

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

July/August 2007  
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No. 7

Jon S. Corzine Governor  
Jennifer Velez, Commissioner  
Ira C. Hock, Acting Director

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Page 1  
DEAF FEST 2007, Coming on September 16th  
A Cultural Celebration for Everyone!  
Free Admission, Parking, Entertainment and Children Activities!!

The New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week (NJDAW) committee invites you to the Ninth Deaf Fest to be held September 16, 2007, which will again take place at the Middlesex County Fairgrounds in East Brunswick, New Jersey. Admission, parking, entertainment and activities for the children are all free. This is the second year at this location due to the tremendous success of the last biennial event. The fairgrounds are conveniently located in the center of the state, which is easily accessible by the major highways. The parking lot is located in front of the grounds with close proximity to all of the activities. The entire event occurs in a safe, fenced-off arena.

We look forward to many New Jersey Deaf and hard of hearing residents joining us at the event, which celebrates Deaf culture with the support of many agencies, companies and non-profit organizations as they exhibit information and products. This is the best possible opportunity to come out and see old friends; and, people make new friends during this wonderful celebration. There will be entertainment, food vendors, exhibits and activities throughout the day.

The planning and preparation for Deaf Fest 2007 is a monumental task. We extend our thanks to the committee, volunteers and friends for their continued hard work and contributions. We also want to give a special thanks to the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing for their ongoing support of providing communication access at the event. Many thanks are also in order to Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf (NWJAD) for sponsoring and planning Kiddie Korner, which they have done at every Deaf Fest event since 1994.

The event is on a Sunday, and it will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 5:00 p.m.  
See you on September 16th!

Lauren Lercher and Charlotte Karras - Committee Co-chairs New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week.

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#### DDHH Broadens Communication Accessibility

The New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH) has acquired the services of Language Line, a company that has the capability of interpreting 170 different languages. Consequently, virtually anyone who speaks another language may call the DDHH office and within a moment can be connected to a third party to facilitate communication. This particular service is for voice callers only. However, the New Jersey Relay also offers Spanish and French interpretation for TTY users.

#### MKSD Lower School Graduation Ceremony

On Friday, June 22 at 10:00 a.m., graduates from the Lower School of the Marie Katzenback School for the Deaf (MSKD) were joined by teaching and administrative staff, along with some very proud parents, family and friends, to witness the completion of a milestone in the lives of these young elementary school children. Students were given awards for an array of accomplishments; in return, students entertained everyone in attendance with performances and expressions of gratitude to their families for assisting with this achievement. Congratulations MKSD Lower School graduates!

Pic.1- MKSD's Lower School graduating class of 2007.

Pic. 2- School Superintendent, Dennis Russell gives remarks.

Pic. 3- Very proud parent records celebration.

Pic. 4- Award recipient shows big smile.

#### Reminder:

The deadline for submissions to the September issue of Monthly Communicator is August 1, 2007. For the October issue, the deadline is September 1, 2007

Send e-mail submissions to the editor [Alan.Champion@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:Alan.Champion@dhs.state.nj.us)

Photos which accompany submissions are encouraged. For instructions on how to submit photos, contact the editor at the email address above.

#### Monthly Communicator

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

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#### The Month of July in History

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed by President George Herbert Walker Bush on July 26, 1990. The ADA is a wide-ranging civil rights law, which prohibits, under certain circumstances, discrimination based on disability. It affords similar protections against discrimination to Americans with disabilities as the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which made discrimination based on race, religion, sex, national origin, and other characteristics illegal.

#### The Month of August in History

George Veditz was born on August 13, 1861 and was a native of Baltimore, MD. He became deaf near the age of 9, when he contracted scarlet fever. When he was 14, he went to Maryland School for the Deaf in Frederick, MD. Twice elected president of NAD (National Association of the Deaf), George W. Veditz advocated sign language and was a foe of oralism. During his presidency of the NAD (from 1907 to 1910), he started to raise money to use the new film technology for recording examples of signers - hearing and deaf. At age 19, he went to Gallaudet College. He taught at Maryland School for the Deaf, and then at Colorado School for the Deaf where he met his future wife, Mary Elizabeth Bigler. Veditz established three organizations for the deaf. One was the Maryland School for the Deaf Alumni Association in 1892; second was the Gallaudet College Alumni Association in 1889; and third was the Colorado Association for the Deaf in 1904. He died on March 12, 1937.

Alice Cogswell was born on August 31, 1805. She was introduced to Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, founder The American School for the Deaf (ASD), the oldest school for Deaf students in the United States, while he was recovering from an illness. Alice had been deafened by a childhood illness and could not communicate with her parents or siblings very well because they did not know any sign language. Gallaudet believed that Alice could be educated to communicate. Gallaudet studied at the French Institute for the Deaf in Paris and returned to America with Laurent Clerc, a teacher from the institute. Together they founded ASD, which has educated about 4000 deaf students. In the sculpture pictured on the right, young Alice Cogswell stands in the palms of two cupped hands that form the word "light" in sign language. She holds a book in front of her that represents the education she and others received because of the founding of this school.

