

"News brought to you by the West Virginia Association of the Deaf organization."

Volume 40, No. 4

Fall 2019

42nd Biennial WVAD Conference at Lakeview Resort, Morgantown, WV

by Tamera Deem

West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) held their 42nd Biennial Conference at Lakeview Resort in Morgantown, WV, on August 8-10, 2019.

The conference was a huge success and offered rich information for the deaf and hard of hearing. The workshops provided on Friday morning were (1) "Sorenson Community Interpreting Services (SCIS)" by Jessie Adner and (2) "The Impact of Social Media" by Jacob Leffler and Tamera Deem. During Friday evening reception, Sorenson held a Deaf Chat and WVAD had Dingo afterwards.

WV Commission for the Deaf (WVCDHH) Executive Director Earnest Covington III hosted a hospital seminar on Saturday morning. Three hospital representatives (Mon Health from Morgantown, Camden Clark Hospital from Parkersburg, and Berkeley Medical Center from Martinsburg) came and listened to the attendees' testimonies about their experience they face in their medical settings.

A board meeting and two general assembly meetings were also held. There were crafters, exhibition booths,

and a silent auction to raise money for the organization as well.

There were 78 attendees over the weekend who came from near and far. Everyone had such a wonderful time.

On Saturday evening, a banquet and an awards ceremony were held. An ASL Comedy show was provided by Performer, Educator, and Advocate Windell "Wink" Smith, Jr.



WVAD Officers of 2019-2021 (L-R): Laura Crowder (Trustee), Sylvia Mick (Trustee), Scott Hottle (Trustee), Veronda Harrison (Treasurer), Tamera Deem (Secretary), Gloria Hollen (Vice President), and Christopher Mick (President)

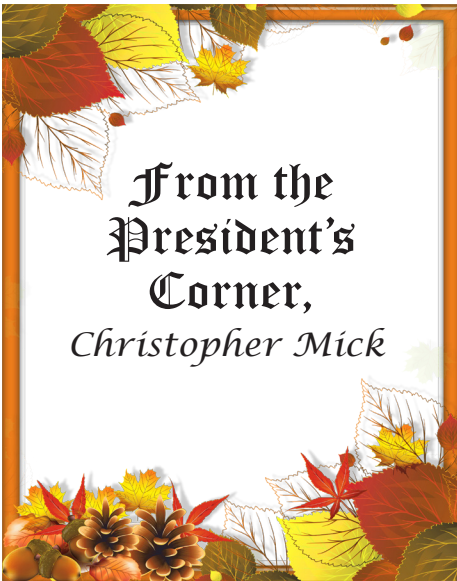
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PUBLICATION INFORMATION AND ADVERTISING RATES

The *WVAD Quarter News* newsletter is a publication of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc., published four times a year (January, April, July, October). Free subscription with paid dues. All advertisements must be paid in advance. The *WVAD Quarter News* reserves the right to reject any advertisement. Make checks payable to **WVAD**. Send ads with payment and any news to Tamera Deem.

Full Page, 7 5/8" x 10"	\$100.00
Half Page, 7 5/8" x 5"	\$60.00

Hello and welcome to our Autumn newsletter,

I want to thank those 78 attendees who came to WVAD's 42nd Biennial Conference that was held at Lakeview Resort in Morgantown, WV, on August 9-10, 2019. I especially want to recognize Chairperson Tamera Deem; Conference Committee; sponsors; exhibitors; local businesses who donated gift cards, gift certificates, items, and food for our breaks; presenters; entertainer; and West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (hospital seminar) for their dedication to making the conference a huge success! Also thanks to Lakeview Resort for allowing us to have our conference there and making sure that everything went smooth the entire weekend. Thank you!

I also want to thank those who had confidence in me and voted me as the new WVAD President for the term 2019-2021. I will do my best to make the organization better and stronger. I want to thank outgoing President John Burdette for his hard work serving as WVAD President for the last 8 years. Job well done!

Fall is coming so that mean hunting season is around the corner so please be mindful and safe when you go out hunting in the woods. I hope those who deer hunt will get a good size buck this year. Football season is also here, meaning quality times spent with families and friends rooting together for our favorite teams.

I want to update you on what WVAD has done since the conference. Several board members and I went to *Power* baseball game in Charleston, WV, on August 30, 2019. WVAD had an exhibit table set up along with four other organizations. There were a good number of fans that showed up for the ball game. The board and I enjoyed the ball game and meeting people, letting them get to know me, as well as others.

WVAD was invited by Hands & Voice non-profit organization to come and set up an exhibit table at their annual picnic at Sutton, WV, on September 28, 2019. Some of the WVAD board and I went to the picnic. There were several other exhibit tables there too. Approximately 40 people came to the picnic.

WVAD board had its first retreat in Morgantown, WV, on October 5, 2019. The retreat was presented by a team of knowledgeable deaf people (Jacob Leffler, Kirsten Poston, and Vikki Porter) from Maryland. They gave a team building workshop and also gave helpful tips and advice on how to improve our organization to make it stronger and better.


Tamera Deem and I will be going to National Association of the Deaf's National Leadership Training Conference (NLTC) on October 17-20, 2019, at Little Rock, Arkansas, to gain knowledge, expertise, and network to enable full productivity and success within our WVAD organization.

