aid purchase.

Patricia E. Connelly, PhD CCC-A ABA
Director – Audiology
UMDNJ – University Hospital, Newark, NJ
Licensed Audiologist and Hearing Aid Dispenser

which made way for the afternoon session.

After lunch, both groups combined participated in an activity where they were asked to become members of a newly developed task force to ensure the safety of consumers before, during, and after an emergency event. No communication access (CART, Interpreters, and ALDs) were provided during this activity. The goal was to facilitate communication and ideas among members. The scene was truly educational for not only the emergency personnel but also the consumers. In the end, it was agreed that communication access should be a top priority for including people with hearing loss in the planning and implementation of emergency services.

NJ Office of Emergency Management and NJ DDHH agree the training is a worthwhile one and look forward to continue providing it. In addition, the division will continue to work with NJ OEM to provide direct educational opportunities for the community. NJ DDHH provided ASL interpreters and CART for the project while TDI, Inc. provided ALDs. Special thanks goes to Neil McDevitt, Lise Hamlin, Andrew Perlman, Glenna Cooper, and Mary Goepfert for a wonderful three days. To learn more about CEPIN and TDI, visit www.cepintdi.org.

New CDs and DVDs Acquired by Library for the Blind and Handicapped

Trenton, NJ - Christine Olsen, Coordinator for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program at the New Jersey State Library for the Blind and Handicapped (LBH), is delighted to announce that effective June 9, 2008, the Library offers new selections of American Sign Language CDs and DVDs.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program received funding from the DDHH to purchase this collection of over 230 CDs/DVDs. The collection includes many American Sign Language (ASL) lessons, translations of classic literature and children's stories, original ASL poetry, drama, stories and humor, biographies, history, interpreting demonstrations and videos on health and parenting. These CDs/DVDs are available to anyone in New Jersey and may be borrowed through your local library from LBH. Simply make the request at your local library, and you will be able to pick them up there. You may also borrow these materials from LBH directly. The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08618.

For more information, contact Christine Olsen. She may be reached at (877) 882-5593 TTY/VP, (888) 671-6983 Voice VP, (609) 530-6384 Fax, or by e-mail at colsen@njstatelib.org. People who wish to use voice to contact her may use NJ Relay, which may be accessed by dialing 711 from any telephone.

Celebrate

NJSD/MKSD 125th Anniversary
Alumni Association 80th Anniversary
25th Katzenbach Parent Staff Organization
October 10 – 12, 2008
Columbus Holiday Weekend
At NJSD/MKSD Campus

\$85 Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Saturday night banquet program book and souvenir gift included. \$100 after July 1. \$70 Saturday all day, Banquet program book and souvenir gift included. \$85 after July 1. No Refunds!

Schedule of Events

Friday, October 10, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Registration, Opening Ceremony, and Student Performances, Middle School Soccer game, and High School Volleyball game, Academic Bowl and School Homecoming

Saturday, October 11, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Registration, Soccer game, Hall of Fame, Wall of Fame, Museum Tour, 50th Anniversary Eastern Basketball Championship

Saturday, October 11, 7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Sit Down Banquet at Angeloni's Cedar Garden, Adults only, No Children
661 Route #33, Hamilton, NJ (Adults only),
DJ Supalee Music Entertainment, and Photograph Souvenir

Sunday, October 12, 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

KPSO picnic, Community Forum Senior Future Home, and Closing Ceremony at NJSD/MKSD

Hotel Reservation Information

Hyatt Regency Princeton; 102 Carnegie Center; Princeton, NJ 08540

Friday, October 10 – Monday, October 13

\$129 per room, plus taxes, maximum 4 adults in a room

Cut-off date Friday, August 1

Reservations received after the cut-off date will be based upon availability and will be given at the special group rate. Reservations, 800-233-1234, Voice

Banquet Menu at Angeloni's Cedar Gardens

Appetizers, Fresh Tossed Garden Salad, Penne Pasta, Roasted Half Spring Chicken or Roast Top Sirloin or Baked Flounder, Dinner Rolls, Roasted Potato, Green Beans, Cake, Coffee, Tea, Decaf, & Soda, Cash Bar

For information and directions: www.mkzd.org

Thomas C. Sparks, Jr., Chairman PhySparks70@aol.com, 856-374-1043 FAX

Somerset Mother-Daughter Team named SBA's 2008 New Jersey Small Business Persons of the Year

In 1996, Kathy Kady-Hopkins and her mom, Chris Sherwood took a leap of faith and started ASL Interpreter Referral Service, Inc. from their New Brunswick homes with a \$2,000 investment. Twelve years later, they find themselves as the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) 2008 New Jersey Small Business Persons of the Year.