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#### Family Learning Conference Repeats Success in Northern New Jersey

The second biannual “New Jersey Family Learning Conference for Families with Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Empowering Families with Children who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing” took place at The Lake Drive Program in Mountain Lakes on Saturday May 19, 2007. The twenty-eight parents in attendance benefited from a variety of workshops, while their children (ranging in age from 15 months to 16 years) enjoyed children’s activities arranged by the conference committee.

Dennis Jones, author of *Tarnished Halos and Crooked Fences: A Journey into the World of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing*, delivered a poignant keynote address on identity entitled “You Can’t Build a House Without a Foundation.” Traci Burton and Jason Weiland, DDHH Field Representatives, followed Jones and presented “Technology and Family: Building Better Relationships.” The conference continued with the presentation of the Brian C. Shomo Parent Leadership Award that honors parents who excel in advocating for their children. Diane Klemm and Jeanine Gleba were this year’s recipients.

Pic.1 - Steve Toth, Interpreter Traci Burton, DDHH Representative

Pic.2 - Audience listens to keynote address.

Pic.3 - Student’s panel discusses issues of being Deaf and the important role which families play in their support network.

Pic.4 - Dennis Jones delivering keynote address.

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#### Parents And Children Enjoy Conference Activities

After lunch, the parents chose from three concurrent breakout sessions. Robert A. Robinson, Esq., staff attorney, New Jersey Protection and Advocacy, Inc. spoke about “Advocating for Your Children’s Rights;” “Communication and Families” was brought to us by Hilary Porteous-Nye, BS, LMSW, SR. Mental Health Therapist, Access Behavioral health Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Carolyn Hayer, director, Parent and Professional Development Coordinator, and Region 1 Technical Assistance to Parent Centers at SPAN presented “Transitions in Education.” The group reconvened for the student panel where Carly Skibinski, age 11, Summit Speech School, Class of 2002; Maya Ariel, age 17, The Lake Drive Program, Class of 2007; Brad Sternberg, age 18, The Lake Drive Program, Class of 2007; Noah Beckman, age 21, Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, Class of 2003; and Rebecca DeVito, age 19, Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf, Class of 2005, relayed their experiences and entertained questions regarding growing up and attending school as students who are deaf and hard of hearing.

Throughout the day, parents were able to visit various vendor booths, including the “Ask the Audiologist” room where Christine Hoffman, Au.D., CCC-A, FAAA; Janet M. Purn, M.A., CCC-A and Nancy Schneider, M.A., CCC-A, FAAA were available to answer questions. Both films “Sound and Fury” and “Sound and Fury – 6 Years Later” ran continuously during the conference for those who wanted to stop and watch.

The 2007 Family Learning Conference Planning Committee, chaired by Malia Corde and Amy Littles, thanks all who attended and made this day a success!

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### Open Captioning Theatre Series Opens New Worlds To New Jersey Audiences with Hearing Loss

The New Jersey Theatre Alliance and the New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, offer a new program of accessibility.

(Morristown, NJ) More than 700,000 people in New Jersey have some degree of hearing loss often identified as Deaf, hard of hearing, late-deafened, or Deaf-Blind. In an effort to create opportunities for them to enjoy live theatre, the New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH) has granted the New Jersey Theatre Alliance, in partnership with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, \$45,000 to market and administer, the Open Captioning Series – a group of performances at the state’s professional theatres.

Open Captioning is text displayed on a screen simultaneously to live speech, dialogue or performance. Like “Closed Captioning – a service that is offered on television programs for people with hearing loss,” – Open Captioning benefits a growing number of people who have profound hearing loss and affords them the opportunity to experience the excitement and joy of live theatre. While many of New Jersey’s professional theatres offer sign language interpreted performances and listening enhancement systems, not all people who live with hearing loss benefit fully from such programs/services.

The Open Captioning Series is the first of its kind nationally. It is a New Jersey statewide program that will provide 32 open captioned performances from Teaneck to Cape May, Red Bank to Hackettstown. Patrons can go see one show or many. They also will be able to create their own “mini-subscription” of Open Captioned performances through the Theatre Alliance’s Sampler Series – a discount ticketing program that makes it possible for patrons to see three different performances at the state’s professional theatres for just \$70. The free Open Captioning Calendar detailing dates and times of the program is available through the Theatre Alliance.

Carol Granaldi, co-founder and past president of the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey, says of the series, “As one who progressed from a normally hearing childhood to profoundly deaf adulthood, I had to give up attending live theater. My residual hearing became too inadequate to utilize the assistive listening equipment.” But after discovering Open Captioning she has become a regular theatergoer again. “Unless you have been excluded from the spoken word, you cannot imagine how ‘connected’ deafened people like me have become through the marvel of captioning.”

The Theatre Alliance is delighted to offer this statewide program. “A statewide Open Captioning Series has been a dream of the Alliance for years, so we are thrilled to see it

come to fruition. Without the leadership support of the New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, many of our member theatres would not be in the position to offer open captioning; we are so happy that our partnership with these two agencies has made it possible for our members to open their doors to people with hearing loss, allowing them to fully embrace the joy of live theatre,” said John McEwen, Executive Director of the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.

