

WVAD Quarter News

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

Volume 35, No. 3

Fall 2014

52nd Biennial NAD Conference in Atlanta, Georgia by Tamera A. Deem

The conference was held in Atlanta, Georgia, from June 30 – July 5, 2014, at the Atlanta Hilton Hotel. West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) sent John Burdette and I to represent WVAD as delegates for National Association of the Deaf (NAD).

The theme of the conference was "ASL, Get Together, Action" in pure American Sign Language (ASL). It was NAD's "first" ASL theme for this conference because it was the first time that their theme was in American Sign Language, consisting of three concepts. The first sign shows the concept of signing, which represents our communication with one another, our love for signed languages, and our goal of linguistic rights and equality. The second concept shows "coming together" as in a representation of community, unity, and working together for common goals. The third and final concept is "action" or "doing." When combined with the first two concepts, this third one can be viewed as group activity, promoting our linguistic rights. So, there you have it. That was their theme! See link to get a better idea of the theme: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGLhfS_iarM.

There were more than 1,500 attendees at the conference. Over 100 volunteers were instrumental in its success. Ninety (90) presenters in 50 workshops provided attendees with important information, tips, updates, and news. There were 10 workshop tracks. The NAD and the Registry Interpreters

for the Deaf (RID) Region II partnered together to make a joint successful conference! Conference attendees had the option of saving trees and going mobile by downloading the program book via Guidebook and seeing real-time updates. Over 30 kids participated in the Kids Camp and enjoyed 3 full days of



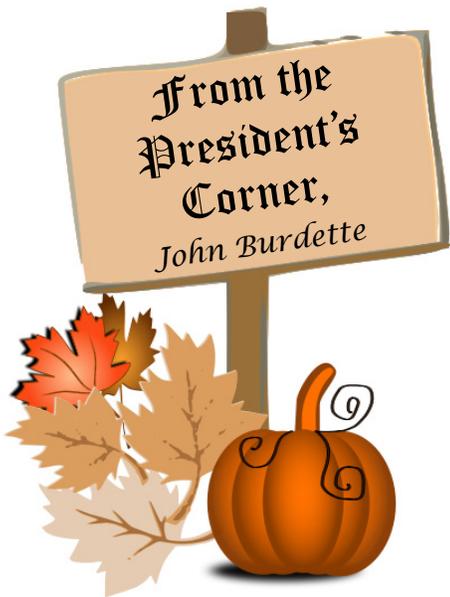
John Burdette and Tami Deem paying close attention at the conference.

(See 52nd Biennial NAD... on page 14)

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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 (March, June, September, December). 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

Greetings WVAD Members and Friends!

Summer is almost over...I hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Fall is right around the corner. Before I go into fall issues, I'd like to tell you about WVAD's summer activities. First, on June 29, 2014, Tami Deem and I flew separately and met in Atlanta, Georgia, to attend the National Association of the Deaf Conference in Atlanta as WVAD delegates. See the story on page 1. Second, WVAD held their picnic on August 2 at Burnsville Lake – Bulltown Day Use Area. The picnic was very successful.

We have selected Antonia (Toni) Vaughan to serve as Legislative Advocate for WVAD. She will be watching the bills related to deaf, hard of hearing, and interpreters to keep us informed about what is happening in the community and legislative session.

Marissa Sanders' last day as an Executive Director at West Virginia

Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH) was on July 31, 2014. We want to thank Marissa Sanders for the last 5 years and wish her well in her endeavors.

Please save the date August 6-9, 2015, for the 2015 WVAD Biennial Conference at Snowshoe Mountain Resort.

I want to update everyone on the projects or events that have been happening or will happen in the near future in West Virginia.

- West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is in the process of hiring a new person for the Executive Director position. The Project Director position is on hold until the Executive Director position is filled.
- On December 13, 2014, WVAD will be hosting a Christmas party at Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in

Clarksburg, WV. See our announcement/direction on page 8 for more information.

If you have any news, events, announcements, or anything that you wish to share in the newsletter to let everyone know what's happening in your Mountain State, please send it to the WVAD's editor at extraordinary45@comcast.net.