WVAD will be hosting a Christmas party on November 30, 2019, at Veterans

of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Clarksburg, WV. I hope to see a good number of people come to enjoy the day, meet old and new friends, and enjoy the delicious foods that will be provided at the party. There will be cash prizes, gift raffles, and ugly sweater contest so come and have some fun and wear your favorite ugly sweater, vest, or outfit!

Just a quick reminder for those who have not paid for expired membership (see page 19 for membership form), please send the form and payment to our Membership Coordinator, Jimmy Harrison. WVAD accepts debit and credit cards for membership fees, etc. We are currently accepting Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, and PayPal. You may also pay through Cash Square apps but you will need to contact Jimmy (contact info is on the membership form) to make payment arrangements. If you are not a member of WVAD, please join. If you have any questions about joining WVAD, please contact Jimmy Harrison. Your support and dues help keep WVAD going. This would also be a good way to give someone a membership as a gift.

In closing, please check out our WVAD website (www.wvad.org) or WV Association of the Deaf page on Facebook for any ongoing information about WVAD.

Warm regards,

 Christopher T. Mick



*Date: August 8, 2019
Location: Lakeview Resort,
Morgantown, WV*

WVAD Board Minutes

WVAD Board Meeting Held at Lakeview Resort, Morgantown, WV, August 8, 2019

West Virginia Association of the Deaf's Mission Statement:

The West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc., (WVAD) operated by, of, for the Deaf Community, advocates, and promotes to improve the quality of life for deaf and hard of hearing individuals including but not limited to deaf-blind individuals, parents of deaf children, interpreters, late-deafened adults, and children of deaf adults.

Members Present: John Burdette, Tami Deem, Veronda Harrison, Gloria Hollen, Jeffery Simmons, Christopher Mick, and Worthy Devericks.

Visitors Present: Erin Fulton, Connie Boyce, Larry Hubbard, Jimmy Harrison, Earl Hollinshead, Christina Hollinshead, Christie Sevigny, and Earl Hollen, and Ken Hartman.

The regular board meeting of WVAD was held at Lakeview Resort in Morgantown, WV. President John Burdette called the meeting to order at 3:22 p.m.

Treasurer Veronda Harrison's Financial Report:

Financial report from April 13, 2019 to August 7, 2019: Balance in checking account – \$1,231.12; balance in savings account – \$3,566.94; Mingo County Fund: \$14,552.64; WVAD Conference Fund – \$12,278.47; Deaf Youth Program – \$478.00; Education Fund – \$289.15; Certificate of Deposit – \$7,000.00. The board accepted the report as read. CARRIED

President John Burdette's Report:

- NAD Region 1 Monthly VP Meeting: Month of June was via e-mail blast. August 7th – Christopher Mick participated.
- President Burdette sent an e-mail to Penny Maphis to check on information about WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSD) graduation. She replied that five WVSD graduates were scheduled to graduate. President Burdette went to WVSD

and attended graduation to give out awards to deaf graduates from WV Association of the Deaf.

- President Burdette received an e-mail from Lizzie Sorkin from National Association of the Deaf (NAD). She shared info with NAD Region 1 state associations about a new parent advocacy apps you can download on your phone.
- President Burdette received an e-mail from Chaya-Bracha Walkenfeld regarding Civil Rights Litigation looking for a plaintiff.
- President Burdette received an e-mail from the WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH). They extended an invitation for WVAD to attend "Deaf Night at the Power" baseball game as an exhibitor. He replied with a thank you for the invitation and accepted the invitation.
- President Burdette received an e-mail from Brooke Grossinger, Community Engagement Manager at Sorenson Communications, regarding WVAD put out a video about the conference on their SVRS Video Center. Replied and thanked them for the opportunity to do the video announcement. He told her that WVAD would be interested in doing a video announcement about WVAD conference to get the word out.
- President Burdette received an e-mail from Kim Bianco-Majeri (NAD's State Legislative Affairs Coordinator) sharing info with Region 1 representatives about Open Caption Advocacy.

- President Burdette received an e-mail from Antonia Vaughan (WVAD Legislative Advocate) about interpreter issues in Kanawha County public schools.
- President Burdette mentioned about his friend who went to the first Summer Institute Conference in Morgantown, WV, this past July 2019. This conference was specialized for teachers and outreach specialists working with deaf and hard of hearing students. The conference was 3 days. John would like for our future WVAD conferences to be at the same time as their conferences (at same location) to help expose hearing parents and their deaf/hard of hearing children to WVAD and show them what WVAD has to offer for the deaf and hard of hearing community.
- President Burdette mentioned that he found out at the WVCDHH meeting this morning that some WV codes that include hearing impaired, hearing impairment, and deaf mute were not changed in the codes because they are still using the old term on the Federal level. Whatever wording that's on WV level codes that refers to Federal level codes cannot be changed until the Federal level codes are changed.

Vice President Christopher Mick's Report:

- Jason and Heather Hanshaw went to Deaf Service Center's Frontier (See Board Minutes on page 4)

(Board Minutes from page 3)

Deaf/HH camp and met a hard of hearing deaf camper named Tyrin Musser from Cabin, WV (near Petersburg). Jason and Heather introduced Tyrin to Christopher. Tyrin is 22 years old. Chris said that Tyrin knew nothing about deaf culture, knew no signs, or anything. Christopher told him about different things about deaf culture, interpreters, and different services that are provided to deaf and hard of hearing people. Christopher meets him every Sunday to teach him sign language. Christopher is exposing him to videophone, deaf culture, etc., to help Tyrin get ahead in life.