Kathy is the president and Chris is the vice president of ASL Interpreter Referral Service, Inc., a Somerset-based firm that specializes in providing interpreters (signers) on a 24/7 basis for individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or for those who are also deaf and blind.

In making the announcement, SBA New Jersey District Director James A. Kocsi said that Kady-Hopkins and Sherwood were selected for the award based on criteria that include: Staying Power (a substantial history of an established business); Growth in Number of Employees; Increase in Sales; Financial Strength of the Company; Innovativeness of Product or Service Offered; Response to Adversity and Contributions to Aid Community Oriented Projects. The mother daughter team was nominated for the award by Rosemary Dente, vice president/SBA business development officer for Susquehanna Bank.

"Kathy and Chris are your typical entrepreneurs; they are risk takers, people with vision and passion and an understanding of what it takes to nurture an idea and build it into a successful company," said Kocsi. "All across New Jersey there are companies just like ASL Interpreter Referral Service, Inc. that are making enormous contributions to the local economy. It is small business owners like Kathy Kady-Hopkins and Chris Sherwood who are meeting payrolls and providing innovative services that shape the landscape of our economy."

Kathy, who has been hard of hearing since birth, worked for AT&T prior to starting the company. She sold telecommunications products to people with disabilities, and was involved in implementing the company's telecommunications relay service for the deaf. She also became well versed in the Americans with Disabilities Act law and managed AT&T's in-house interpreting service nationwide.

So when AT&T was downsizing and offering compensation packages to its employees, Kathy accepted the buyout. "I always dreamed of owning my own business," said Kathy. "I have two aunts and an uncle and cousins who are deaf. My hus-

band Paul is deaf. I knew there was a need for this service and how frustrating it was for people to get an interpreter. I decided we were going to change the market for these services."

So Kathy approached her mom about going into business together. At the time, Chris owned Aura Associates, a training company that specialized in management skills. "When Kathy approached me about starting the business it was difficult for me to break away from my business, but I knew it was the right thing to do," said Chris. "We just did it and the business took off quickly."

"The key to this business is that we are providing a 24/7 service to our clients," said Chris. "A call can come from anyone at anytime and we are ready to help that client. It could be from a hospital emergency room with a real life and death situation, and we are there to send someone there on the spot."

Both women credit the SBA for helping them with the growth of their business. They used a \$157,200 SBA-backed loan from Temecula Valley Bank to purchase an office condo in 2005. The new 1200 square foot office space allows for a training facility, where clients can receive training in basic sign language, sensitivity training and TTY relay training.

One of the very first jobs ASL Interpreter Referral Service, Inc. did was to provide an interpreter at a Somerville campaign stop for Bob Dole during his run for president in 1996.

Today, ASL Interpreter Referral Service, Inc. has grown to nine employees, works with over 200 independent contractors and handles approximately 4,500 requests, annually, for interpreter services for their clients throughout New Jersey and parts of New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

As part of SBA's National Small Business Week festivities (April 21st – April 25th), Kady-Hopkins and Sherwood were honored in Washington, D.C. by SBA Administrator Steve Preston, where they competed for the title of SBA National Small Business Person of the Year with representatives of 49 other states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Guam. President Bush honored all 53 winners at a White House ceremony and reception that he hosted.

Kady-Hopkins and Sherwood were also honored by the SBA New Jersey District Office and the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce at the Annual New Jersey Small Business Week Awards Luncheon on May 2nd at the Pines Manor in Edison.



