

May 2009

Monthly Communicator

Vol. 30 No. 5

Jon S. Corzine, Governor

Jennifer Velez, Commissioner

David C. Alexander, Director



DDHH Opening Three New Assistive Technology Demonstration Centers for People With Hearing Loss

DDHH will open three more Assistive Technology Demonstration Centers where people with hearing loss can learn first hand about state of the art assistive technology devices. The division has actively operated two Assistive Device Demonstration Centers (Demo Center) for people with hearing loss for more than five years. The current sites located in West Trenton and New Brunswick, NJ, provide people with hearing loss, their families, employers and the general public an opportunity to learn and gain hands-on experience with assistive technology devices. In response to the recommendation of the Advisory Council, DDHH has been seeking opportunities to expand the Demo Centers to under-served parts of the state.



DDHH Field Representatives Jason Weiland and Traci Burton test the Video Phone at an Assistive Device Demonstration Center.

DDHH is pleased to announce the opening of a third center in central NJ, with two additional sites soon to follow in the northern and southern parts of the state. The new sites are a joint collaboration between DDHH and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS). DVRS received federal funds to enable three community agencies to expand employment services for people with hearing loss. In early discussions with DVRS, DDHH addressed the importance of assistive technology devices as part of the process for securing and maintaining employment for people with hearing loss. These discussions resulted in DDHH being invited to operate a Demo center within each of the three community agencies. The purpose of the Demo centers is threefold. First, it is to expose DVRS staff and clients to the various assistive technology available to enable a Deaf or hard of hearing person to effectively accomplish the functions of his/her job. Second, the Demo center will also be available to employers to visit and become knowledgeable of the role of assistive technology available to provide job accommodations for people with hearing loss. Third, the Demo centers will also be open to the general public.

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*Produced by DHS
Office of Publications*

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Director's Corner

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



As you are aware, Governor Corzine recently conducted his budget address for the 2010 fiscal year. In that budget, the governor proposed strategies to trim down spending including reducing the costs of state government.

Despite the announced proposed cuts in the operational costs of state government, I am pleased to inform you that cuts incurred by DDHH should not have an adverse impact on services and programs provided by DDHH. This is due to one of the underlying principles of the budget, which is to protect the most vulnerable residents of New Jersey including those with hearing loss. It is also due to the Governor's recognition of the critical role played by DDHH in protecting the interests of New Jersey residents who are deaf and hard of hearing.

However, we at DDHH want to inform you that our office will be effected by the state wide furlough of state workers during May and June. The DDHH office and its services will be closed each of the two days designated as furlough days on May 22 and on June 19, 2009.

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

Reminder:

The deadline for the combined July/August 2009 issue is June 1. The deadline for the June issue was May 1.

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

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

Newsletter Subscription:

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

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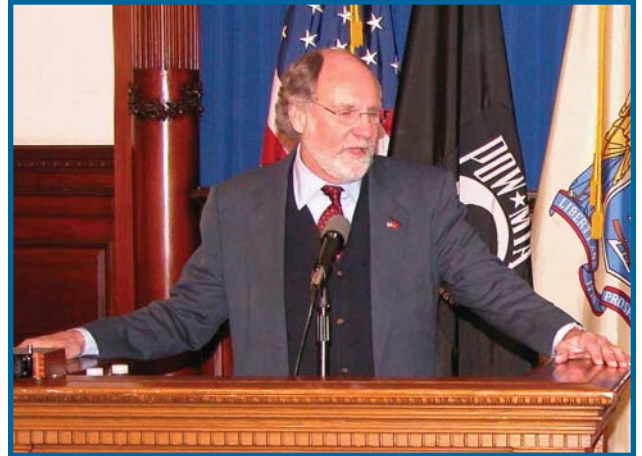
The Monthly Communicator is published by the New Jersey Department of Human Services Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DDHH), a state agency. DDHH provides information, referral, and advocacy to service recipients. Information or articles provided by others does not imply endorsement by DDHH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

Two-day Worker Furlough Instituted by Governor Corzine

In an effort to balance the current 2008/2009 State budget, Governor Jon Corzine has announced a two-day furlough of state workers. The Governor stated that furloughs, along with the federal stimulus package and more mid year budget cuts, are needed to close the budget shortfall for this year alone. He has also indicated that more furloughs may be needed for the 2010 fiscal year, to help offset diminishing state revenues that are contributing to the current state, national and global economic crisis.

Workers at the Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will join others in the New Jersey State government when they take unpaid days off on Fridays May 22 and June 19. Some employees within the department will stagger their furlough days due to operational needs, which require someone to be on duty at all times. Another category of employees are exempt from the layoffs because their jobs are deemed necessary to ensure the continued health and safety of clients and patients within DHS Psychiatric Hospitals and DHS Developmental Centers.