- Christopher shared notes about his recent Region 1 VP meeting. He said that the Region 1 states shared their news about what was going on in their states. Liz Hill (from Pennsylvania) told us to pick 1 person to show up at their bi-monthly Region 1 meetings unless you are training someone else to take your place then can have 2 people. They also talked about their state bills (LEAD-K; Deaf Child Bill of Right; open captioned at movie theaters and public places such as restaurants, hospitals, etc.; interpreter licensure). One person from DC Association of the Deaf mentioned about having deaf clubs and organizations get together to discuss deaf community concerns and get feedback from them. One state said that they are already doing this and have been for a while.

Secretary's Report:

Nothing to report.

Trustees' Report:

Trustee Gloria Hollen shared some information from her WVCDHH meeting this morning about two deaf homeless people who were abused. A position has opened for deaf and hard of hearing board member with WVCDHH.

Newsletter Editor's Report:

Deadline for the next newsletter is September 20, 2019.

Membership Coordinator Jimmy Harrison's Report:

At the last board meeting, there were 164 members. Now there are 142 members. Need to send out renewal membership forms to former members who have let their membership lapse.

Legislative Advocate Antonia Vaughan's Report:

No report.

Education Advocate April Hottle's Report:

No report.

Fundraising Veronda Harrison's Report:

Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

- Scholarship monies for WVSD Valedictorian and Salutatorian: Do we want to increase the value of

scholarships for them or leave as is? The Board decided to leave as is.

- Christopher Mick motioned to have a silent auction on items and gifts. Veronda Harrison seconded. CARRIED
- Veronda Harrison motioned to have 3 Dingo games (WVU) for \$100 per letter (total \$300). Christopher Mick seconded. CARRIED
- Veronda Harrison motioned to sell raffles for cash prize plus give free gift cards in raffle drawing. Tami Deem seconded. CARRIED
- Christopher Mick motioned to use gift cards as door prize. Worthy Devericks seconded. CARRIED
- Tami Deem motioned to sell remaining conference program books for \$5.00. Worthy Devericks seconded. CARRIED

New business closed.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



Respectfully submitted,
Tamera Deem
Secretary



This is a West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) non-profit organization newsletter for our WVAD family and friends.

It is the purpose of *WVAD Quarter News* to be an informative communications newsletter by all WVAD members and non-members, addressing WVAD programs, activities, issues, and member interests. *WVAD Quarter News* strives to maintain a balance between program and general interest news. Contact the *WVAD Quarter News* editor at **WVAD Editor** concerning material appearing in *WVAD Quarter News*. *WVAD Quarter News* will publish materials submitted by anyone, subject to editorial review and approval. Please remember to send references of any outside sources you may use. Authors' names will be withheld from publication at their request. The views and opinions expressed by contributors to *WVAD Quarter News* are the authors' own and do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of *WVAD Quarter News*.

WVAD Quarter News

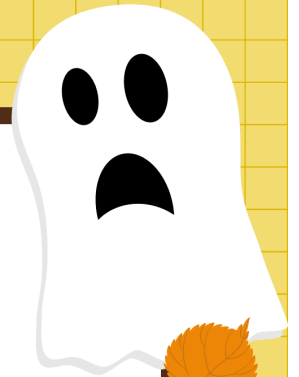



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|------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Editor:</i> | Tamera Deem |
| <i>President:</i> | Christopher Mick |
| <i>Vice President:</i> | Gloria Hollen |
| <i>Secretary:</i> | Tamera Deem |
| <i>Treasurer:</i> | Veronda Harrison |
| <i>Senior Trustee:</i> | Scott Hottle |
| <i>Trustee:</i> | Sylvia Mick |
| <i>Trustee:</i> | Laura Crowder |

October

HALLOWEEN SUDOKU



Fill in the grids so that each column, row, and box contains only one of the letters from the given word.

	D			
S				H
W			O	S
O		S		D
D				W
				H

SHADOW

	P		I	
S		E		
D		P		
			P	R
			D	E
		R		I

SPIDER

	I			M
	Z	O		I
E				Z
	B			Z
I			Z	M
Z				I

ZOMBIE

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R		O		
				O
N				
			R	G
	G	A		

ORANGE





8th Annual WVAD Christmas Party

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2019

Doors Open at 1:00 p.m. to Midnight

*Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
430 West Pike Street
Clarksburg, WV 26301*

Age 18 and Above

Dinner Starts at 4:00 p.m.

Prize Giveaways
Starts at 7:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Handicap Accessible
(Elevator is Available)

MENU: Chicken, Ham,

Mashed Potatoes & Gravy,

Sweet Potatoes, Corn, Green Beans,

Rolls, and Assorted Desserts

Please bring covered dish
and/or dessert for an
extra door prize ticket.

\$1,000 Door Prize Giveaway
(Depends Upon Attendance)

Ugly Sweater Contest
Various Gifts/Cash Prizes
(Smart TV and More!)

Door Prize Giveaway: Cash

\$20.00 per person includes Dinner and Door Prizes

Come One, Come All! Have Some Fun!

The uglier the sweater, will make the party better!