Acting Director of DDHH Ira C. Hock agrees, “At Human Services, we are thrilled that our division’s funding will open cultural opportunities to people with hearing loss so they too can enjoy the theater in New Jersey.”

To receive a free copy of the Open Captioning Series Calendar, please contact: New Jersey Theatre Alliance, 163 Madison Avenue, Suite 500, Morristown, NJ, 07960, or e-mail: [info@njtheatrealliance.org](mailto:info@njtheatrealliance.org) and request the Open Captioning Series Calendar in the subject line.

Happy Anniversary!

Celebrating its 25th year, the New Jersey Theatre Alliance is the only statewide organization for professional, not-for-profit theatre companies in the United States. The Alliance is a leader in developing model programs that foster collaboration, cooperation and audience development. It provides its member theatres and arts patrons a wide range of supportive services and programs. The Alliance assists member theatres in their growth and development, as well as the promotion of their programs, helping them reach their full potential. For the arts patron, the Alliance is able to provide a variety of services to enhance their theatre-going experience. For more information, and to find out about its programs and services, visit the Alliance at [www.njtheatrealliance.org](http://www.njtheatrealliance.org) or call (973) 540-0515 ext. 14.

Funding for the New Jersey Theatre Alliance, a not-for-profit organization, is provided in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as contributions from foundations, corporations, businesses and individuals. American Airlines is the official airline of the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.

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A SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING OPEN CAPTIONED THEATRE EVENTS in  
New Jersey

August 10 at 8:30 p.m.

LIZZIE BORDEN LIVE

The East Lynne Theater Company

In residence at the First Presbyterian Church

500 Hughes Street, Cape May 08204

Box Office: 609-884-5898 Voice

[www.eastlynnetheater.org](http://www.eastlynnetheater.org)  
[Eastlynneco@aol.com](mailto:Eastlynneco@aol.com)

September 29 at 2:00 p.m.

**THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE**

The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey

Main Stage: F.M. Kirby Shakespeare Theatre

36 Madison Avenue at Lancaster Road, Madison 07940

(on the Drew University Campus)

Box Office: 973-408-5600 Voice,

Business Office: 973-408-3278, Voice

[www.shakespearenj.org](http://www.shakespearenj.org); [info@shakespearenj.org](mailto:info@shakespearenj.org)

October 4 at 8:00 p.m.

**OMNIUM GATHERUM**

The Theater Project

Union County College

1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford 07016

908-659-5189 Voice

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

October 5:00 at 8 p.m.

**THE OWL AND THE PUSSYCAT**

The Bickford Theatre

In residence at the Morris Museum

6 Normandy Heights Road, Morristown 07960

Box Office: 973-971-3706 Voice

[information@morrismuseum.org](mailto:information@morrismuseum.org);

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

October 7 at 2:00 p.m.

**THE MIRACLE WORKER**

Surflight Theatre

Engleside and Beach Avenues

P.O. Box 1155, Beach Haven 08008

609-492-9477 Voice

[www.surflight.org](http://www.surflight.org); [surflight@surflight.org](mailto:surflight@surflight.org)

October 21 at 2:00 p.m.

**DEATH OF A SALESMAN**

Luna Stage Company

695 Bloomfield Avenue, Montclair 07042

Box Office: (973) 744-3309 Voice

[www.lunastage.org](http://www.lunastage.org); [info@lunastage.org](mailto:info@lunastage.org)

November 11 at 3:00 p.m.

**THE PRICE**

Tri-State Actors Theater

PO Box 7225, 74 Main Street, Sussex 07461

973-875-2950 Voice; 973-875-2950 FAX

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

November 17 at 3:00 p.m.

**MERE MORTALS**

Two River Theater Company

21 Bridge Avenue, Red Bank 07701

Box Office: 732-345-1400;

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

December 9 at 2:30 p.m.

**MY THREE ANGELS**

Centenary Stage

In residence at Centenary College

400 Jefferson Street, Hackettstown 07840

Box Office: 908-979-0900

[boxoffice@centenarystageco.org](mailto:boxoffice@centenarystageco.org);

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

December 16 at 3:00 p.m.

**HUMBUG**

Premiere Stages

In residence at Kean University

1000 Morris Avenue, Union 07083

Box Office: 908-737-SHOW; Office: 908-737-4092

[www.kean.edu/premierestages](http://www.kean.edu/premierestages)

Funding for Open Captioning provided by the New Jersey DHS Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

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23rd Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day at Great Adventure

Beautiful weather, a drive through safari, the tallest and fastest roller coaster around, food, games, entertainment and hundreds of Deaf and hard of hearing people and their friends and family combined to make for a wonderful Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure on Saturday, June 16. This year marked DDHH's 23rd successive year of sponsorship of the event. One of the highlights of the day was the program held in the indoor pavilion, which featured The Wild Zappers and a highly energetic 40 minute performance that included dancers from the American Black Dance Theatre. 325 people enjoyed this presentation as it was introduced by emcee Joey Garth.