SAVE THE DATE

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, July 24, 2009

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Location yet to be determined.

Watch for more details about this meeting, which will feature a
Live Digital Caption Demonstration

The public is invited to attend. Call DDHH to confirm your attendance:
609-984-7281 V/TTY All DDHH advisory council meetings are fully accessible
with sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices (ALDs) and CART
(open captioning) provided.



Information for Deaf, Hard of Hearing & Deaf-Blind

Are you connected?



Fact Sheet

CSD-DTV Help Center for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind

Opens on Monday, February 9, 2009

Hours of Operation: 7:00 a.m. – 1:00 a.m. (CST) 18 hours/day, 7 days/week

FCC Working with Community-Based Organizations:

The FCC is working with community-based organizations to help educate consumers, assist with converter box procurement and installation, establish and staff help centers, and conduct post-deadline assistance with respect to the transition to digital television (DTV).



CSD's Project Description: The CSD-DTV Help Center is tailored to meet the communication needs of 28 million deaf, deafblind, hard of hearing and speech disabled consumers seeking information related to the DTV transition, assistance with coupon and converter box procurement, installation, and post-deadline assistance across the country.

- ▶ The CSD-DTV Help Center staff will communicate with individuals, one-on-one, and their families to educate them about the DTV change and troubleshoot issues as needed to ensure a converter box is successfully obtained and installed.
- ▶ Deaf and hard of hearing consumers will be offered a choice of communication modes that matches their needs whether it is by voice, videophone, TTY, Instant Messaging, IP Relay, Voice Carry-Over Relay, Captioned Telephone, Video Relay and Spanish Video Relay.

Contact Our Help Center

Voice: 1-877-dtv-4you (1-877-388-4968)

TTY: 1-877-tty-4csd (1-877-889-4273)

Email: dtvhelp@c-s-d.org

Videophones:

Direct videophone numbers 866-351-1950
866-401-3519

Direct videophone IP addresses dtv03.csd.tv; dtv05.csd.tv;
dtv04.csd.tv; dtv06.csd.tv;

AIM: dtvcsr07; dtvcsr08

<http://dtv.c-s-d.org>



Materials by CSD • Adapted from the FCC

DDHH Staff - "Back Stage" Perspective at Six Flags

In preparation and anticipation of upcoming "Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day at Six Flags Great Adventure" on June 13th, DDHH staff members were invited to a pre-season introduction to special residents of Six Flags. With the assistance and supervision of Six Flags staff, DDHH staff experienced a close encounter experience with giraffes in the Wild Safari, a 350-acre wildlife preserve drive-thru safari, the largest of its kind outside of Africa. They also treated to some animals at the Exploration Station, just outside of the entrance and exit of the Wild Safari drive through; and two porpoises from the "Flippers and Fins" show.

The 2009 event will be held on Saturday, June 13. See the next page for a list of organizations participating in this year's event. You can support this year's event by purchasing tickets through any of these organizations.



Liz touches Mika, the common boa constrictor at Exploration Station



Jason, Traci and Ira with porpoises Avalon and Cody



Cathy, Liz and Pat with porpoises Avalon and Cody



Alan Champion, Jason Weiland, Cathy Grehlinger, Ira Hock, Liz Barany, Pat Long and David Alexander with only a wooden fence separating them from two tall onlookers



Clockwise from lower left, Jason, Liz, Traci, Pat and Ira surround Cathy (center) who holds Shelly the Giant Flemish Rabbit at Exploration Station

Support Organizations Serving Deaf and Hard of Hearing People in New Jersey

Purchase Six Flags Awareness Day Tickets from Participating Organizations for June 13 Event

New Jersey Association of the Deaf is responsible for coordinating ticket sales through the following participating organizations serving people with hearing loss:

Bruce Street School for the Deaf

333 Clinton Place
Newark, NJ 07112
Day: 973-705-3952
MJMansbach@aol.com

Burlington County College's ASL Club

1338 New Rodgers Road
Levittown, PA 19057
V: 908-303-3797
Rachy41@yahoo.com

Deaf Golf Association, Inc.

420 North Union Ave.
Crandford, NJ 07016
TTY/VP: 908-272-3939
RHSARK@aol.com

Eastern Deaf Ladies Golf Association

264 Swinnerton Street
Staten Island, NY 10307-1641
TTY: 718-605-9403
Sourpeas@aol.com

**New Jersey American Sign Language
Teacher Association**

32 Fairway Ave.
West Orange, NJ 07052
W: 862-279-7483 (VP)
NJASLTA@aol.com

New Jersey Association of the Deaf

President@NJADeaf.org
www.njadeaf.org/contact.html

New Jersey Association of the Deaf-Blind

24K Worlds Fair Drive
Somerset, New Jersey 08873
TTY/V: 732-805-1912
Kzayas@njabd.org

New Jersey Deaf Awareness Week, Inc.