Enjoy the beautiful colors this fall!

John Burdette

WVAD President



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*.



<i>Editor:</i>	Tamera Deem
<i>President:</i>	John Burdette
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Jimmy Harrison
<i>Secretary:</i>	Donna Williams
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Veronda Harrison
<i>Senior Trustee:</i>	Tamera Deem
<i>Trustee:</i>	Worthy Devericks
<i>Trustee:</i>	Larry Hubbard



WVAD Board Minutes

Date: June 8, 2014
Location: Holiday Inn Express,
 Weston, WV

WVAD Board Meeting Held at Holiday Inn Express, Weston, WV, June 8, 2014

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, Jimmy Harrison, Veronda Harrison, Donna Williams, Worthy Devericks, Larry Hubbard, and Tami Deem.

Committee:

April Hottle (Educational Advocate)—arrived about 2:00 p.m.

Visitors Present: Lois Devericks, Dallas Pack, Aaron Underwood, and Kelly Penna.

The regular board meeting of WVAD was held at the Holiday Inn Express in Weston, WV on Sunday, June 8, 2014. President John Burdette called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. with Secretary Donna Williams present.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on March 30, 2014, was sent via e-mail. It was corrected and approved via video phone and e-mail.

Treasurer Veronda Harrison's Financial Report:

As of June 7, total expenses March 30-June 7, 2014—\$3,037.53; checking account—\$615.13; savings account—\$7,427.79; Mingo County Fund—\$14,540.22; conference fund—\$839.61; 100th Anniversary Fund—\$1,629.00; Deaf Youth Program—\$1,263.00; 2 Certificates of Deposits—\$12,003.63. Total balance in all accounts—\$38,318.05.

President John Burdette's Report:

President John Burdette reported the following:

- WVAD still has not received the \$683.48 from Ramada Downtown Charleston. Will need to file a WVAD Quarter News, Fall 2014

complaint with the Small Claims Court.

- On April 5, met with Dallas Pack to discuss license plates for WVSD and WVAD to sell.
- On April 14, 2014, sent an e-mail to Christine Yoshinaga-Itano at National Early Childhood Assessment Project (NECAP) to arrange to meet via VRS. She responded saying Allison Sedey is the coordinator of NECAP. On May 1, 2014, sent an e-mail to Allison to inquire when she is available.
- On April 16, sent an e-mail to Antonia (Hall) Vaughan asking her if she would be interested in serving as Legislative Advocate. Received a response saying she is interested but had a few questions. Her questions were sent to the board members via e-mail. Someone from NAD can train her. Need to start early fall.
- On April 30, sent an e-mail to Steve Lovi, Region 1 board representative, responding to his e-mail asking for WVAD delegate and WVAD membership number.
- On May 1, met with Allison Sedey via VRS to discuss NECAP. This organization is not about the Individual Educational Plan (IEP). It is about early intervention from birth to three. WV is not involved with them. The two women are audiologists.
- On May 13, received an e-mail from Marty Blakely, chair of the WVCDHH board, asking WVAD for five names to fill the vacant positions on the board.

- On May 23, sent an e-mail response to Marty Blakely with four names WVAD recommends. These were Keith Simmerman, Robin Coon, Gloria Hollen, and Donna Williams.
- On May 27, sent e-mail to Penny Maphis at WVSD&B asking for names of top 2014 graduates or valedictorian and salutatorian.
- On May 30, attended the WVCDHH board meeting. Marissa announced her resignation effective July 31. There were only three people who applied for the board: Donna Williams, Gloria Hollen, and Jeff Courtney. The nominating committee decided they need to check with their legal staff about nominating Donna because she lives across the border in Ohio. Gloria's and Jeff's names will be submitted to the Governor's office soon.
- June 4, attended the WVSD&B graduation to present money to the valedictorian (Samantha Plum) and salutatorian (Sara Isner) and free 2-year WVAD membership to all graduates. The valedictorian will go to Rochester Institute of Technology and the salutatorian will go to Fairmont State University. Next year there will be no graduates.
- Received an e-mail from Jenny Locy, Regional Outreach Specialist with ZVRS. She would like to give a presentation to Deaf and hard of hearing individuals about the power of technology in deaf and hard of hearing communities. She could also provide a workshop on

(See Board Minutes on page 4)

(Board Minutes from page 3)

social media. This workshop would take up to 2 hours.