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New Jersey Association of the Deaf hosts its 20th Biennial State Conference  
“Deaf Diversity: Moving Forward”  
Saturday, July 28, 2007

This is an “All-in-One Stop” conference for Deaf and Hard of Hearing people from all walks of life to meet in one place for networking and resources. There are many different groups of people in the Deaf Community. Everyone finds a place in the Deaf Community, where he/she feels good about him/herself, empowered and makes changes. NJAD welcomes everyone:

Conference Program

9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: At New Jersey School for the Deaf High School Building (air-conditioned)  
310 Sullivan Way – West Trenton, NJ

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony with diversified community leaders & Current reigning Miss Deaf New Jersey & Contestants for the new Miss Deaf New Jersey

All-Day Exhibits & Networking

BBQ Luncheon

Three Workshops:

Housing Project for NJ Deaf Senior Citizens;

Why is the Video Relay Service so HOT?!; and

Community Emergency Preparedness & Management

General Meeting/Elections of New Officers

NJSD-MKSD Museum

Silent Auction

5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at

Location: The College of New Jersey

Brower’s Students Center

Pennington Road, Ewing, NJ

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Inauguration and Awards Reception

7:30 – 9:30 pm

Miss Deaf New Jersey Pageant

Funding for communication access provided by the New Jersey DHS Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

For more information about tickets and directions to the conference and reception/pageant, please go to [www.NJADeaf.org](http://www.NJADeaf.org) and click on Conference 2007.

### Information for Patients with Hearing Loss in Medical/Hospital Settings

Last month, the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey offered you some everyday hints for making hearing “easier.” We continue this month with additional information directed toward professionals who provide related services to people with hearing loss.

Professionals within the medical field or those in hospital settings are often unfamiliar with what is required to provide the person with a hearing loss with full medical information about his/her emergency or medical condition. Therefore, in the emergency room or the hospital, it is important for the patient to inform any physician/nurse/technician/intake personnel with his/her specific communication needs so that he/she will be able to understand his/her condition and any follow-up procedures, including medications that may be prescribed.

Communication tips from last month's article are briefly noted below since they are also essential in medical/hospital settings:

- Be sure that the speaker has no bright light or window behind him/her.
- Look directly at the speaker.
- Request that the speaker enunciate clearly.
- Have the speaker use a normal tone of voice and a normal rate of speech.
- If you require repetition of a sentence, ask the speaker to rephrase.
- Reduce background noise as much as possible.

The following pointers specifically relate to the medical setting:

1. Inform the healthcare professional, if you are able to do so, that he/she is to direct all questions to you and not to anyone who may have accompanied you. Remember, you are the patient!
2. Inform each individual that you wear hearing aids or have a cochlear implant. Make them aware of any medical precautions you require, such as no MRI.
3. Insist that your hearing loss and hearing device be noted on the outside of your chart and on each subsequent sheet that may be added to your chart. (It would be best to carry small stickers with you, displaying the International Symbol of Access For Hearing Loss, which can be obtained from the Hearing Loss Association of America. These can be put on the front of your chart indicating that you have a hearing loss, and they should also be given to your primary care physician and any specialists from whom you receive services.)
4. Ask if you may continue to wear your hearing device during any examination.

5. When it becomes necessary to remove your device, be sure that one person on staff is made responsible for it. Obtain that individual's name and ask the length of time you will be without the device.

6. Be sure you know where the person responsible for your hearing aid or cochlear implant processor will keep the device during any examinations, tests, or other procedures.

7. Carry several small index cards with you. You can note your hearing loss on them and attach them to any hospital garments you may be requested to wear. They will also serve to indicate to other casual staff personnel (technicians) in hallways or examining rooms who may not have been properly informed of your hearing loss.

8. Create or obtain the larger hearing loss symbol (slashed ear) to be attached to your gurney or bed when in the hospital. This will enable everyone who enters your room to immediately be aware of your hearing loss. Hospitals should provide this, but be prepared with your own just in case.

9. If surgery is indicated, discuss with the physician, anesthesiologist, nurses, etc. how they will interact with you before, during, and after surgery and how soon your device will be returned to you. Necessary information should be given to you before surgical masks are put on.

10. If you must remain in the hospital, be sure that the administration and staff are made aware that you will not be able to answer any questions asked of you via an intercom system. Also, make them aware that you normally remove your device when asleep at night.

11. Be sure that the hospital administration provides you with a television that is closed captioned. If you use a TV assistive listening device that allows you to hear the television at the sound level you require, let the hospital know this. Since most hospital beds now have individualized sound systems within the handheld remote, you don't want to disturb a roommate.

12. A telephone must also be provided with regard to your specific needs, such as an amplified phone or a voice carryover (VCO) TTY or CapTel.

And remember to always have your handy paper and pencil! Situations sometimes don't work the way we hope.

This series of articles on coping with hearing loss are being offered by the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey (formerly SHHH-NJ). For more information about this organization, please contact Judy Ginsberg at [judygin@comcast.net](mailto:judygin@comcast.net).