All in the Family---Chris Sherwood (seated left) and her daughter Kathy Kady-Hopkins (seated right) were named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2008 New Jersey Small Business Persons of the Year. The co-owners of ASL Interpreter Referral Service, Inc. of Somerset are seen here with their SBA Award. Standing behind Chris is her daughter Lynda Yetnifoff (Kathy's sister) and standing behind Kathy is her other sister Kim Asack. Both sisters work at ASL.

New Jersey Conference on Substance Abuse & Co-Existing Disabilities

Thursday, October 30, 2008

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

NJ Hospital Association Conference Center
Princeton, NJ



Keynote address:

Dennis Moore, Ed.D., Director

Substance Abuse & Disability Resources Issues

Wright State University, School of Medicine

\$40 Includes
Lunch and CEUs

Sponsored by Cerebral Palsy of New Jersey



Funding provided by NJ Dept. of Human Services, Division of Addiction Services

**For Scholarship Information
or to Register visit us online**

at www.cpoofnj.org

Toll Free: 888-322-1918

TTY: 609-882-0620

Marie Katzenbach School For The Deaf Sign Language Classes Fall 2008

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

Marie Katzenbach School For The Deaf
P.O. Box 535 - 320 Sullivan Way
West Trenton, New Jersey 08628

Tuesday evenings

7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

October 7 through December 16 (No class November 4)

\$70 (Walk-in registration is \$80)

**Note: No refunds after the third class,
checks will be deposited after the third session.**

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 more non-voiced.

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

Note: Classes may be split by ability/experience depending on enrollment. Students enrolling may change classes at the beginning to fit their needs.

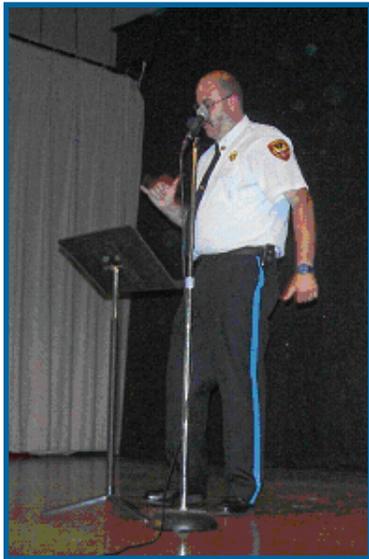
For more information, call Rebecca Woodward, Program Coordinator, 609-530-3131 or 530-3130 or
Rebecca_Woodward@MKSD.state.nj.us

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.

Deaf awareness Day at Silver Bay

Submitted by Debbie Breece

Over 350 students and families from locations throughout New Jersey attended the 11th Annual Deaf Awareness Day hosted by Silver Bay Elementary in Toms River on May 15. The theme for the event was “You’re Somebody’s



Hero.” The objective was to teach the students that a hero does not need a red cape and have the ability to fly. For that matter, a hero does not need the ability to hear. Bert Rypkema, our honored guest and Deaf firefighter, was the perfect role model for that lesson. Bert emphasized the importance of follow-

ing your dreams. Our favorite firefighter, Bert stressed the value of his hands and eyes which enable him to accomplish anything that anyone else can achieve.



Our moms were honored with a song; “You’re Somebody’s Hero” interpreted by

Babette Lipnick. There was not a dry eye in the house. The entertainment continued with perform-

ances from Toms River High School East, Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, Summerfield School, Toms River Intermediate North and our own Silver Bay Elementary. Deaf heroes such as Marlee Matlin, Curtis Baird, William Hoy, Luther Taylor and Curtis Pride were among those highlighted.

Intermediate North and teacher/interpreter Linda Sitek honored her mentor, a local and influential Deaf woman, Theresa Reilly who was in attendance. Mrs. Sitek presented her



mentor with a bouquet of roses. The show was followed by an outdoor lunch which allowed the children to visit with old friends and make new friends. It was an enjoyable day thanks to the hard work and dedication of interpreters, Natalie Callis, Babette Lipnick, Jana Shapiro-Wamsley, speech therapist Cindy Johnson and paraprofessional Jo Ann Paramonte.