9 Vessel Road
Waretown, NJ 08758
VP: 609-242-0240
Carlina@aol.com

New Jersey Deaf Sports, Inc.

26 N. Shore Blvd.
Helmetta, NJ 08828-1233
VP: 732-521-3098
NJDeafSportsInc@aol.com

New Jersey Registry Interpreters for the Deaf

83 Hawkins Road
Tabernacle, New Jersey 08088
V: 609-980-8037
Meg.ellis@comcast.net

Northwest Jersey Association of the Deaf, Inc.

52 Heritage Court
Towaco, New Jersey 07082
W: 973-326-5720 (TTY)
Tmontemo@att.com

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church for the Deaf

2222 Vauxhall Road
Union, NJ 07083
V: 908-686-3965
Gracelu4u@yahoo.com

NYC Deaf & Hard of Hearing Parents Association

PO Box 20293
Brooklyn, NY 11202-0293
VP: 347-227-0630
V: 917-403-3406
NYCDeafHHParents@aol.com

Sign of Sobriety, Inc.

100 Scotch Road
Ewing, NJ 08628
V: 609-369-1985
Communication@signsofsobriety.org

South River High School

11 Montgomery St.
South River, NJ 08882
V: 732-809-0547
acobb@srivernj.org

Hearing Centers (con't from page 1)

The recipients of the competitive DVRS grant awards are; JVS/Goodwill Industries, located in East Orange /Harrison NJ; Bridges to Employment located in Raritan; and Burlington Community College located in Mt. Holly. These new centers are at various stages of construction with the first center scheduled to open by Bridges to Employment. An open house for this center scheduled for June 4. Announcements for the opening of the other two sites will be forthcoming. DDHH looks forward to working with DVRS, the new regional centers and the consumers we serve.

For additional information contact: Nancy Yarosh, PPDS State Coordinator for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing 609-292-9339 V, TTY, 609-292-8347 FAX, 866-970-1220 VP; Traci Burton DDHH Field Representatives at Traci.Burton@dhs.state.nj.us, 609-984-7281 V, TTY; Jason Weiland DDHH Field Representative at Jason.Weiland@dhs.state.nj.us, 609 498-7006 VP.

Conference for Parents of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children

The Family Learning Conference will hold its third biannual event on Saturday, May 2, 2009 at the Atlantic Cape Community College, 5100 Black Horse Pike (U.S. Route 322) Mays Landing, NJ.

This free conference is an excellent forum for parents/guardians who have children with hearing loss to meet others like themselves. It will bring together families across New Jersey, provide an opportunity to obtain valuable information from speaker presentations and gather a variety of resources from the exhibitors.

The keynote will be Dennis Jones, Jr., who wrote Tarnished Halos and Crooked Fences: a Journey into the World of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Other presenters include: Traci Burton and Jason Weiland, both from DDHH; Robert A. Robinson Esq. of New Jersey Disability Rights; Hilary Porteous-Nye BS, LSW from ACCESS Behavioral Health Services; and Carolyn Hayer from Statewide Parent Advocacy Network.



Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, and CART (Computer Access Realtime Translation) will be provided.

The planning committee is composed of the NJ Department of Human Services' Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, NJ Department of Health and Seniors Services' Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program, and Statewide Parent Advocacy Network/NJ Statewide Parent to Parent. The sponsors include NJ Relay/Sprint and NJ Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf.

For additional information and to obtain a registration form, please contact: Traci Burton at: traci.burton@dhs.state.nj.us or 609-984-7281 V/TTY or Jason Weiland, Jason.Weiland@dhs.state.nj.us.

NOTE: This conference is intended for parents/guardians of children with hearing loss (bring the kids - there will be activities and food).

Sprint Relay Conference Captioning: My Experience Using an Outstanding Service

By Arlene Romoff

As a member of the Hearing Loss Association of America, and its New Jersey state affiliate, the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey (www.hearingloss-nj.org), I am very “connected” and know about the latest technology and access services that can make life so much easier for people with hearing loss. It’s no surprise, then, that I’d heard about Sprint Relay Conference Captioning (RCC), a very useful service available to New Jersey residents, which provides free realtime CART captioning when participating in conference calls. I had read about it, thought it was a wonderful service, even told others about it, but I’d never had the chance to use it myself – until recently.

I am on the Board of Directors of the League for the Hard of Hearing, and had a meeting coming up that I wasn’t able to attend in person. Since the League was providing conference call access for this meeting, I knew that this was finally my opportunity to try RCC. As a cochlear implant user, I’ve usually been able to use a regular voice phone without needing relay service; but, a conference call is much more challenging than a regular one-on-one voice call. There are several different people speaking, the volume of their voices will vary, I may not catch every word, and even if I did, it would require a lot of concentration. I wanted to be able to concentrate on the issues being discussed at the meeting – not just the words – and I knew from experience that this was easier to do if I listened while following along with captioning. RCC was just what I needed, but I still was a little apprehensive about whether RCC would be complicated to set up and use.