The Bergen County chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) welcomed DDHH Representative Traci Burton to present during their June 13th meeting at the Classic Residence in Teaneck, NJ. Some topics discussed were an introduction to the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing services, strategies of identifying yourself as an individual with a hearing loss if you are pulled over by the police, various telephonic devices including CapTel, and the equipment loan program through the NJ Library for the Blind and Handicapped Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program. If you are interested in a similar program, please contact Traci at 609-984-7281 or [traci.burton@dhs.state.nj.us](mailto:traci.burton@dhs.state.nj.us).

Pic. - Traci Burton provides resource information to HLAA Bergen County Chapter.

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HLAA Region II Conference, "All 4 To Hear", October 5 - 7, 2007

You are invited to attend the first Hearing Loss Association Regional Conference of Delaware, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania, the four states that comprise Region II of the Hearing Loss Association of America governing board. The conference is designed to give participants the opportunity to explore new hearing technologies and to learn more about coping with hearing loss. The conference will be held at the Hilton Harrisburg in downtown Harrisburg, just minutes from the Amtrak train station and the Capitol Complex. Harrisburg is conveniently located at the intersection of I-81, I-83 and the PA turnpike.

The program will include a special workshop, Emergency Preparedness for People who are Hard of Hearing, Deaf or Deaf-Blind, presented by Lise Hamlin, Regional Emergency Preparedness Specialist, and Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Persons (NVRC). A research symposium will feature Dr. Anil Lalwani with new information from the exciting field of hair cell regeneration. Workshops will present the latest information about hearing aids, cochlear implants, coping with hearing loss and assistive technology. The Exhibit Hall will offer opportunities to see and try the latest in hearing technology and assistive devices. There will be plenty of time for social activities and just plain fun! Of course, all conference events will be hearing accessible.

October 5 - 7, 2007

At the Hilton Harrisburg & Towers, One North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101, 717-237-6427, Voice

Hotel rate: \$119 plus tax per night

Registration information:

Full registration, HLAA member: Single \$90; couple: \$165; Saturday only with lunch: Single \$60

Onsite full registration, HLAA member: Single: \$105 - Couple: \$180 - Single, Saturday only with lunch: \$75

Special registration for students with ID, Saturday only with lunch: \$40, Saturday banquet: \$40

Add \$25 for non-HLAA member registration fees, which includes 1 year membership in

HLAA.

Full registration includes Friday night reception with dinner buffet, Saturday breakfast and lunch, plenary session and workshops, Sunday breakfast and research symposium.

For an application to advertise in the program book, contact Ed McGibbon, P.O. Box 040478, Brooklyn, NY 11204-2905; Emacnyc@aol.com; 718-331-2446.

The Exhibit Hall will be open on Friday evening, October 5, 2007 from 4:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, October 6, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The deadline to sign up is August 15, 2007.

For Exhibit Hall Registration information, contact Sandy Spekman, Chair of the Exhibits and Advertising Committee, 328 Meadowbrook Lane, South Orange, NJ 07079  
SSpekman@aol.com.

For more information, contact the New Jersey Committee Judy Ginsberg, Co-chair judygin@comcast.net 609-655-1131; or Bill Pfeifer, PA Co-chair, bpfeifer@verizon.net 610-444-4454; or Linda Heller, DE Co-chair, hlade@comcast.net 302-292-3066.

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Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf (NWJAD) hosted its annual Easter and Spring Party on March 25, 2007.

Over 100 people, including adults and children, enjoyed the magic show and two balloon makers. The children had lots of fun hitting the piñatas, which were full of candies. The children loved getting their picture taken with the Deaf bunny who gave them more candies. There were lots of pizza, sweet treats, and drinks available for everybody. We would like to give a special thank to Lori Adams and Lauren Kafka for volunteering to interpret the magic show.

On April 21st, we had a general meeting and an extremely informative presentation by Dr. Geralyn Ponzio, currently a family doctor in Montclair, NJ who has some knowledge of sign language. Dr. Ponzio was able to answer some important questions regarding health concerns that were asked. She emphasized to those in attendance the importance of taking better care of themselves. We greatly appreciate the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH) for providing the two interpreters which made the event accessible. We intend to have Dr. Ponzio return with in the fall with another topic.

We are very excited to sponsor the Kiddie Korner activities at the Deaf Fest this coming September. We are planning to have new activities available for the kids. Also, don't forget to plan to attend Deaf Fest 2007 at Middlesex County Fairgrounds in East Brunswick, New Jersey on Sunday, September 16th which is also mentioned in another section of this newsletter.

Pic. - NWJAD Board Members

The following announcement is postponed:  
Bergen County Deaf Senior Citizen Group  
of Midland Park, New Jersey, in partnership with  
The Division of The Deaf and Hard of Hearing, presents.....  
“Stuck without an Interpreter? What to do if the doctor says “NO”  
A workshop for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Senior Citizens:  
Thursday September 6, 2007  
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
at Northwest Bergen Regional Activity Center  
46-50 Center Street  
Midland Park, NJ 07432  
(ASL Interpreters and CART will be provided)  
R.S.V.P to Rose Pizzo before August 3, 2007  
Rosevin52@aol.com OR 201-797-4257 FAX  
(Requests for Assisted Listening Devices must be made with your RSVP)

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#### NJRID Hosts Workshop on “Idioms”

It was more than interpreters who showed up for the New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (NJRID) sponsored workshop “Idioms in English/ASL.” The large turnout at the recent workshop held at Ocean County College represented participants ranging from young children to first year ASL/interpreting students to experienced interpreters. The workshop was presented by Jacqueline Frechette, who held everyone’s attention, while conducting the entire workshop in American Sign Language. Discussion both during and outside of the workshop addressed issues including regional signs and variation in ASL. This workshop is part of a continuing series of professional development opportunities being offered through NJRID for interpreters.