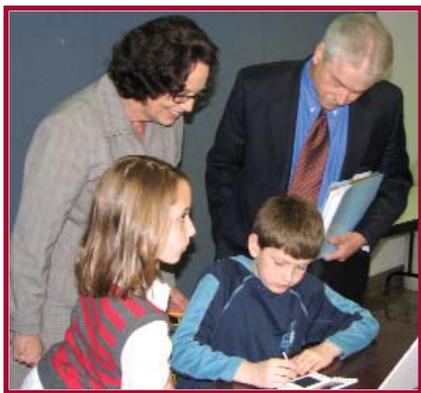


To all that joined us ... thank you for coming.

American Sign Language Story Hour - May

Submitted by Christine Olsen

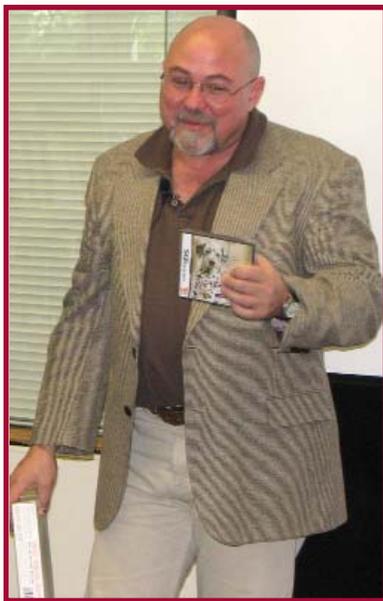
Pete Campione, founder and owner of the Kindred Souls Canine Center in Howell, NJ is a frequent visitor to the New Jersey State Library for the Blind and Handicapped's monthly Children's American Sign



Luke Stintzcum demonstrates the Nintendog program to MKSD student as NJLBH Director Faith Lundgren and DDHH Director David Alexander enjoy watching them.

Language Story Hour. Since last October, Campione has attended the Story Hour with therapy dogs to interact with the children. He has taught the children about caring for dogs and dog safety; each child has written an essay on their favorite dog.

Campione was a special guest at the May 13 Story Hour, when he presented Nintendog (virtual dogs) to the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf and the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission School. The surprise gifts were presented by Campion, in conjunction with Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs of Morris Plains.



Pete Campione, Owner, Kindred Souls Canine Center.

The May program featured Campione reading his own book, *The St. Bernard is in the Yard*. Three teenage volunteers from Kindred Souls (Kelsey Kearney, Jeremy and Luke Stintzcum) demonstrated the Nintendog program, which runs on the Nintendo DS pocket-sized station.

The program tied together the themes that the Story Hour

has presented over the past year: literacy, responsibility, empowerment and self esteem. The Nintendog program provides the experience of actually owning and caring for a dog.

Through it, the children pick the breed they want, name the dog, fill the water bowl, train the dog, and even take the dog for a walk. The dogs are programmed to be amazingly lifelike and respond individually to the children.



Kelsey Kearney demonstrates Nintendog game while Lauren Kafka interprets.

The Story Hour was signed by ASL interpreters provided by the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a division of the New Jersey Department of Human Services. News 12 and MTV videotaped the program.

The Story Hour is part of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program offered by LBH; LBH is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton. For more information about the DHHAP program, contact Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the DHAAP Program, at 877-882-5593 TTY or colsen@njstatelib.org. The last ASL Story Hour at LBH was held on June 3, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.



Luke Stintzcum shows MKSD students how to use the stylus.

American Sign Language Story Hour - June

Submitted by Christine Olsen

Penguin at the Library!

Norma E. Blake, New Jersey State Librarian and the Library Journal's 2008 Librarian of the Year, was June's special guest at the New Jersey State Library



Librarian Norma E. Blake reads [Tacky the Penguin](#) while Lori Adams interprets.

for the Blind and Handicapped's monthly Children's American Sign Language Story Hour. Ms. Blake read *Tacky the Penguin* by Helen Lester to the Marie H. Katzenbach

School for the Deaf and the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission School.

The June educational segment, funded by the Friends of the Library for the Blind and Handicapped, featured Dassen, an adult African penguin, from Jenkinson's Aquarium in Point Pleasant Beach, NJ.

Therapy dogs from Kindred Souls in Howell, NJ attended to interact with the children. The dogs help teach the children about different dog breeds,

dog safety and how to approach an animal.

The Story Hour was signed by ASL interpreters provided by the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, a division of the New Jersey Department of Human Services.