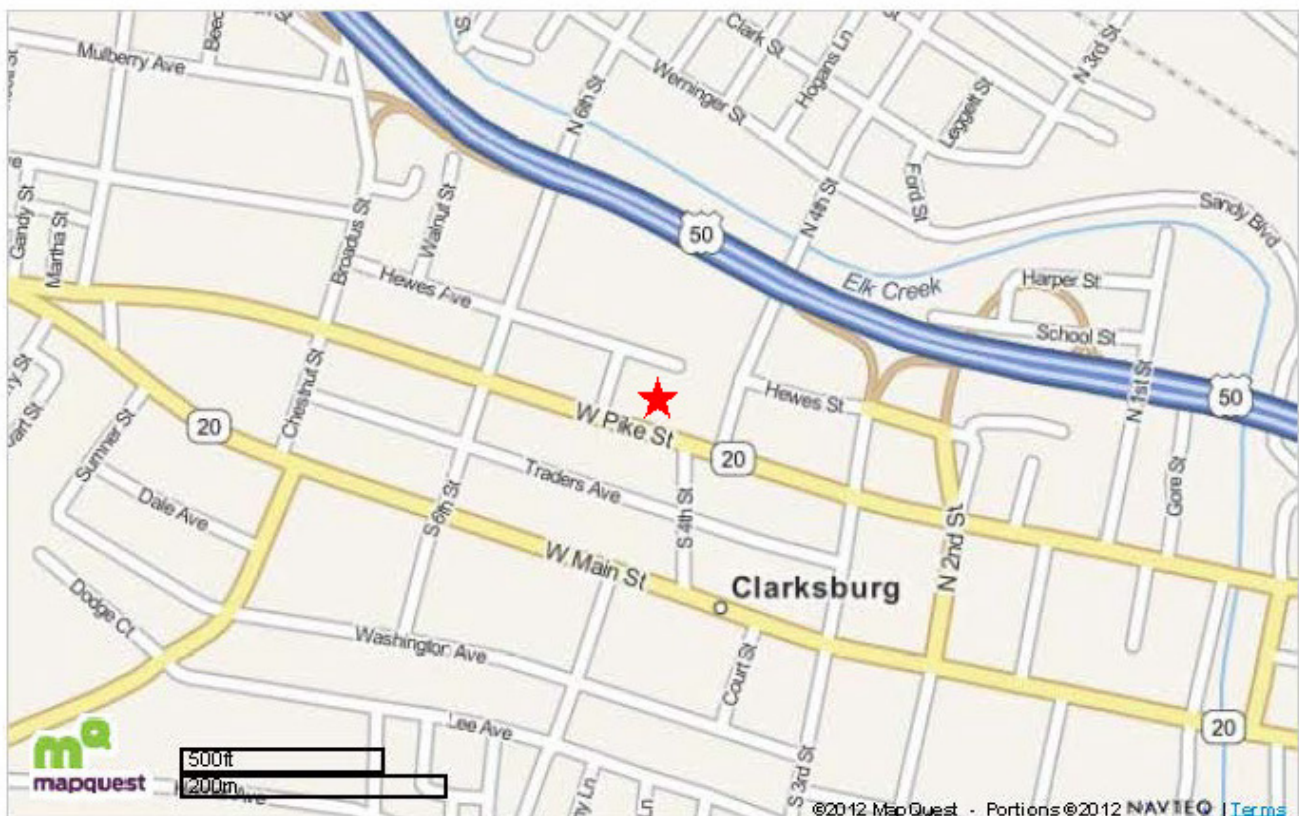
Directions to Veterans of Foreign Wars 430 West Pike Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301

Traveling from North I-79, go South I-79, get on Exit 119, turn right on U.S. 50 West/West Main Street. Exit on South 2nd Street toward downtown. Turn right on West Pike Street.

Traveling from South I-79, go North I-79, get on Exit 119, turn left on U.S. 50 West/West Main Street. Exit on South 2nd Street toward downtown. Turn right on West Pike Street.

Traveling from East I-68, go West I-68 and merge onto South I-79 and get on Exit 119, turn right on U.S. 50 West/West Main Street. Exit on South 2nd Street toward downtown. Turn right on West Pike Street.

Traveling from Parkersburg, go on U.S. 50 East toward Clarksburg, get on Exit North 3rd Street. Turn right on West Pike Street.





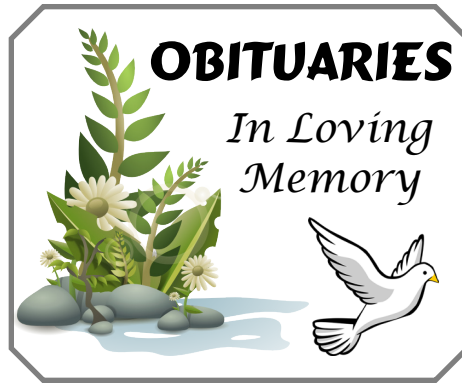
MAXINE P. GRADY

Maxine P. Grady, age 88, of Romney, WV, died peacefully at the Winchester Medical Center on June 5, 2019, surrounded by her loving family.

She is the daughter of the late Loring Payne and Anne Hannas Payne. Maxine is also preceded in death by her husband, Forrest O. Grady, Sr.; her brother, James Payne; and her two sisters, Virginia "Ginny" Potter and Donna Saville.