#### Foundations For Deaf Interpreters, Part II

Presented By: Betty M. Colonomos, MCSC

Hosted By: The New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

October 18-20, 2007

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Thursday 10/18/07

8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Friday 10/19/07

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Saturday 10/20/07

at New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped

2300 Stuyvesant Avenue, Trenton, NJ 08618

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

This workshop is free of charge.

Participants must register before September 7, 2007.

Space is limited to 21 participants! (First come, first served.)

Light refreshments will be served.

This workshop is worth 1.2 CEU’s in the Professional Studies category, and the level of instruction is Introductory to Intermediate. NJRID is an RID-approved sponsor of Continuing Education Units in the CMP.

For more information, further details, registration form, etc., contact Todd R. Olsen:  
The New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing: e-mail  
todd.olsen@dhs.state.nj.us, Phone 609-984-7283 V/TTY; 609-984-0390 FAX.

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Taste of Technology Conference A Success

On July 21, 2007 the New Jersey Relay Service and the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing held their first "Taste of Technology" conference at the New Brunswick's Hyatt Regency. More than 120 people attended, mostly from New Jersey and surrounding areas.

Keynote speaker Claude Stout from Telecommunications for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Inc. (TDI), provided an overview, history and current events about the advances in technology for people with hearing loss. Other presenters included Howard Rosenblum, one of 120 Deaf attorneys in the country who spoke about the ADA and technology, and Kim Calabretta, who discussed CapTel, the telephone service which provides captions of a telephone conversation.

The afternoon workshops included Sprint's Mike Finneran who spoke about video relay services. DDHH representatives Traci Burton and Jason Weiland provided information about the Equipment Distribution Program and other services provided by the division, while conference host New Jersey Account Manager Aparna Lele presented information on the relay service.

Pic.1- Claude Stout from TDI, provides the keynote address.

Pic.2- DDHH Acting Director Ira Hock, gave opening remarks.

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New Jersey Deaf Golf Association proudly hosts  
18th Annual NJDGA Tournament  
1 River Road, Shawnee on Delaware, PA 18356  
1-800-SHAWNEE www.shawneeinn.com

Golf tee time –

Saturday, July 28. Time: 12:09 p.m.

Sunday, July 29. Time: 8:06 a.m.

Please both be there one hour before.

Banquet

Saturday, July 28. Time: 6:30 p.m.

In The Shawnee Inn

Prizes and Awards

Sunday, July 29. After game in

The Shawnee Inn

Deadline for registration July 14, 2007.

Entry Fees \$170. Additional guest for banquet \$30.

Includes registration, membership, green/cart fee, prizes and banquet.

If any questions, contact Leonard Amato, Chairperson - LSAGOLF2007@aol.com

Hotel: The Shannon Inn

Interstate 80 West, Exit 309 @ Marshalls Creek

East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

www.innshannon.com; 570-424-1951 Voice; 800-424-7782 FAX

Make check or money order payable to DGA. INC.

c/o Richard Sarkisian, 420 North Union Ave., Cranford, NJ 07016

### Sign Language Intensive Total Communication Weekend

Participate in a weekend-long immersion to study and promote the learning of American Sign Language in straight English word order (with voice). This course is designed for beginners as well as advanced students.

An interactive workshop aims to promote cultural awareness, vocabulary development and improvement of conversational skills in sign language.

Beginner, intermediate and advanced levels offered.

Oct. 20 - 21, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m., \$180

Sign Language Courses offered at Raritan Valley Community College

Sign Language I, II, III & IV 10 sessions for each class at \$132 per class

For additional information, 908-526- 1200 ext. 8471; Voice

[www.raritanval.edu/cce](http://www.raritanval.edu/cce)

Raritan Valley Community College; Route 28 & Lamington Road, North Branch, NJ

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### American Sign Language Story Hour

The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH), a division of the New Jersey State Library, held its monthly Children's American Sign Language (ASL) Story Hour on April 15, 2007. Jeff Hurley, Community Relations and Baseball Operations Manager for the Trenton Thunder, read Casey at the Bat by Ernest L. Thayer. While Mr. Hurley read, Boomer acted out several parts of the story. Casey at the Bat is a story about a boy who is the star player of his baseball team. Casey strikes out thinking he can simply wait for the very last pitch to nail it out of the park, losing the game. This teaches him a valuable lesson: not being over-confident before success is guaranteed. After the presentation, Mr. Hurley autographed and donated a copy of Casey at the Bat to the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf school library.