Dassen, an African Penguin from Jenkinson's Aquarium, visits the Story Hour.

The Story Hour is part of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program offered by LBH; LBH is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton.



MKSD students with Dassen and Jenkinson's biologist, Carla Demarest.

For more information about the DHHAP program, contact Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the DHHAP Program, at 877-882-5593 TTY or colsen@njstatelib.org. The ASL Story Hours at NJLBH will resume in October.

Petway Elementary School - May

Submitted by Tara McMenamini

Another Busy Month

The fifth graders at Petway Elementary School concluded a very stressful week of NJASK testing with an extremely special event: Petway's Role Model Breakfast. During the year, the students were asked to write a five paragraph essay



featuring the positive influence their role model has had on their life. A student from each class was then asked to read their essay to the audience. Gerardo Franco was chosen from the Deaf Education fifth grade classroom. His chosen role model was

Debbie Braid. Mrs. Braid is a substitute interpreter in our district and mother to a Deaf daughter, Samantha Braid. Mrs. Braid was extremely touched



by the kind words of Gerardo. She is a true advocate of our students and program!

Hammers were banging and nails were flying as the Deaf

Education students cheerfully assembled their tool boxes during a recent trip to Home Depot on Tuesday, May 13, 2008. A team from Home Depot was assembled and waiting to assist the students

with their projects. As they entered, each student was given a hammer, a wood kit and an orange apron which they proudly wore as they banged away. After about 30 minutes, each student was holding a beautiful wooden tool box. We are happy to report that no one left with a bruised finger. The students assembled their tool boxes with ease. We may have a group of carpenters in our future! The builder's workshop was followed by a tour of the different departments. Overall, the students enjoyed their trip.



The fun continued on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 as the Little Theatre of the Deaf (LTD) performed for all the third, fourth and fifth graders in our school. LTD is celebrating their 40th anniversary and we could not have been happier to celebrate it with them. They performed two stories written by Anita Riggio entitled Beware of the Brindlebeast and How Ladybug Got Her Name. It was the perfect way to continue introducing our school community to Deaf Culture. In the afternoon, Petway's nine Deaf students had a private dramatic performance workshop with the LTD actors. This workshop consisted of several theatrical exercises that stimulated creativity, imagination and theatrical inventiveness using visual theatre techniques with the students.



Petway Elementary School - June

Submitted by Tara McMenamin

What better way to say farewell to the school year than by attending Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure. The planning for the trip began weeks a head of time. Teachers Tara



McMenamin and Jennifer Lilla had hoped to bring their students as an end of the year treat, but thought the cost would be too great. Luckily, Donna Lilla of South Jersey Health Care-

Regional Medical Center in Vineland, NJ and Mary Matyas of Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Camden, NJ found out about their intentions. These two ladies “got the ball rolling” on our last Community Outings trip for the 2007-2008 school year. Students from Petway Elementary School were able to attend thanks to several donations from corporations and community organizations mentioned at the end of



this article. The students had a fabulous time! They had the opportunity to build new friendships and meet successful Deaf adults at the 24th annual Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day.

The students were able to experience an opportunity that will company them throughout their lifetime.

Thanks to the following corporations and community organizations: Mr. Florentine of the South Jersey Healthcare-Regional Medical Center who donated the students’ tickets to enter the park, Mr. Bill Bottino from Bottino’s Shop Rite who donated a gift card that provided lunches for our students, Ms.

Barbara Cook from Quality Lincoln-Mercury who donated two vans to transport us to Jackson, NJ, Cheryl Armstrong and the



Vineland High School South Staff who graciously gave monetary donations, Mary Matyas and the staff from Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital in Camden, NJ who graciously gave monetary donations, Ms. Dawn Berry from WalMart in Millville, NJ who provided us with a gift card to buy

snacks for the children, Mrs. Donna Lilla and the staff from the South Jersey Healthcare-Regional Medical Center for



their monetary donations, Mr. Andy Bradway of Bradway Trucking in Vineland, NJ who provided us with two cases of water. Without their support, this trip would have not been possible. Thank you so much.