I shouldn’t have worried at all. RCC was a breeze to use. All I had to do was access the RCC Web site (www.njrelaycc.com) and schedule the conference call. The menus were easy to use, the instructions were clear. I was

amazed it was so simple. I had to schedule my conference call at least 48 hours in advance, which I did. I entered the conference call phone number and access number, which I knew from my League meeting notice. I received an RCC confirmation number, and I was all set.



Arlene Romoff

On the day of the meeting, I logged onto that Web site again, entered my confirmation number, and a screen popped up, with a captioner ready to caption my meeting. I wanted to hear the conference call too, so I called the conference call number using my own phone and supplied the access number. This enabled me to hear the conference attendees, and speak and be heard directly at the meeting.

When the conference call began, the text of the proceedings was provided via CART captioning, appearing on the screen of my computer. I had the option of changing the background color and font size. If I hadn’t been able to voice for myself, there was a box to type into, so the captioner could voice for the user at the meeting.

I was totally relaxed with this arrangement. I was sitting in front of my computer, listening to the meeting by phone, but having this wonderful captioning “safety net,” catching any words I missed, and letting me relax and concentrate on the issues being discussed. This enabled me to participate fully, adding my own comments appropriately. That’s exactly what this technology was intended to do. At the end of the meeting, the captioner logged off, and I had the option of saving the entire transcript, which I did.

I was so delighted that RCC worked so well, I immediately wanted to tell everyone about it. Now you know about this outstanding service, too.

Arlene Romoff is President of the Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey, and the author of HEAR AGAIN – Back to Life with a Cochlear Implant.

Interning with the Division for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

by Christy Myhren, DDHH Intern

For two years I received the Monthly Communicator from the DHS Division for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, but I knew little else about the division, the staff, and their roles and responsibilities. Since February, I have been interning with DDHH at their Trenton office. I was surprised by all the responsibilities DDHH has and all the work they do. Eight staff members work together to accomplish a plethora of responsibilities such as assembling and publishing the monthly newsletter as well as other pamphlets and fact sheets. The staff members respond to requests for information sent through their Web site. New Jersey residents ask for information about laws and references. For example, where they can find statistics about the number of NJ residents who are Deaf or hard of hearing. DDHH also runs Assistive Device Demonstration Centers, which interested individuals can tour to learn about assistive devices available such as captioned telephones and fire alarms with strobe lights. Currently, DDHH is focusing on a very important project, planning the Family Learning Conference, which will take place on May 2nd.

As I worked alongside DDHH staff, I tasted a few of their job responsibilities. Two of the division's staff work as field representatives who respond to concerns consumers have through email, phone calls and videophone calls. They also travel the state teaching through meetings and running workshops. I was able to observe Traci Burton and Jason Weiland lead a sensitivity workshop together. They taught about Deaf culture and the DDHH- one technique explained to the audience was how to get a Deaf person's attention by flashing the lights. Working with Alan Champion to assist with editing the Monthly Communicator was another great opportunity I experienced.

While interning with the DHS Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, I have learned a lot including the importance of collaboration and cooperation needed among many people to get a job done. I am very grateful to the DDHH staff for all the time they have spent and all the patience they have had with me during the past few months. I have really enjoyed working with them and seeing first hand what they do.

Disability Rights New Jersey Appoints New Executive Director

Trenton, NJ- Joseph B. Young, Esq., has been appointed Executive Director of Disability Rights New Jersey (DRNJ) by the agency's Board of Directors. He has served as the agency's Acting Executive Director since July 2008 and as the Deputy Director since 1990. Young holds both Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Political Science and is a graduate of Rutgers University School of Law in Newark. His long career in disability law also includes work with the Community Health Law Project. Young is married and the father of two adult children.

DRNJ is the designated protection and advocacy system for people with disabilities in New Jersey. DRNJ is a non-profit corporation whose governing board consists of a majority of persons with disabilities or family members of persons with disabilities. DRNJ provides legal and non-legal advocacy, information and referral, outreach, training and technical assistance to advance the human, civil, and legal rights of persons with disabilities.

Children's American Sign Language Story Hour Live Worms, and Other Animals at the Library

VICKI JOY SULLIVAN, DEAF STORYTELLER, was the month's special guest at the New Jersey State Library for the Blind and Handicapped's (LBH) Children's American Sign Language Story Hour on March 17.



A snake lying around Pam's neck!