- Potomac Chapter RID — Need to renew our affiliate this summer and then arrange a workshop for the interpreters and coordinate with the WVCDHH as soon as the new executive director is hired.

Vice-President and Membership Chairperson Jimmy Harrison's Report:

- No vice-president report.
- Membership report: 162 including the WVSD graduates. We lost 32 members.

Secretary Donna Williams' Report:

- On May 30, Donna attended the WVCDHH board meeting in Parkersburg. All board members present except three. Only four visitors.
 - Most of you have heard that Marissa Sanders submitted her letter of resignation effective July 31.
 - Because Marissa resigned voluntarily, the complaint against her was dropped.
 - Liz Leisure will not renew her membership on the board as of June 30.
 - As John said, the board voted to accept applications from Jeff Courtney to replace Pierre and Gloria Hollen to replace Liz. Also, voted to nominate Gwen Bryant as Parent representative. That position has been vacant since August 2012. These names will be sent to the governor. I plan to follow-up with the governor's office in a month or so to try to speed up the selection.
 - As John also said, the nominating committee decided to check with their legal staff about me living in Ohio. In the meantime, I was selected to serve on the Interpreter Task Force working group.
 - Marty Blakely is no longer chair of the board. Paul See is the new chair. He has been very good keeping communication open with me. And, he wants to hear straight from anyone who has a problem with the commission.

- They will discuss a vice-chair at the next board meeting August 22 in Charleston.
- The board agreed to focus on hiring an executive director who is deaf. When I get the job announcement, I will send it to everyone I know and every e-mail list I am on, including NAD and Gallaudet.
- I think WVAD should wish Marissa well in her future.

- At least two people contacted me on FB complaining about Marissa—one about the hospital not providing an interpreter or VRI when his father had a heart attack. The second complaint was job related. I will contact them soon to see if they still want to file a complaint with Marissa leaving.
- Because there was no motion made for me to check other state commissions about how many deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind are on their board, I have not done anything about this. If want to change the code to have 51% deaf/hard of hearing/deaf-blind, and include an interpreter need to submit a bill—I think in August.
- West Virginia Chapter Hands & Voices will have their third meeting this Tuesday, June 10, at 6:00 p.m. at Tim Horton's/Coldstone Creamery in St. Albans to start planning for the Deaf Awareness Week the last week of September. I think it would be nice if someone from WVAD attended these meetings and help spread Deaf Awareness throughout the state.
- Gwen Bryant and Christina Payne attended the Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) Conference in Florida in April. We learned about this conference very late. April wanted to go but WVAD couldn't send her. Gwen has agreed to meet with April, me, and anyone else interested to learn what Gwen learned at the conference that we could do in WV. Gwen is on vacation now, due back in the Charleston area today. She will contact me this week.
- Yolanda De La Huerta, who teaches ASL at Marantha Fellowship Church in St. Albans heard about the list and calendars I do each

month. She and I have talked a lot on Facebook (FB). She wanted to know if her sign class could attend any of the events. I told her yes. She contacted me on FB again last week letting me know about 20 people from her class—both deaf and hearing—plan to attend the WVAD picnic. I think that is great.

- Maybe the Legislative Advocate can get the hearing test as requirement eliminated for the smoke alarm.

11:30 a.m. — Went into executive session

11:55 a.m. — Executive session ended

12:00 p.m. — Moved to break for lunch

1:07 p.m. — Called meeting back

Tami Deem's Trustee Report:

- WVAD Website — Tami Deem's son, Andrew, had completed the update. It is www.wvad.net. Need to discuss payment.
- 2014 WVAD Conference — Need to think about logo and theme, as well as combo rates.