Save The Dates

November 7, 8 & 9, 2008

NJRID

2008 Biennial Conference

Partner in Interpreting . . .
Reimaging Our Future . . .
Think of the Possibilities

at the
Crowne Plaza
390 Forsgate Drive
Jamesburg, NJ 08831

Start planning to attend now!
Go to www.njrid.org for information updates.

Foundation Program Has Funding For Cart Providers

Are you a CART provider? Do you know of a K-12 school that's holding a graduation or other major function and needs CART services but doesn't have adequate funding? NCRF's new CART for Schools Program has funding for the CART provider. Through this new program, NCRF not only wants to provide access to those who need it, but we also want to expose students and their families, teachers, and school administrations to CART as a viable career path. Contact B. J. Shorak at NCRF at 800-272-6272, ext. 126, Voice for details.

Seeking Authors For Statewide Competition

New Brunswick, NJ...The Unlimited Potential Theater Company (UPTCo), a project of VSA arts of New Jersey (VSA/NJ), is seeking poems, essays, short stories and plays by New Jersey residents eighteen years of age or over for its 15th annual Joyce Indik New Jersey Wordsmith Competition. The contest is open to all writers, and submissions by writers with disabilities are especially encouraged. All works submitted will be juried by a panel of judges who are professionals in the fields of theater and/or literature. Selected works will be showcased at the New Jersey Readers' Theater. The reading will held in late fall 2008 during the Work in Process Forum, a weekend event designed for the sharing and development of new plays in an educational environment. The deadline for submissions is September 3, 2008.

VSA/NJ is a part of the international VSA arts network, an affiliate of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and is dedicated to promoting the creative power of people with disabilities. UPTCo, a project of VSA/NJ, is an inclusive program designed to involve individuals with physical disabilities in all aspects of the performing arts.

Major funding for VSA arts of New Jersey is provided in part by the Middlesex County Cultural & Heritage Commission and NJ State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The content of this program was developed in part through funding provided by the central office of VSA arts, under an award from the U.S. Department of Education. However, the content does not necessarily reflect the policy of the U.S. Department of Education and endorsement should not be assumed.

There is a \$15 entry fee for this competition. To request an application or to receive additional information, contact VSA arts of New Jersey, 703 Jersey Avenue, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, 732-745-3885 Voice, 745-5935 Voice, or 745-3913 TTY, info@vsanj.org, www.vsanj.org.

Deaf Idol

**is coming to
New York City
Saturday, September 13
7:00 p.m.**

**at the Ralph and Ricky Lauren Center for the Performing Arts
Lexington School for the Deaf
30th Avenue and 75th Street
Jackson Heights, NY 11370**

**Ticket sales - \$12 - Order online: deafidol.deafnation.com
All proceeds from this event will go to Lexington School.**

Want to show off your talent? Yes, you can. DeafIdol wants to showcase Deaf and hard of hearing talent with this fun event. For more information on how to become a contestant, contest rules and deadlines - visit deafidol.deafnation.com.

* Star In a Video produced by Deafnation based on the winner's performance from DeafIdol.

This is sure to be a memorable event!
If you cannot attend the show, DeafIdol will be broadcast LIVE on the internet, thanks to Deafnation!

For more information - deafidol@sprint.com.

Hard of Hearing and Deaf Group Forming in Central Jersey

Discussions on technical/topical issues affecting our community

Are you from Central New Jersey and interested in meeting other people who are hard of hearing and understand what it is like living in a hearing world? My name is Barbara and I'm interested in setting up a hard of hearing and deaf group at my home in Colonia, New Jersey. We will meet on Friday August 22 to establish this group and discuss new technology as well as other topics of interest. Space is limited to 25 people. For more information go to Meetup.com and look for "Central Hard of Hearing and Deaf group". If you don't have a computer and you want to attend the meeting call me at 732-499-9425 (voice). If you call (since I am hard of hearing), please leave your name and number and a brief message. Please repeat the message. I look forward to hearing from others who feel they are in the same boat.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Expanding service is seeking a Career Facilitator for the Deaf to join our team!

Do you have a strong work ethic? Are you looking to expand your experiences in Supported Employment? Are you comfortable introducing and promoting your ideas to new people? Are you looking to be part of a terrific team of professionals working toward the same goal? If you answered yes to these questions, we want to speak with you!