Ms. Sullivan signed Diary of A Worm by Doreen Cronin to students from the Marie H. Katzenbach School for the Deaf, the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission School and the public. This hilarious story is about a worm's view about life underground. We learn about his family, friends, and

daily activities. What's the best thing about being a worm? Not having to take a bath or go to the dentist: "No cavities -- no teeth, either." But what is it that worm wishes he can do just like humans?

Following her story, Pam Newitt of Nature By The Yard, discussed worms and soil enrichment/food. She also brought a live turtle, snake, and millipede to illustrate her talk. This allowed the children a hands-on experience as they were allowed to pet most of the animals that Ms. Newitt brought.

The Story Hour was interpreted into ASL thanks to support from the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, New Jersey Department of Human Services. The Story Hour is part of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Program (DHHAP) offered by LBH, which is located at 2300 Stuyvesant Avenue in Trenton. For more information about the DHHAP program, contact Christine Olsen, Coordinator of the DHHAP Program, at 877-882-5593 TTY or colsen@njstatelib.org. Future ASL Story Hours at NJLBH will be on May 12, 2009 and June 9 at 10:00 AM.



Live worms in container help make the Diary of a Worm story, come to life.



MSKD students enjoy petting the snake!



Happy Hands Camp 2009

July 6 - August 6, Mondays-Thursdays
(no Friday camp) 8:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Bankbridge Elementary School, 850 Bankbridge Road, Sewell, NJ 08080

SAVE THE DATE - Cost to be determined

This camp is designed for five to twelve year old children
who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing children
who have deaf parents

For information, contact:

Lorie Cross-Jones

happyhands_gcsssd@verizon.net

Mary Hilley, Supervisor

856-415-7530, ext. 6468

The 2009 MegaDEAF Conference

By Christy Myhren

On March 25, students and staff at The College of New Jersey participated in the MegaDEAFConference, joined by students and staff from the Marie Katzenbach School for the Deaf as well as educational administrators from other New Jersey programs. The Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD) hosted this first MegaDEAFConference, a video conference, from their school. The video conference lasted for two hours as students from Deaf schools in the United States and Canada shared projects and presentations with the audience.

The Minnesota School for the Deaf and Blind presented first, showing a video about their school ski trip. Students from the Minnesota North Star Academy explained how to create an online newspaper. They explained the rules to writing or signing their articles for the online newspaper. On their Web site, there is a choice to read the students' articles in English or watch a student sign their article in ASL. The host school, Kentucky School for the Deaf, demonstrated many projects and presentations such as a tour of the KFC museum and Mammoth Cave. Students showed videos of their "Idioms of the Week" which they performed as a skit to express an English idiom such as "keep it under your hat."

The Ernest C. Drewy School in Ontario, Canada played a music video in ASL for the song "Do I Make You Proud" by Taylor Swift. Students also explained a special major the school started allowing students to focus on studying the arts. From Ohio School for the Deaf, students demonstrated their recycling program and the daily management of it. At Churchill Downs in Louisville, Kentucky, a Deaf exercise rider showed a day on the job training race horses.

Other than some technical difficulties, the conference ran smoothly and attendees left with some new ideas they could try in their schools and classrooms. Next year it's hoped that even more schools will participate in the conference with more students sharing their ideas.

New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf

presents

Foundations of Court Interpreting

Carla M. Mathers, Esquire, CSC, SCL

This four day training will provide an overview of the legal system for practicing, and potential court interpreters, including discussion of the roles of court interpreters, positioning of court interpreters, courtroom personnel, pre-requisite knowledge and skills for a legal interpreter, working in Deaf/hearing interpreter teams, court code of conduct, roles and protocol for court interpreters, adequate preparation for a legal assignment, text analysis of commonly encountered texts, qualifying as an expert and testifying as an expert, and continued professional development resources.

The training is open to certified interpreters and Deaf interpreters; and is co-sponsored by Metro Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf and the New Jersey Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

June 20, 21, 27 & 28, 2009

Kean University
1000 Morris Ave - East Campus
Union, NJ 07083

Check www.njrid.org for registration information.



**Mental Health Association
of Rockland County**

improving lives and raising awareness

Fourteenth Rockland County Symposium

Mental Health Issues for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Consumers

Wednesday, May 20

Stony Point Conference Center
Stony Point, New York

Workshops on Advocacy, Sexuality, Mental Health Clinical issues, Working with a Certified Deaf Interpreter, Domestic Violence and more. Vendors will be available throughout the day.

Sponsored by • Mental Health Association of Rockland County, Inc. and Rockland County Task Force for Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services

For a Registration Form please go to www.mharockland.org
Barbara Russ Smith, Conference Coordinator - 845-558-1300 Voice, 866-951-1370 VP
BarbaraRSmith@optonline.net

ASL Club at Burlington County College

The ASL Club at Burlington County College (BBC) hosted a performance by Robert DeMayo, ASL Performer, Comedian and Story Teller, at the Mt. Laurel Campus on March 24.