Newsletter Editor's Report:

Tami Deem said that the current newsletter has 20 pages. Need more story ideas. Deadline for next newsletter is September 1, 2014.

Educational Advocate April Hottle's Report:

- Contacted Maryland Governor's Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing to ask questions about language assessment for deaf and hard of hearing children. She directed me to Mickey Morales, an educator in Maryland.
- Spoke with Mickey Morales, an educator in Maryland, by VP. I asked questions about language assessment. However, I learned from Ms. Morales that No Child Left Behind gives legal requirements for EDUCATION of deaf and hard of hearing children. The topic of language assessment pertains to education. Recommended that I get PowerPoint from Dr. Christine Yoshinaga-itano's presentation at the Maryland 2014 EHDI Conference.
- Attended WVCDHH Board Meeting at Parkersburg. See President John's and Secretary Donna's reports

(See Board Minutes on page 5)

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(Board Minutes from page 4)

for same information. In addition, said Annette Carey announced that anyone can send an application for the board directly to the Governor's office and that it is the Governor's decision to make the final selection. Sent an e-mail to Annette asking about being the parent representative on the board. She responded saying it was too late and she should have completed the form on the website earlier. I completed the form and sent directly to the Governor's office asking to be the Parent representative on the board.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

- Jimmy Harrison moved to pay the new Webmaster Andrew Kapaldo.

Tabled for more information regarding taxes.

- Veronda Harrison amended this motion to pay Andrew \$75 per year. Passed.
- Jimmy Harrison moved to sell license plates with WVAD logo and 1915 to 2015 for fundraising. Larry Hubbard amended to purchase 100. Passed.
- Larry Hubbard moved to purchase 100 thermometers with WVAD logo to sell for fundraising. Passed.
- Donna Williams moved to send a representative from WVAD to the Hands & Voice meetings regarding Deaf Awareness Week. Passed. Tami suggested Donna attend.
- Donna Williams moved to select someone to serve as Parent Educator to work with April Hottle as

Educational Advocate. Passed. Names suggested include Gwen Bryant, Christina Payne, Brenda Hall, and Maria Harrah.

- Larry Hubbard moved to invite Virginia Moore from the KY Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing to come to WV and give a workshop on how to raise funds. Passed.
- Worthy Devericks moved WVAD pay mileage to attend the board meeting. Passed.
- Jimmy Harrison resigned as Membership Chairperson. Larry Hubbard agreed to serve.

With no further business, by general consent, President John Burdette adjourned the board meeting at 3:53 p.m. 🍂



Daylight Saving Time (DST) Trivia and Fun Facts

Daylight saving time begins in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico on the second Sunday in March, and ends on the first Sunday in November.

Sunday, March 8, 2015, at 2:00 a.m. is the time to set clocks ahead one hour in the U.S. and Canada.

Sunday, November 2, 2014, at 2:00 a.m. is the time to set clocks back one hour in the U.S. and Canada.

It was in the early 20th century when Germany became the country that first adopted daylight saving time, which was quickly followed by several other European countries.

Today, more than 70 nations around the world use DST to take advantage of longer summer hours by setting clocks ahead in spring and back in the fall.

The observance of daylight saving time (more commonly known in various parts of the U.S. as "daylight savings time") remains controversial. Soon after it was enacted, American farmers actually had daylight saving time repealed in favor of "God's time" and, although the movement was short-lived, in many rural areas the sentiment remains.

(See Daylight Savings Time on page 6)

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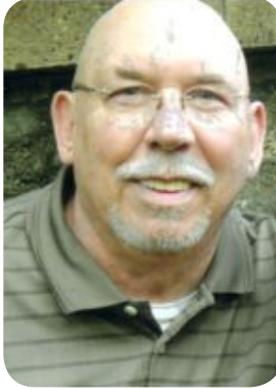
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"In Memory of Loved Ones"



DAVID D. HUDSON

David Daniel Hudson, 74, passed peacefully at his home in Chalfont, PA, on Tuesday, August 12, 2014.