Positions available in Somerset, Middlesex and Mercer County. Successful candidates must be fluent in American Sign Language and should have extensive knowledge of Deaf culture and issues pertaining to being Deaf in the work place. Excellent communication and organizational skills required. Computer skills necessary. Marketing/Sales/Education background a plus. Must have own car.

Part Time Career Facilitators up to \$23 an hour. Bridges to Employment is a division of Alternatives, Inc.

Fax resume and cover letter to Alyse Betso at 908-685-2660 or Abetso@alternativesinc.org



Religious Access



Flemington Baptist Church in Flemington, NJ is looking for a sign language interpreter to provide service mass for a hour. Call Joseph Williamson, if interested (908) 397-2329. Our five deaf members are looking for interpreter.

Communicator Signboard



Jewish Deaf and Hard of Hearing Singles
Get Together BBQ
Sunday, July 13
11:30 a.m.
Meet at Fort Lee Historic Park Visitor Center
Rain or Shine
Please RSVP in advance to insure BBQ lunch!
For more information and registration -
Landau9@optonline.net
908-352-7395 FAX

NWJAD (Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.)
hosts

Family Fun Day

at
Mountain Creek Water Park
Vernon, NJ

Saturday, August 16
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

(Rain Date: Saturday, August 23)

Water World with over 25 spectacular water rides, slides
and pools - Fun activities for the whole family
Special Discount - Buy tickets at window booths (NWJAD)

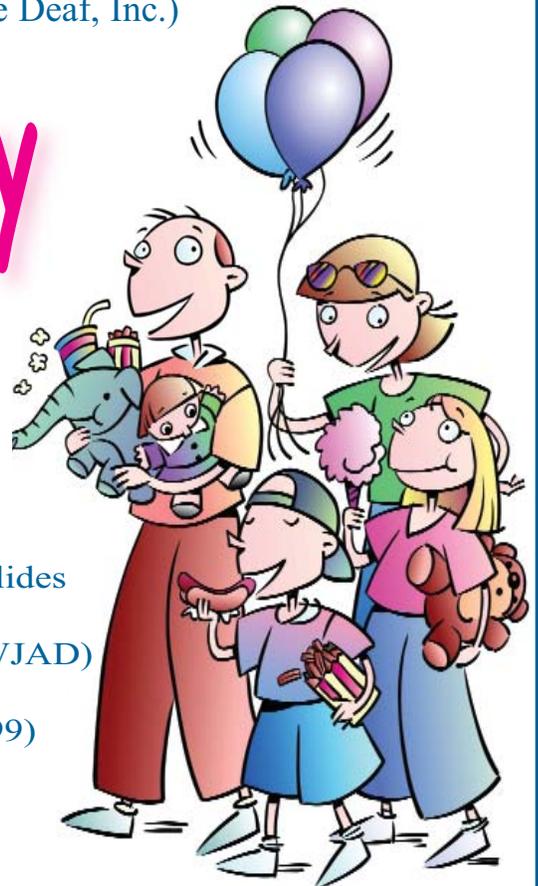
Adults: \$17 (regular price: \$32.99)

Children: 48" and under: \$17 (regular price: \$22.99)

Age of three and under: Free

Sponsored by Sorenson

For more information: www.nwjad.org
www.mountaincreekwaterpark.com



Communicator Signboard

North Jersey Community Center Of The Deaf, Inc.
proudly hosts its

10th Anniversary Special Summer Picnic Saturday, August 23

12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m.

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

Rain or shine.

Great Foods, Drinks, Fun Games.

Come & Meet People - Make New Friends

Admissions in Advance - Members - \$16, Non-Members - \$18, Children under 12 - Free,
Same Day Tickets can be bought for \$20 per person. Please bring your own lawn chairs.

Proceeds to NJCCD Senior Fund.

Please make check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc. and mail before August 17 to
Timothy Golden, c/o NJCCD, Inc., 26 Thomas Street, Clifton, NJ 07013

Include list of names of members and non-members attending.