The club invited students from the New Jersey School for the Deaf as their guests. The evening program provided a special treat to those students who reside in the dorms, as the school provided two buses to transport 90 students and staff to the event.

Students from the NJ School for the Deaf had the opportunity to show off their talents as DeMayo invited several students to the stage to participate in various skits of modified versions of Little Red Riding Hood, The Three Little Pigs and The Boy Who Cried Wolf. The performance was outstanding and enjoyed by Burlington County College American Sign Language and Interpreter Education students, Deaf Community members, and especially the students from the NJ School for the Deaf.



ASL Club members at Burlington County College with Robert DeMayo
(Center front row)

BCC students baked cupcakes and made "I love you" chocolate lollipops to sell as fundraisers to help support the cost of the event. Over 160 individuals attended the performance.



MKSD Student: Chris Aurelio with DeMayo



Left to right, MKSD students: Joshua Keller Amon Baldwin,
Chris Aurelio with Robert DeMayo

Interpreting in the Medical setting A Healthy Perspective

By Amanda Asterita

On March 28 the New Jersey Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc., (NJRID) hosted a workshop entitled “Medical Interpreting Protocol: Deaf & Interpreter’s Perspectives” at the Middletown Public Library in Middle-



town, NJ. The goal of this workshop was to bring members of the Deaf community together with interpreters for a dialogue about the ethical and professional role that interpreters play in the medical setting. The panel spoke of their personal experiences,



their expectations in a medical interpreting scenario and those in attendance participated with discussion of goals for the future of interpreters and Deaf relationships in a variety of medical situations. The day provided an opportunity for open discussion with the over eighty participants present.

The workshop comprised two parts: the morning panel



session which involved three New Jersey Deaf consumers and three New Jersey working interpreters and the afternoon session

where there was role playing followed by discussion. Topics discussed in the morning session included video remote interpreting (VRI), certification,

qualification and appropriateness of interpreters working in health care situations and the use of agencies for hospital and doctor visits as well as last minute emergency room and “on-call” interpreting jobs. The session further included discussion

concerning what role, if any, the interpreter plays as part of a health care team. The afternoon session focused in on role playing scenarios with an open discourse of the professionalism and ethics used by the interpreter.



The workshop was both educational and informative. It was clear by those in attendance that more opportunities to address this and other topics through NJRID sponsored workshops are needed.



Deaf & Hard of Hearing Interpreting Services, Inc. and Viable, Inc.

Invite you to

Viab!e VRS Call Center Open House



498 Inman Avenue, Suite 201
Colonia, New Jersey 07067

Saturday, June 6
3:00 PM -6:00 PM

Light refreshments will be served.

877-275-3447 Voice, 732-388-7203 Fax, 866-970-0142 VP

E-mail: customerservice@dhisnj.com

For more information, contact

Zavier Sabio', Public Relations Manager at zavier.sabio@dhisnj.com

In collaboration with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (DVRS) and the Division of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing (DDHH); Bridges to Employment, a division of Alternatives, Inc. is pleased to announce the opening of our Regional Center providing Vocational Services for individuals who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Central NJ.



- Career Services that will be offered will include, but are not limited to Vocational Assessment & Evaluation, Employment Readiness Training and Counseling, Career Exploration, Job Development and Job Placement assistance.
- The center will provide services to Somerset, Hunterdon, Middlesex, Mercer, Ocean & Monmouth Counties.
- We will offer support groups, seminars and workshops related to employment.
- Bridges to Employment is available to provide short and long term job coaching and additional employment supports as needed
- Assistive technology demonstrations will be available at the center through DDHH.

If you are interested in these services please contact Alyse Betso at (908) 685-1444 extension 284 or your local DVRS office.



SECOND ANNUAL D.C. ASL FILM FESTIVAL

Friday to Sunday, May 1 to 3
Andrew Foster Auditorium
Gallaudet University, Washington, DC

The D.C. ASL Film Festival is back, bigger and “badder,” with twice the amount of festival programming, new features, shorts, documentaries, student films, art films and more from across the nation and around the world.

This year's three day festival will be held on campus at Gallaudet University during the weekend of May 1 to 3. “We are very excited about our second ASL Film Festival programming. We have built on the momentum of last year’s event and it's filling up fast with exciting films,” said Alexander Zernovoj, Director and Event Co-Chairperson of the Film Festival.

There will be many activities at this year's event, some of which will be new. Among the activities will be the VIP Filmmaker Reception as well as the general public reception, panel discussions, workshops, Q&A sessions and the introduction of our official film festival poster. Many filmmakers are expected to be present throughout the festival to discuss their works.