Mr. Hurley and Boomer participated in a question and answer session with the students. Students were eager to learn more about Boomer and the Trenton Thunder as they asked all sorts of questions about the team schedule, the players, the stadium and practice. Mr. Hurley also shared with the students the importance of practice and of reading.

Valentine, a deaf-blind Great Dane, with handler Mari Coderre, came to play and interact with the children during the story hour. After the story hour, the students participated in Thunder-and Boomer-themed crafts.

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 Hunterdon County ESC School in Lambertville. Local home-schooled students and students from Ocean and Union County Colleges and Thomas Edison State College participated. Sixty-two people attended.

This story hour was signed 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 Jennifer Servello, Coordinator of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program at the New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped. NJLBH is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton. For more information about the DHHAP program and story hours, contact Jennifer at 609-530-3957 or jservello@njstatelib.org. The ASL Story Hour will resume in October, 2007. For information about NJLBH and its programs, call Anne McArthur at 609-530-3242.

Pic.1- Students enjoy snacks and crafts.

Pic.2- Students from the ESC pose with Boomer.

Pic.3- Students are eager to ask baseball-related questions.

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Mental Health Services Available in South Jersey

The ACCESS South Jersey program provides behavioral health services to Deaf and hard of hearing individuals in central and southern Jersey. Our counseling services are available to individuals who may have problems such as: depression, anxiety, marital problems, problems with children, problems on the job, etc. Please contact the main office in Hainesport for an appointment. There are satellite offices in Trenton and Hammonton.

ACCESS SOUTH –

Coordinator, Mary Jane Green, LCSW

Case Manager, Inessa Ilyadzhanova

Lester A. Drenk, Behavioral Health Services

1289 Rt. 38, Suite 105

Hainesport, NJ 08036

609-267-5656 x260 Voice, 800-918-1451 Voice

609-265-9370 TTY/VP-video phone, 609-265-7857 FAX

Accessouth1@aol.com

Psychiatric emergencies: after office hours 973-278-2373V/TTY

Clinical Services: 1 outpatient psychotherapy, 1 psychiatric emergency services

Case Management Services: (to qualify, individuals must be receiving counseling services as well) 1 linkage to other services, 1 applications for housing, 1 Medicaid/Medicare, 1 assistance with transportation services.

Be on the lookout . . .

The 2007 version of the DDHH publication “Organizations Serving People with Hearing Loss in New Jersey,” is at the press and should be available by the end of the summer. Copies will automatically be mailed to all subscribers of Monthly Communicator. The publication will also be available electronically. Simply go to the DDHH Web site ([www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/)) and click “publications” to find this invaluable resource. The new edition has 15 percent more entries than the previous edition, full of valuable information about a vast array of service organizations within as well as outside the state of New Jersey.

. . . Be on the lookout!

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#### RELIGIOUS ACCESS

St. Peter’s Church in New Brunswick announces sign language interpreted services for the remainder of 2007.

St. Peter’s Church at 94 Somerset Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901, will continue to provide sign language interpreted services on the first Sunday of the month at 11:00 a.m. The remaining dates for 2007 are: In addition, there are two special services for which interpreting services will be provided. They are, December 24, Christmas Eve service 11:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. and December 25, Christmas Day service at 11:00 a.m.

#### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Job Opening at The Consortium, Inc.

Family Therapist for the Deaf

Seeking an experienced mental health counselor - preferred MA or MSW degree with at least two years of experience in human services and fluency in American Sign Language is required. Must have valid U.S. driver’s license and being sensitive to cultural difference of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing population. Act 33 Clearance required prior to hire. This position will provide home visits to eligible children and their families to prevent “out of home” placement due to emotional or mental health issues disrupting the family milieu. Will work as a team with another counselor conducting family therapy sessions in the home on weekly basis and linking with various community resources as Family court, DHS, etc. to meet the needs of the families. Benefits: Salary with health insurance and eye/dental coverage, optional coverage with pre-paid legal, opportunity to enroll into Flexible Spending Account for tax savings, two weeks of vacation time and paid holidays. If interested please contact: Paul O’Rourke, Supervisor at (215) 495-1799 TTY or (215) 495-1797 fax - or you can send your resume to [porourke@consortium-inc.org](mailto:porourke@consortium-inc.org).

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Communicator Signboard

South Jersey Deaf Club, Inc.

2nd Annual Outing/Picnic

July 28, 2007 at 11 a.m. to dusk

At the Winding River Park/Picnic #1 Area,

Oakridge Parkway, Toms River, NJ

Admission - members \$20.00, non-members \$25.00,

Kids \$10.00, Kids under 5 free

After June 2nd, \$5.00 extra until July 7th. (No Walk Ins).

Playground, baseball, volleyball and etc., (Bring equipment). 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Menu Includes:

Hamburgers, hotdogs, polish sausages, bbq chixs, baked beans,  
potato and maraconi salad, corn on the cob, sausages with peppers/onions and drinks.

Bring your own beer, (no glass).

Please make check or money order payable to:

SJDC, Inc., 141 Bay Harbor Blvd., Brick, NJ 08723

Include how many people and names.