David was born in Charleston, WV, to David Anderson Hudson and Gladys Chapman Givins. He attended WV School for the Deaf in Romney, WV, in addition to Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. He retired from Standardized Pressed Steel in Fort Washington, PA. An avid Philadelphia sports fan and life-long supporter of West Virginia University athletics, David also enjoyed spending time at the shore with his family.

To cherish his memory, David leaves behind his beloved wife of 52 years, Linda (Hirst) Hudson; son and daughter-in-law, Tony and Yvonne Hudson; daughter and son-in-law, Loulie and Darrin Kenney; son and daughter-in-law, Stephen and Paula Hudson; six grandchildren: Kiersten, Caitlin, Colin, Connor, Ryan, and Kaleigh; a brother, Stephen Hudson; and sister, Beverly Toler. David was preceded in death by his brother, Phillip Hudson.

David's funeral service was held on Monday, August 18, 2014, 11:00 a.m. at the Shelly Funeral Home, 1460 Easton Road, Warrington, PA. The family received friends at the funeral home from 10:00 a.m. until the time of service. Internment was held privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, 100 W School House Ln, Philadelphia, PA, 19144-3404, www.psd.org.



MICHAEL D. JONES

Michael Duane Jones, 62, of Williamstown, WV, formerly of Parkersburg, WV, died Tuesday, September 2, 2014, at Marietta Memorial Hospital. He was born in Parkersburg, WV, a son of the late James P. Jones and Marie (Ash) Jones.

Michael worked for the Board of Education for 26 years with over 20 being at Parkersburg High School. He graduated from the WV School for the Deaf in Romney, WV. He was a member of the Church of Christ and loved animals.

He is survived by two brothers, Richard Franklin Jones of Williamstown and Keith A. Jones of Vienna; a sister, Brenda Joyce Jones of Williamstown; four nieces and nephews, Tonya Bannister, Jason Jones, Tiffany Wetz, and Todd Jones; nine great nieces and nephews, Ashlee, Justyn, Jeremy, Cassidy, Jordyn, Carissa, Austin, Emmitt, and Logan; and two aunts, Margaret Roush and Betty Sheppard.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister-in-law Ramona Jones.

Services was on September 6, 2014, at 11:00 a.m. at Leavitt Funeral Home in Parkersburg with Ministers Mark Mason and Tom Butterfield officiating. Burial was at Independence Cemetery in Sandyville, WV. Visitation was on September 5, 2014, from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. at the funeral home. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.LeavittFuneralHome.com.

(Daylight Savings Time from page 5)

Notable exceptions to DST occurred during World War II, and later during the 1970's Arab Oil Embargo, when daylight saving time was rolled back to help conserve energy consumption.

New U.S. legislation took effect in 2007, allowing Americans to enjoy more daylight beginning in March and ending in November, adding extra days to the traditional April-October daylight saving time span.

Today, the observance serves a dual purpose in that it also marks the time to change the batteries in household fire and smoke alarms in many communities.

Bucking tradition, the sun-drenched states of Arizona and Hawaii are the only places in the continental U.S. that still do not observe daylight saving time, but instead stay on "standard time" year round.

For more information about daylight savings time, see <http://www.chiff.com/a/daylight-savings-time.htm>.



**NOVEMBER 2, 2014,
2:00 A.M.**

Previous WVAD Quarter News



IS ONLINE



<http://www.wvad.net>

WVAD Quarter News, Fall 2014



HALLOWEEN FUN PAGE

Q S T M O N S T E R F F C C A N D Y
 L U P C P S F Q F G Z I R U T M G M
 E H C E R G L B R T S M E Q R U B E
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 A H F F D B A T S W P U M P K I N D

Answers are found horizontally, vertically, and diagonally.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------|
| spooky | bat |
| ghost | moonlight |
| pumpkin | crypt |
| candy | tombstone |
| goblin | harvest |
| ghoul | candles |
| werewolf | creepy |
| costume | masks |
| eerie | frighten |
| doorbell | web |
| trick or treat | witch |
| spell | monster |
| cloak | fun |
| scarecrow | mummy |
| boo | broom |
| october | owl |
| haunted | zombie |
| caldron | scare |
| skeleton | |