Several prestigious awards (e.g., Jury's Choice, Audience Choice and Honorable Mention) will be passed out to competing films.

Ticket Information:

- \$15 - One Day Admission (\$3 off for students and DCAD members)
- \$25 - Two Day Admission (\$5 off for students and DCAD members)
- \$35 - Festival Combo Pass - All 3 Days - (\$5 off for students and DCAD members)
- \$50 - Festival Combo Pass with VIP/Filmmaker Reception (\$5 off for students and DCAD members)

Advanced tickets sale for the festival are recommended to guarantee a seat and available online at www.ASLFilmFestival.com. If there are remaining tickets, they will be available for purchase at the door on a first come, first serve basis.

Tickets are limited. Order yours today.

The Film Festival will be accessible to the general public. Many films feature captioning, subtitles and voice-overs. Films will be screened in the afternoons and evenings. A complete film programming schedule is available at www.ASLFilmFestival.com. Visit the Web site for updates, schedule and ticket information for the D.C. ASL Film Festival.

For more information, contact us at ASLFilm@dcdeaf.org.



The First Annual Soccer Kick-Off

Sponsored by

**The International Alliance of Deaf Soccer Players
New Jersey Chapter**

**Saturday July 18,
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
and
Sunday July 19
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**



Rizzuto Park (Corner of Morris and North Avenue)
Union, New Jersey 07083
(Across from Kean University)

**Eight men's teams & eight women's teams will compete for cash prizes:
\$600 First place; \$400 Second place; \$200 Third place.**

Team fee: \$350

Fee includes insurance, park fees, referees, trophies & cash prizes.

Send check to:

NJDS Inc./o Charles Wallace, 26 North Shore Blvd., Helmetta, NJ 08828-1233

Admission fee to attend:

\$5 one day ticket, \$10 two day combo ticket.

Hotel information available upon request

**Award Luncheon Buffet
(After tournament on Sunday)
\$16 per person**

For more information, please contact:

Charles Wallace NJDeafSportsInc@aol.com 732-641-3420 VP

Alvaro Rodriguez ARodri1561@aol.com 908-242-3537 VP

Visit us at www.njdeafsports.org/

For directions: www.ucnj.org/mapsdirections/mapUNION.pdf

(Kean University is shown in gold with Phil Rizzuto Park nearby in green)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Deaf Services Center Milestones Community Healthcare, Inc.

614 N. Easton Road, Glenside, PA 19038
215-884-9770 TTY/Voice; 215-884-9774 VP/FAX

Deaf Services Center (DSC) offers culturally competent, linguistically accessible treatment for individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing and in need of behavioral health services.

This is an opportunity for a motivated individual to join a dedicated group of professionals who give new meaning to the term teamwork. E.O.E.

Full & Part Time Employment Opportunities:
Case Manager (Full time position);
Residential Counselors (various positions available).

We are growing. Come be a part of our Professional TEAM.
Send your letter of intent and resumes to:

Linda Sivigny-Claypool, Office Manager/Human Resources
Deaf Services Center
Milestones Community Healthcare, Inc.
614 N. Easton Road, Glenside, PA 19038
lsivigny@salisb.com or 215-884-9774 FAX

Southern Regional Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program

for Individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing
(grant funded by NJ DVRS)
Burlington County College, Mt. Holly Center

Seeks candidates for two positions:
Program Coordinator/Support Service Specialist (full-time) and
Vocational Evaluator (full-time)

For more information, and to apply online, go to staff.bcc.edu/hr.

Religious Access



**Ministry With The Deaf Of South Jersey
Chapter #138 of ICDA**

GINGO Returns

Saturday, May 9

6:00 PM to 10:30 PM

No Early Birds, Please.

Please be there before Gingo starts at 7:00 PM.

St. Gregory's Church (in basement)

340 E. Evesham Avenue

Magnolia, New Jersey 08049

Pay at the Door!

\$10 per person (cash only, please)

Must be 21 to play. No children, please.

Refreshments & 50/50 tickets will be sold.

Bring desserts, get 3 free 50/50 tickets (limit 3 tickets per person).

For more information, please contact

Betty Ann mwdbak@yahoo.com

Next Gingo will be June 13

Communicator Signboard

Deaf Awareness Club of Newark, NJ General Meeting

**Saturday, May 2
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM**

**Newark Public Library
5 Washington Street,
3rd Floor Special Services Room
Newark, NJ 07102**

Refreshments will be served.

**Club Fundraisers with logo for sale:
Polo Shirt \$18, Tees \$10, Totes \$10.**

For more information, contact: lgreggs@npl.org.

201-407-5028 Text

973-733-5412 Voice

973-733-5648 FAX



Tri State Deaf Club

hosts

Texas Hold 'em poker tournament

May 9

Doors open at 6:00 PM, Games begin at 6:30 PM.