Maxine is survived by two sons, Forrest O. "F.J." Grady, Jr. (wife Janet) of Keyser, WV, and James T. "Jimmy" Grady (wife Susan) of Cumberland, MD; two daughters, Belinda Maxine Grady (companion Ray Oster) of Cumberland, MD, and Julie Mae Grady of Romney, WV; seven grandchildren, James Todd (wife Jennifer), Julieanne and Johnna Buckley, Jonathan Tyler (wife Kelsie), Carly Shaye, Ian (wife Andrea), and Jordan Grady; three great grandchildren, Jace Thomas Crandall, Mya Laurel, and Tycen Barron Buckley; and a hand-picked "granddaughter" Katherine "Kat" Corbin. She is also survived by a world of nieces, nephews, and friends.

Maxine was born on Sunrise Orchard, and knew hard work from an early age. She left school in the 10th grade and went to work to help support her family (completing her education later in life). She soon after met Forrest Grady, Sr. and they were married on Valentine's Day of 1947. That marriage lasted 69 years and produced a wonderful family and countless memories. Even at the end, Maxine was there for Forrest every day and made certain all his needs were met with the most loving care.



Maxine was the matriarch of the family and is given total credit as being the glue that held it all together. She loved family events, being a neighborhood mom, and in the world of givers and takers, Maxine was a primo giver with an enormous heart. As the grandchildren came along, Maxine became "Maw Maw" and she took much pleasure in going overboard with all of them and having a wonderful time. She loved to cook for family events, and there were many of them, most always at the family home in Savillavale.

Maxine will be remembered by many from her work at the A&P grocery store and as an administrator at the WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. She was one who could hold a career and still be mom and wife and excel at all. She was there for most every sporting event that her children, then grandchildren were involved in. Each of her children openly admit that Maxine had an undeniably wonderful influence on their lives, as a result of her love, and commitment to them (with a sizable amount of hard work thrown in). She will be sorely missed but never forgotten.

Friends were received on Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 12:00 until the time of service at 2:00 p.m. at Shaffer Funeral Home in Romney, WV. Maxine and Forrest will be interred together in a private ceremony at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that Maxine be remembered by contributing to Helping Hands, 24 West Main Street, Romney, WV 26757, or Romney Assembly of God, 87 Mitchell Street, Romney, WV 26757.

Please see <http://shafferfuneral.com/obituary/maxine-payne-grady/?fbclid=IwAR2FJ37IVMvxWBpNJ62j0Fr3V5LS75DvjSSAarWUj2NIKT6gKuXRshMqHOo> for more information. 🕯️



DOUGLAS EUGENE "GENE" SMITH, SR.

Douglas Eugene "Gene" Smith, Sr., 81, of Kingwood and Great Cacapon, WV, passed away Thursday, July 4, 2019, in Kingwood, WV. He was born June 18, 1938, in Berkeley Springs, WV, son of the late Turner Nelson and Agnes Louise Close Smith.

Gene graduated from the WV School for the Deaf in Romney, WV, in 1957. He was a retired printer for the *Baltimore Sun* newspaper company.

He liked being outdoors, camping, fishing, hunting, and gardening.

In 1961 and 1965 he was an Olympic Gold Medalist in the Deaf Olympics as a member of the USA Basketball team.

He is survived by his wife Cathryn Ann Waltermeyer Smith; two sons, Douglas "Doug" Smith, Jr., Berkeley Springs, WV, and Frank Smith, Sr., Terra Alta, WV; two daughters, Wendy Smith, Great Cacapon, WV, and Amy Moats, Kingwood, WV; companion, Benita Hillery; three sisters, Juanita "Nita" Kelley and Mari Stotler, both of Berkeley Springs, WV, and Barbara Spade, New Castle, Delaware; six grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by four brothers, Robert, Harold, Tim, and John Smith, and two sisters, Nancy Keefer and Rosemary Horton.

A memorial service was held at the Calvary United Methodist Church in Great Cacapon, WV, on August 17, 2019, from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to his Funeral Care Fund on his memorial page. For more info, please see <https://www.browningfuneralhomewv.com/notices/Douglas-SmithSr.> 🕯️ (See Obituaries on page 9)

WVAD Quarter News, Fall 2019

In Memoriam

LOIS A. DEVERICKS

Lois A. Devericks, 85, of Clarksburg, WV, received her angel wings and passed into Heaven's gates Monday, June 10, 2019, at United Hospital Center in Bridgeport, WV, surrounded by her loving husband and children. She was born in Parkersburg, WV, on October 9, 1933, the youngest of five siblings of late Charles E. Uhl and A. Muriel (Adams) Uhl.

She is survived by her husband of 45 years, Worthy V. Devericks, Sr.; eight children, Deena Buckler of GA, Larry Witt, Jr. and wife Chantal of FL, Cyndi Hopkins and husband John of AL, Worthy Devericks Jr., Susie Smith, Kelly Pena and fiancé Jack Waggoner, Mike Devericks, and Lisa Winters and husband Matt, all of WV; a sister Leona Sartor of WV; 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She also leaves behind several brother-in-laws and sister-in laws, nieces, and nephews – too many to mention.

Lois was a 1953 graduate of West Virginia School for the Deaf (WVSD), Romney, WV. After graduating from WVSD, she worked at Brodies Clothing Store in Parkersburg, WV. They sent her to New York City to try out to be a model but she didn't make it because of her height. She then was employed by Best Photo in Parkersburg, WV, and previously at the Louis A. Johnson VA Medical Center in Clarksburg, WV. Lois was a loyal member of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf for many years along side of her husband filling various positions of the association. She was also the Miss Deaf WV Pageant Director for many years. She enjoyed shopping, sewing, making a variety of crafts, baking and cooking, going to yard sales, flea markets, gardening, and canning. She mostly enjoyed spending holidays, birthdays, and special occasions with family and friends.