(See Fun Page Answers on page 25)



T **e** **r** **r** **y**
C **h** **r** **i** **s** **t** **m** **a** **s**

West Virginia Association of the Deaf

3rd Annual Christmas Party

Saturday, December 13, 2014

Doors Open at 1 p.m. to Midnight

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)

430 West Pike Street

Clarksburg, WV 26301

\$1,000 Door Prize Giveaway

(Depends Upon Attendance)

\$20.00 per person includes Dinner and Door Prizes

Turkey, Ham, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Sweet Potatoes,
Stuffing, Corn, Green Beans, Rolls, and Assorted Desserts

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

Age 18 and Above

Dinner Starts at 5:00 p.m.
Handicap Accessible

Prize Giveaways Starts at 8:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Various Gifts/Cash Prizes
(TV, iPad Mini, and More!)

10 Tickets for \$5.00 or

30 Tickets for \$10.00

Door Prize: Cash Ornaments

Come One, Come All!



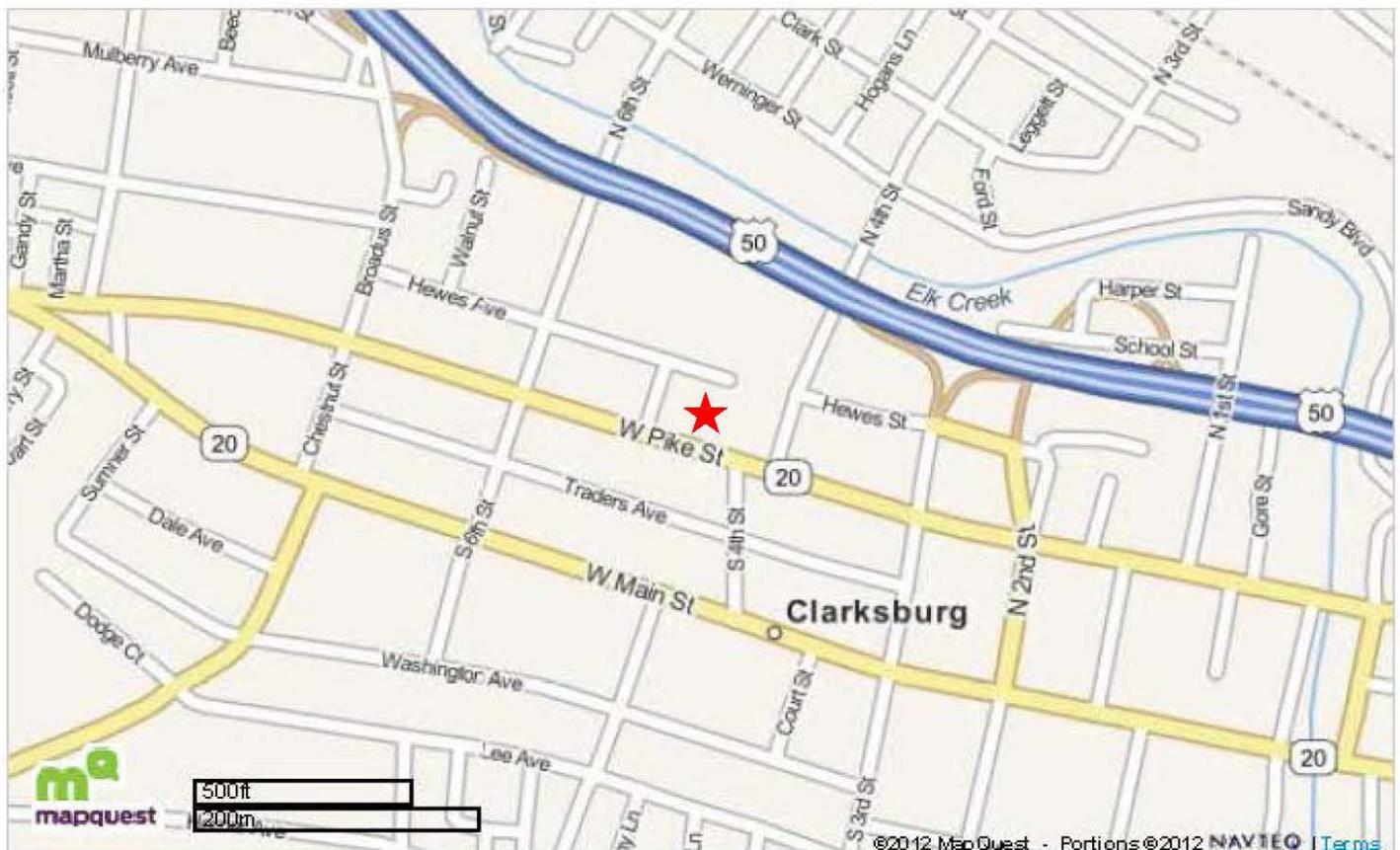
**Direction to Veterans of Foreign Wars
430 West Pike Street, Clarksburg, WV 26301**