Raritan Township Fire House located at
303 South Main St in Flemington, NJ

Seating is limited to 50 people with \$25 "buy in."

Based on 50 players the prizes are - First place \$375;

Second place - \$100; Third place - \$75;

Fourth through Tenth place - \$30 each.

Food and drink are included in the buy in.

For more information: www.tristatedeafclub.com

Contact our president at 908-782-3712 VP



Communicator Signboard

Yoga for the Deaf

**Come join Alissa Shaneson
Modified Astanga Yoga class**

May 8

Time: 7:30 PM – 8:30 PM

CenterSpace Studios,
900 Easton Avenue, Somerset, NJ2009

\$10 Fee

Register at NJYogafortheDeaf@yahoo.com

Pre-registration one week prior to class is required.
Minimum of 6 students required for class to be held.

Next dates:

June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11,
October 9, November 13, December 11
(Second Friday of the month)



Bordentown Performing Arts Center

Presents

DR. DOLITTLE

Wednesday, May 13

10:30 AM

**Bordentown Performing Arts Center
318 Ward Avenue
Bordentown, NJ 08505**

In the classic story of Dr. Dolittle, we are introduced to a doctor who finds
he has the amazing ability to talk to animals!

This play is presented by Sign Stage on Tour, a specialist in Sign Language Theatre,
where deaf and hearing actors perform together on stage. Whenever a character speaks, the
character speaking uses Sign Language but you'll always hear the voice too.

It's a magical blend of language created when performing a play simultaneously in
spoken English and in the spatial beauty of American Sign Language.

The whole family will enjoy this charming production.

This touring production is performed by Sign Stage On Tour, through Windwood Productions.

Communicator Signboard

NJ/NY PC Deaf Connection 18th Annual Banquet Party

**Wednesday, May 20
6:00 PM to 10:00 PM**

Biagio's Ristorant

9 Paramus Road, Paramus, NJ 07652
www.biagios.com

Door Prizes & Cash Bar

Entrée choices: Chicken Marsala, Veal Parmigiana, Beef Sirloin Steak,
Tilapia

Pasta: Penne Marinara

All Entrees Served with Soup or Salad, Wine, Italian Pastries and Coffee
or Tea.

\$35 for members; \$40 for non-members
Limit 75 people

Deadline to register is May 6

For directions to Biagio's Ristorante: www.biagios.com

Make check for total amount payable to:
NJ/NY PC Deaf Connection

Send check with your name(s), mailing address and email address to:

Bryan A. Ross, Treasurer
PO Box 373
Montville, NJ 07045
(Be sure to include entrée choice)

For more information, contact Bryan at bryross@aol.com.

Communicator Signboard



Wallyball & Swim Fun Night

Saturday, May 30, 2009

7:00 PM to 11:00 PM

at Spa 23 & Racquetball Club
381 Rt. 23 South, Pompton Plains, NJ
For Adults, Teens & Kids.

\$10 - Adults, 19 Yrs & older

\$5 - Teens - 13 to 18 Yrs

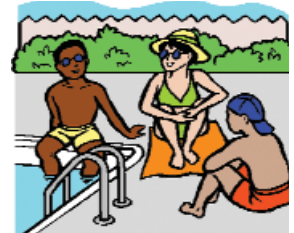
Free - 12 years and under. Must be accompanied by parent (Swimming only, no Wallyball)

\$5 - Spectators to watch only. No games & no swimming

Pool Hours 7:00PM to 10:00 PM With Lifeguards & Interpreters

For more information and directions, visit www.nwjad.org

or contact us at nwjad@nwjad.org.



Open Captioned Performance
Saturday May 30 at 3:00 PM

Private Lives

A spicy comedy set in Buenos Aires,
Noel Coward's classic wit is given a sultry, sexy twist.

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

Tickets are \$14 for patrons and guests.

For more information, contact

Michele Klinsky at mklinsky@trtc.org, 732-345-1400, x808 Voice

Calendar of Events 2009

DDHH Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, July 24

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

Location yet to be determined.

Live Digital Caption Demonstration

Call DDHH to confirm your attendance:

609-984-7281 V/TTY

**Family Learning Conference
(For families with children who
are Deaf and hard of hearing)**

Saturday, May 2

Atlantic Cape Community College

Mays Landing, NJ

609-984-7281 V/TTY

609-943-4271 VP

Saturday, June 13

DDHH 25th Annual

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Awareness Day

Six Flags Great Adventure

Jackson, NJ

**New Jersey Deaf
Awareness Week, Inc. (DAW)**

Middlesex County Fairgrounds

East Brunswick, NJ

Sunday, September 13

222.njdaw.org

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

DDHH Office Dates Closed

NJ Mandatory Furlough Day for state employees - May 22; Memorial Day - May 25

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

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