For more information, visit our club website at www.njccdsite.org or contact
Chairperson Timothy Golden at TBGolden0206@msn.com

North Jersey Community Center Of The Deaf, Inc.
proudly presents

Senior Citizen Wingo Day Affair

Saturday, September 20
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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

WINGO games will start to play at 1:00 p.m. sharp.

People 21 years old or older are welcome to play.

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

Refreshments on Sale - NJCCD Banknite - Door Prizes - 50/50 Chances

Admissions in Advance - All Public for \$10 each, at door - \$12 each

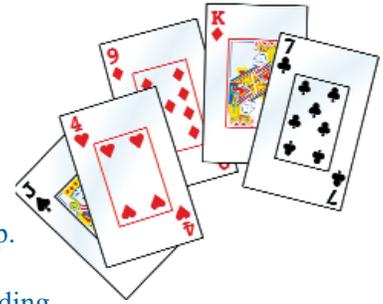
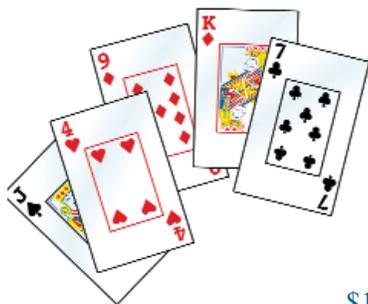
Proceeds go to NJCCD Senior Fund

Please make a check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc. and mail before September 14 to
Beverly Golden, 26 Thomas Street, Clifton, NJ 07013

Include list of names of members and non-members attending.

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

For more information, please visit our club website at www.njccdsite.org or contact Bev Golden at
TBGolden0206@msn.com



“Celebrating Advanced Communication Technology for New Jerseyans with Hearing Loss”

2nd Annual Taste of Technology Mini-Conference

Thursday, October 2, 2008

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Trenton Marriott Hotel,
1 West Lafayette Street, Trenton, NJ 08608

Sponsored by
NJ Relay Service & NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Come to this free conference and learn about telecommunications equipment, technology advancements, and telecommunication relay services for New Jersey residents with hearing loss. Lunch will be provided! This is a great opportunity for professionals working with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community to learn about updates with technology and issues related to hearing loss.

RSVPs are on a first come, first serve basis.

Registration deadline is September 15, 2008.

Welcome - Jennifer Velez, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Human Services

Keynote Speaker - Damara Paris, Sprint CapTel Branch Manager

Featured Workshops:

Video, Internet, and Wireless Relay, WebCapTel and Captioned Telephone,

Relay Conference Captioning,

**Emergency Preparedness for New Jerseyans with hearing loss - Lise Hamilton,
Hearing Loss Association of America**

Yes, I will attend the second annual Taste of Technology mini-conference! I understand that RSVP's will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis.

Name: _____ E-mail : _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____ Fax number: _____

Organization/Agency: _____

I am: ___ Deaf; ___ Hard of Hearing; ___ Late-Deafened; ___ Deaf-Blind; ___ Hearing; ___ Speech Disabled

Special Requests (i.e.; vegetarian meals, ALD, tactile interpreting)

ASL interpreters, CART (captioning), and Assistive Listening Devices will be provided.

Send registration form to NJ Relay Service: Melissa.Huber@sprint.com or

913-523-1137 FAX, www.njrelay.com

Registration and special requests after september 15, 2008 may not be honored.

Calendar of Events 2008

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting Friday, October 24

East Brunswick Public Library

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

Call DDHH to confirm your attendance:

609-984-7281 V/TTY

NJSD/MKSD 125th Anniversary and NJSD/MKSD Alumni Assoc.

80th Anniversary

October 10, 11 and 12

Columbus Weekend

Check www.mkdsd.org for more information:

PhySparks70@aol.com

856-374-1043 FAX

Garden State Walk4Hearing Saturday, October 18

Mercer County Park, West Picnic Area

To participate or for more information, contact:

Lois Walker, Chair

walk4hearing@hearingloss-nj.org

or visit www.hearingloss-nj.org

Save The Dates

November 7, 8 & 9, 2008

NJRID 2008 Biennial Conference

Crowne Plaza 390 Forsgate Drive

Jamesburg, NJ 08831

Go to www.njrid.org for information updates.

DDHH Office - Days Closed

Labor Day (September 1)

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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