New Jersey Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf (NJRAD) announces

8th Annual Potluck BBQ Party

Saturday, August 11, 2007 (Rain or Shine - Picnic Shelter)

11:00 a.m. - dusk

at Lewis Morris County Park in Morristown, NJ

We will provide Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, and BBQ Chicken.

BYFF: (Bring Your Favorite Food)

Look at list below and bring a dish which corresponds to the first letter of your last name.

A to H – Hot Dish I to Q – Dessert/Fruit R to Z – Cold Dish

BYOB: (Bring Your Own Beverages. No Alcoholic Beverages Please)

Park has ball fields, hiking and bicycle trials.

Bring hiking boots, bicycle or outdoor games.

RSVP by August 5th, via E-mail: [www.njrad.org](http://www.njrad.org); at [NJRAD2007@aol.com](mailto:NJRAD2007@aol.com)

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Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.

Hosts A Family Picnic - August 12, 2007 (rain date, August 13) 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Community Park at Montville,

195 Change Bridge Rd, Montville, NJ

Horseshoes, Bocce, Soccer Field, Basketball Court, Volleyball and Playground

This is a pot luck lunch. Use the first letter of your last name to determine what to bring

per the following schedule: A-F Desserts, G-L Appetizers/various salads, M-T Hot

dishes, U-Z Paper products

Bring your lawn chairs and own drinks. (No alcohol allowed.)

RSVP by July 31, 2007 - Please let us know what you plan to bring.  
Contact us at [NWJAD@nwjad.org](mailto:NWJAD@nwjad.org). Directions at [www.nwjad.org](http://www.nwjad.org)

#### Deaf Social Hour

at Burlington Center Mall Food Court

2501 Mt. Holly Road

Burlington, NJ 08016-4803

every 3rd Monday of the month

7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

ASL students are welcome to attend for practice/contact hours.

Contact Teresa Killingsworth: [tykillingsworth@yahoo.com](mailto:tykillingsworth@yahoo.com)

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North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.

Hosts

#### SUMMER PICNIC

Saturday, August 25, 2007

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

12 noon to 5:00 p.m. Rain or Shine!

Admission in Advance: Members \$16; Non-Members \$18; Children under 12 - FREE

Tickets can be bought on the same day of the picnic for \$20 per person.

Order Tickets by mail before August 20, 2007. Make check or money order payable to

NJCCD, Inc. and mail to: Peter Vandenberg, c/o NJCCD, Inc., 50 Maple Hill Road,  
Clifton, NJ 07013. Include list of names of members and non-members attending.

Great food, drinks and games. Come & meet people; Make new friends!

Please bring your own lawn chairs. Chairperson Rose Pizzo and the Committees

For information or directions, contact Rose Pizzo at [RoseVin52@aol.com](mailto:RoseVin52@aol.com)

#### Coming Soon . . . .

Deaf Fest 2007

Sunday, September 16

Middlesex County Fairground in East Brunswick, NJ

Are you interested in making a donation or volunteering?

Contact Charlotte at [Cholly66@aol.com](mailto:Cholly66@aol.com)

Would you like to be an exhibitor Contact Kim at [Exhibit2007@aol.com](mailto:Exhibit2007@aol.com)

Look for more information in the next issue of Monthly Communicator and go to  
[www.njdaw.org](http://www.njdaw.org).

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Northern New Jersey Alcoholics Anonymous Area

51st Annual Convention

"The 12th Step, Anyone, Anywhere, Any Length"

September 28, 29 & 30

The Doubletree Hotel, 200 Atrium Drive, Somerset, NJ 08873

Sign Language Interpreters available. For more information: [convention@nnjaa.org](mailto:convention@nnjaa.org).

North Jersey Community Center of the Deaf, Inc.  
Presents 31st Anniversary Banquet  
Saturday, October 13, 2007 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
at The Excelsior, 190 Route 46 East, Saddle Brook, NJ  
\$57 for members and \$60 for non-members; Limit - 150 people (first come, first served basis) Menu includes penne ala vodka, tri-color salad with balsamic vinaigrette; Select one of 3 meat choices: roasted prime rib, chicken francaise or roasted salmon; and, pastries and cookies at each table, unlimited soda, lemonade, coffee and tea. Cash bar.  
Chairman Tim Golden & Co-Chairlady Rose Pizzo  
Order tickets before September 29, 2007, Send check or money order payable to NJCCD, Inc. to Mr. Peter Vandenberg, 50 Maple Hill Road, Clifton, NJ 07013.  
Include the names of all members and non-members.  
Please make your reservation as early as possible.  
For information or directions, contact Tim Golden at TBGolden0206@msn.com

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Bergen County Deaf Senior Citizen Group Workshop for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Senior Citizens  
Thursday, September 6  
rosevin52@aol.com

New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week  
Deaf Fest 2007 Middlesex County Fairground  
East Brunswick, NJ  
Sunday, September 16  
www.njdaw.org

Hearing Loss Association of America  
Regional Conference "All 4 To Hear"  
Harrisburg, PA  
October 5 - 7  
www.hearingloss.org

Visit Our Website: [www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/](http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddhh/)

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

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