State Director
Lois A. Devericks
1983



Lois Devericks
Director



(42nd Biennial... from page 1)

Michael Folk, a Republican candidate for 2020 West Virginia Governor, popped in during our banquet to give a little speech and background on himself.

Mary Ann Jividen, President of Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliance (EPDA), was presented the President Award by WVAD President, John Burdette, for all her hard work and dedication to forming a new 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia.

Tamera Deem received the Member of the Year award for her hard work planning the conference, as well as doing other work for WVAD over the last 2 years.

Worthy Devericks and John Burdette received Service awards for their years of service and dedication to WVAD.

April Hottle (Education Advocate) received the Mountaineer Award for volunteering her time and energy to provide a service of lasting benefit to the deaf community in West Virginia.

The conference committee also received certificates for helping to make sure the conference went smooth. They did a wonderful job organizing and helping during the conference and for making it successful!

Special thanks goes to local businesses who donated food, gift cards, gift certificates, gifts, and flowers. Dunkin Donuts and Love, Peace, and Little Donuts donated donuts for our

morning workshop breaks. Subway donated cookies for our afternoon breaks during the General Assembly meetings. Papa John's and Little Caesars donated pizza for our Friday evening reception. Zaccagnini Morgantown Florist donated flowers for our moment of silence in memory of those who have passed on in the last 3 years.

WVAD brought back the Hillbilly Whittler T-shirts during the conference and it was a huge success! The T-shirts were originally designed over 30 years ago. If anyone is interested in buying a T-shirt, please see page 15 for details.

Charleston Association of the Deaf placed a bid to host the next conference in August 2021. We hope to see more people come to our next conference! 🍌



(See 42nd Biennial... on page 11)
WVAD Quarter News, Fall 2019



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IS IT TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Please look at your newsletter address label for expiration date that was highlighted and renew before expiration date.



In the News



Worthy Champion

(WVSD Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaSchoolsForTheDeafAndTheBlind/photos/a.182329861958141/1107848002739651/?type=3&theater>, August 9, 2019, and *Hampshire Review*, http://www.hampshirereview.com/sports/article_c981b6d0-be97-11e9-8690-4f33cb79f485.html, August 14, 2019)



Congratulations!



GO LIONS!

WVSD alumni (1958 graduate) Worthy Devericks poses with the 1956 National Football Champions of Schools for the Deaf. He and his teammates defeated the American School for the Deaf (located in West Hartford, Connecticut) to win the title.

(See In the News on page 13)

WVAD Quarter News, Fall 2019

(In the News from page 12)

Deaf Alliance Brings Hope to Region's Hearing Impaired

By Joseph LaFave Special to *The Journal*, September 22, 2019 (<https://www.journal-news.net/journal-news/deaf-alliance-brings-hope-to-region-s-hearing-impaired/article%2075cac7f0-f25e-5f53-85b4-8c9f13240814.html>)

Stunned by the lack of government-provided social services for the deaf and hard of hearing, a group of deaf people in the Eastern Panhandle decided to take it upon themselves to create a community organization to help those with hearing disabilities navigate the modern world.

The Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliance (EPDA) was started by four deaf people, including Mary Anne Jividen, the EPDA's current president, and Kaye Peacock, both of whom are West Virginia transplants who found the lack of awareness about deaf culture and deaf-specific challenges in the community shocking.

"I moved from Ohio to West Virginia, and I expected to have community services for the deaf. It's an hour-and-twenty-minute drive to Washington, DC; there should be services here. And I found out there were no services here in the state of West Virginia compared to Ohio, which has 13 community services for the deaf," said Jividen. "Deaf people would come to my home and Kaye's home for help, and we would explain different terminologies. We thought it was time that Kaye and I and two other people decided to invest our time in 2017 into this 501(c)(3) nonprofit. From January 2018 until December 2018, we had seven requests for help. For this year, we have already exceed over 23 requests for help."

The EPDA focuses on referring deaf people suffering from hearing loss to applicable community service organizations. They are also a resource for people who have lost their hearing later in life, as well as help parents of deaf children. In addition to helping people with hearing disabilities, they also help other community organizations — such as police and fire departments — learn how to communicate more effectively with deaf people.

"We've given information out about door bells, adjusting their lives, interpreter services, learning how to sign using sign language, how to call using video phones," Jividen said. "They didn't know those services were available."

One of the biggest challenges for this group of people is navigating the health care system. According to Peacock, many of the hospitals and doctor's offices in the Eastern Panhandle do not offer interpreter services at their offices. Instead, they rely on video translation services, which the EPDA said is inferior.

"There are a lot of problems with the hospitals here," said Peacock. "I had a silent heart attack, and my wife took me to the emergency room; they put me down on the bed and they said 'We'll get the talking machine,' but it was a video interpreter (VRI), and the nurse didn't know where to plug it in. I watched them. I was in a life or death situation, and she didn't know what to do with the plug. I was disgruntled. The hospital should have provided an interpreter. They avoid paying for interpreters because they cost money."

As health care is an important aspect of many people's lives, the EPDA has focused much of their efforts into providing education to deaf and hard of hearing people so they can learn about managing their chronic illnesses. One recent class given by the EPDA focused on managing diabetes, and for Joseph Munz, who is deaf, the class has already helped him get his diabetes under better control.