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.





In the News



Enjoy 'What the Flag Means to Me' Essays

By Misty Poe, *Times West Virginian*, mpoe@timeswv.com (<http://www.timeswv.com/editorials/x998000390/COLUMN-Enjoy-What-the-Flag-Means-to-Me-essays>), Posted: June 1, 2014

What does the flag mean to you?

It's a question that the Times West Virginian asks hundreds of children in Marion County each school year in an essay contest, which is used in a daily series during the month of June leading up to the Fourth of July.

Each year, the number of submissions grows as teachers use the essay as a writing activity in the days following standardized testing. What started with about 100 essays in its first year, "What the Flag Means to Me" has grown to to several hundred essays submitted each year.

And I love it. I get so excited when large envelopes stuffed full of essays come in. I have a large paper box that sits outside of my office door, and the staff members of the newspaper know to place submissions there.

I run to the box like a kid on Christmas morning and check to see how many "presents" I have. I've loved writing since I was quite young. I was an avid reader of fiction, but it was essays and reports that I loved to write. I guess I was made to be a reporter since grade school.

So I just love to read the writings of little ones. Instead of dreading to go through the giant stack of essays, I savor them like an awesome dessert at the end of dinner.

I see something amazing in each essay I read. A wonderful phrasing, a heartfelt reflection, an adorable drawing or even just the cute scrawl of young handwriting. My stack of winners gets way bigger than the available 22 slots. So I read them all again and narrow the list, though it pains me to do it.

Eventually, I get down to what I think is the best representation of the entries I received. Each school is represented, and there is a good mix of grade levels and boys and girls. From several hundred to 22, it's a monumental undertaking. But it's an enjoyable task.

I also enjoy the humor — intentional or not — in some of the entries I read. This year, we had a couple of grandparents who fought in the Civil War, one who battled the British and longer, much longer, spans of time between now and when the nation was established.

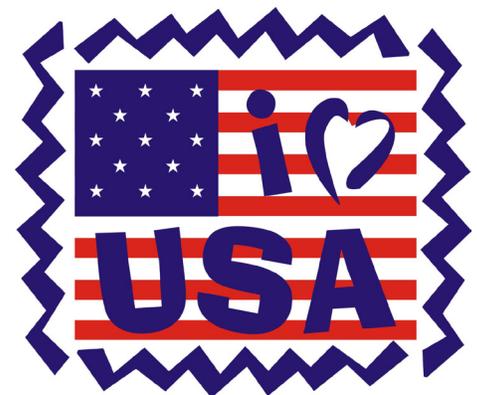
And then there are the ones that bring tears to my eyes, the ones written by sons and daughters of those who served in the armed forces and whose words are full of pride for that distinction. About 99.9 percent of them are spot on, describing the colors of the flag representing concepts like purity, courage and heroism.

So next week, when you start to see the "What the Flag Means to Me" essays run in the paper, know that every child who submitted one was a winner. With infinite space, I'd share them all with you so that you'd be able to enjoy them as much as I have.

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Maddie Losh proudly displays her American flag. She is the daughter of Ruby and Mike Losh, as well as granddaughter of James and Regina Ennis of Rivesville, WV. Way to go Maddie! We are proud of you!