"The EPDA has been very helpful and have encouraged deaf people to improve themselves," Munz said. "They asked me to go to a diabetic class. They really made things very clear; they were able to explain things. Of course, I've gone with interpreters to doctors' offices, and the doctor would just explain about diabetes very briefly. My diabetes has improved since I've gone to this workshop, and after they explained these things, it's really scary because I didn't know a lot, and I'm glad they encouraged me to go. We need to have the EPDA in Martinsburg."

Munz said similar classes focused on other chronic illnesses would be helpful to the deaf community, which he said is over 300 people in Martinsburg, and the EPDA stated they would like to host more seminars in the future.

Although health care is important, the EPDA wants to help deaf and hard-of-hearing people in all avenues of their lives. The lack of interpreters and a knowledge gap between deaf and hearing people can be frustrating to those who rely on sign language for communication, said Jividen.

"The year 2019, we feel like we are living in 1960, 1970, because they won't provide interpreters," Jividen said. "We have a long way to go. The number one thing is to educate everyone: businesses, hospitals, public services, the court systems, we need to educate them so they can understand."

The EPDA is currently participating in the United Way of the Eastern Panhandle's Unity Campaign, which has placed more than two dozen nonprofit groups under one umbrella for a 12-day giving event aimed at increasing donations.

"The EPDA wants to partner with the United Way, because they have a plethora of agencies that they work with," Jividen said. "Mental health, group support, emotional support, we want to partner with them so we can send deaf or hard of hearing people to go to a specific agency under United Way."

Jividen said she hopes to use any money donated to the EPDA to grow its operations and eventually hire a staff — including an interpreter coordinator and a case manager — so that it can assist deaf and hearing-impaired individuals across the Eastern Panhandle's eight counties. Eventually, they hope to expand to other parts of the Mountain State as well, and Munz said he would like to see a staff interpreter at EPDA available for people who need them in hospitals.

To learn more about EPDA or to donate to the Unity Campaign, visit www.uwayep.org/unitycampaign.



United Way
of the Eastern Panhandle

(Fun Page Answers from page 5)

H	D	W	S	O	A
S	O	A	D	W	H
W	A	H	O	D	S
O	W	S	H	A	D
D	H	O	A	S	W
A	S	D	W	H	O

SHADOW

R	P	D	I	E	S
S	I	E	R	D	P
D	E	P	S	R	I
E	D	I	P	S	R
I	R	S	D	P	E
P	S	R	E	I	D

SPIDER

O	I	Z	E	B	M
B	Z	O	M	E	I
E	M	I	B	Z	O
M	B	E	I	O	Z
I	O	B	Z	M	E
Z	E	M	O	I	B

ZOMBIE

G	O	R	N	E	A
R	E	O	A	G	N
A	N	E	G	R	O
N	R	G	O	A	E
E	A	N	R	O	G
O	G	A	E	N	R

ORANGE



WV School for the Deaf Class of 1969 50th Class Reunion by Terry Ford

Terry Ford hosted the WV School for the Deaf Class of 1969 class reunion to celebrate 50 years. The classmates who also helped with the planning were Rosie Moore, Roy Bailey, Debbie Steele, and Regina Ennis.

The class reunion was held at the Clarion Inn in Fairmont, WV, on June 21-22, 2019. There were 9 people in attendance. They were Rosie Moore, Dewey Moore, Regina Ennis, Roy Bailey, Sharon Drake, Debbie Steele, Sam Steele, David Ford, and Terry Ford.

Some of the classmates were not able to come due to bad health issues and 4 people are deceased. We lit a candle to honor the deceased. They are Ronald Livingston, Nelma Thorne, Rosemary Moore, and James Cunningham, and we also honored Regina Ennis' husband, James Ennis.

The lunch reception was held at the Whitehall Church of Christ. We played games and had prizes during both days. Many prizes were beautiful gifts. We all had a wonderful time and it was a lot of fun. We also got WVSD T-shirts to wear on Saturday (June 22nd). On the last evening, we had our farewell dinner at Cracker Barrel in Fairmont, WV. 🍷



L-R: Rosie Moore, Terry Ford, Roy Bailey, Regina Ennis, and Debbie Steele



The Class of 1969 poster was made by Rosie Moore.



FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

WVAD Hillbilly Whittler T-Shirts For Sale

\$15.00 EACH

Plus \$5.00 for Shipping & Handling

Red Ring with Black Print



Blue Ring with Black Print



Royal Blue with White Print



Light Blue with Black Print



Proceeds will go towards the WVAD organization. If anyone is interested in purchasing a T-shirt, please contact Veronda Harrison (Treasurer) at 304-964-6025 Videophone or e-mail at verapple@aol.com. Feel free to let your family and friends know about this as they are welcome to purchase anything to support our organization.



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West Virginia Relay Conference Captioning (RCC)

RCC is a free service for West Virginians who have a hearing loss to actively participate in conference calls or webinars on a laptop or mobile device with a high-speed Internet connection.

To book an event: westvirginiarcc.com

How RCC works:

1. Captioners connect via a conference bridge.
2. The captioner listens and captions via the conference bridge what is heard in real time.
3. RCC participants read captions via an Internet connection.

To learn more, visit:

- westvirginiarelay.com/rcc

Features:

Conference calls:

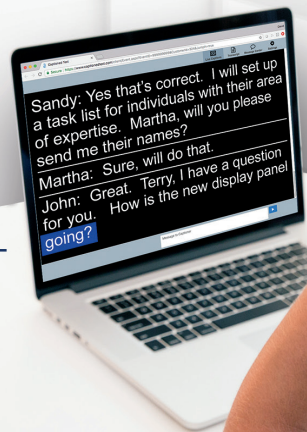
RCC participants receive captions through an internet browser on a computer or mobile device.

Webinars:

RCC participants receive captions through select webinar platforms, including Adobe Connect, Webex™ or via provided RCC link.

Transcripts (optional):

Transcripts must be requested while scheduling an event. Only authorized participants may obtain a transcript.



Contact:

John Burdette
West Virginia Relay Outreach Specialist
john.w.burdette@sprint.com
Tel./VP: (304) 707-3209
westvirginiarelay.com/rcc

A-FMWW-0011

ROASTED PORK LOIN

(Submitted by Lisa Keathley)

Pork loin (5 lbs)
5 garlic cloves, minced
3 cut parsley, chopped (remove stems)
10 basil leaves, chopped
2 Thyme sprig leaves, chopped
3 Rosemary leaves, chopped
Extra virgin olive oil

1 teaspoon hot pepper flakes
1/3 cup mustard (I also add 1 Tablespoon
Worcestershire sauce, mix well)
2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
Sea salt to taste
Black pepper to taste

1. Begin by thinly chopping the garlic, rosemary, thyme, basil, and parsley. Combine and add hot pepper flakes, salt, and black pepper. Mix together.
2. Place the pork loin on a cutting board to remove fat and spread the mustard all along the top of the meat. Sprinkle more than half of the herb mix on top and pat into the mustard. Flip the pork loin over and sprinkle the rest of the herb mix on the rest of the meat. Place on a dish and cover with saran wrap. Let it marinate in the refrigerator for a couple of hours.
3. Once marinated, set your oven to 325 °F. Place the pork loin in a baking pan and drizzle olive oil around and over the pork loin.
4. Place the baking pan on the third rack from the bottom of the oven and cook for 3 hours or until done. Then remove the baking pan from the oven and place the pork loin onto a dish. Cover the pork loin with aluminum foil to let sit. Enjoy!



CHOCOLATE ZUCCHINI ROLL

(Submitted by Lisa Keathley)

(Prep Time: 20 mins; Bake Time: 15 mins + cooling; Serves 10)

3 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 cup all-purpose flour
3/4 cup sugar
1/2 cup baking cocoa

1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 cup shredded peeled zucchini

Filling:

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese,
softened
1/4 cup butter, softened

2 teaspoons vanilla extract
1 cup confectioners' sugar
Additional confectioners' sugar



1. Line a greased 15-inch x 10-inch x 1 inch baking pan with waxed paper. Grease the paper; set aside. In a large bowl, beat eggs for 3 minutes. Gradually add sugar; beat for 2 minutes or until mixture becomes thick and lemon colored. Stir in zucchini and vanilla. Combine flour, cocoa, baking soda, cinnamon, and salt; add to egg mixture until well blended (batter will be thick).
2. Spread batter evenly in prepared pan. Bake at 350 °F for 10-15 minutes or until cake springs back when lightly touched. Cool for 5 minutes. Invert onto a kitchen towel dusted with cocoa. Gently peel off waxed paper. Roll up cake in the towel jelly-roll style, starting with a short side. Cool completely on a wire rack.
3. For filling, in a large bowl, beat cream cheese, butter, and vanilla until fluffy. Beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth.
4. Unroll cake; spread filling evenly over cake to within 1/2 inch of edges. Roll up again. Place seam side down on a serving platter. Dust with confectioners' sugar. Cover and refrigerate for 1 hour.

WVAD MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ New Renewal
 Spouse's Name _____ New Renewal
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone No. _____ VP Voice Both
 E-Mail Address _____

You

Deaf
 Hard of Hearing
 Hearing
 Interpreter

Dues for You

\$15 for 1 Year — Regular
 \$25 for 2 Years — Regular
 \$20 for 2 Years — Senior (Age 55 and up)
 \$10 for 2 Years — Student (Age 12 – 18)

Spouse

Deaf
 Hard of Hearing
 Hearing
 Interpreter

Dues for Spouse

\$15 for 1 Year — Regular
 \$25 for 2 Years — Regular
 \$20 for 2 Years — Senior (Age 55 and up)
 \$10 for 2 Years — Student (Age 12 – 18)

- Yes!** Here is my donation: \$ _____
- Yes!** I want to donate to Deaf Youth Program: \$ _____
- Yes!** I want to donate to Education Fund: \$ _____
- I want to be a WVAD volunteer.
- Spouse wants to be a WVAD volunteer.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION: \$ _____

Make money order or personal check payable to **WVAD** or complete the credit card information below:

Visa MasterCard Discover Card American Express

Name on Credit Card: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Credit Card Account No.: _____ - _____ - _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail with membership application to:
 West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc.
 Jimmy Harrison, WVAD Membership Coordinator
 5 Cordoba Drive
 Hurricane, WV 25526
 Video Phone No.: 304-964-6025

Your membership fees and donations make it possible for WVAD to protect the collective interests of West Virginia's deaf and hard of hearing community through advocacy efforts with our policy makers.

JOIN WVAD TODAY!