(See In the News on page 11)

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(In the News from page 10)

Schools for the Deaf and Blind Students Protest Over Workers' Jobs

By Samuel Speciale, Education Reporter, *Charleston Daily Mail*, <http://www.charlestondaily.com/article/20140602/DM01/140609840/1420>, Posted Monday, June 2, 2014

Students at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind protested Monday over the administration's recent decision to phase out 40 child care worker positions in what Superintendent Lynn Boyer described as a respectable exercise of free speech rights.

Jacob and Bobby-Anne Hundley were two of the 10 protesting students, all of whom attend the School for the Deaf.

Their mother, Archele Hundley-Griffith, said her children decided to protest because they are upset that their "dorm parents" could be let go for being "unqualified" for their jobs and that more students would have protested if their graduation this week had not been "threatened."

Boyer said such allegations are untrue and that "they never came up."

On the contrary, Boyer said she met with students for nearly an hour to make sure they had accurate information about the coming changes.

She emphasized the fact that current child care workers will still be at the school for another year, but said it is difficult to explain the complexities of personnel law to young students.

"They see that the person they've had all these years won't be there, and I'm saying to them we don't know that," Boyer said, later adding that she expects to see many familiar faces even though she doesn't know who will be back.

"This is a complex, challenging change," said Boyer, [who gained the support of the state Board of Education in March](#) when she presented the decision to eliminate the 40 child care worker positions and hire residential care specialists to replace them by July 2015.

At that meeting, Boyer said her intention is not to "shed people," but to turn the school around after years of neglect and underfunding.

Boyer told the Board of Education that she values the experience and expertise of the current child care workers, some of which have been with the school for more than 20 years.

That sentiment was repeated Monday when Boyer said "we are supporting these people."

"They have 16 months to determine if they want to apply for these jobs or seek another one," she said. "And I fully expect that a number of our workers will apply and be hired in these jobs because they have expertise that is very desirable."

The reason the change will not be finalized until 2015 is so current employees have enough time to decide if they want to pursue a degree in child development, psychology, social work or a related field, which is a requirement for the new position.

While employees have to pay for the courses, Boyer said the \$8,000 pay raise that comes with the new job will cover the cost, and that Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College is helping by providing the needed classes.

There has been concern over whether older employees can take the courses, but Boyer said everyone eventually has to make a tough decision about their job.

"My job is to make sure my employees have the knowledge and skills to provide care at any time of the day," she said. "It's not devaluing them or their relationships with the kids."

"The point is to have the highest quality school."

The move has been controversial, but has been supported by unions and the Board of Education.

She said she has not been adversarial in implementing change and is doing all she can to help the employees come back.

"I don't want to lock myself in by saying most will be hired, but it's logical that most will return," she said. "Their experience will have a lot of merit."

While many employees could be hired for the new position, seniority will not be a factor.

At the Board of Education meeting in March, Boyer said there is no guarantee a current employee will be rehired because the option to hire the most qualified candidate needs to remain open because they will do more than just "tuck kids in at night."

In addition to having more requirements, the new job will have additional responsibilities. If a current employee does not have the necessary degree, they must commit to obtaining one within three years to be considered for the job.

Contact writer Samuel Speciale at sam.speciale@dailymailwv.com or 304-348-4886. Follow him at www.twitter.com/wvschools.



COURTESY PHOTO — Parent Archele Hundley-Griffith said her children, who attend the WV School for the Deaf, decided to protest because they are upset that their "dorm parents" could be let go for being unqualified for their jobs. See more at: <http://www.charlestondaily.com/article/20140602/DM01/140609840/1420#sthash.Zhur3LCO.dpuf>.

(In the News from page 11)

Caretakers at WV Deaf and Blind School Fight Degree Requirement

By Mackenzie Mays, Staff Writer, *The Charleston Gazette*, <http://www.wvgazette.com/article/20140709/GZ01/140709312/1419>, Wednesday, July 9, 2014

Caretakers at West Virginia's only school designed for deaf and blind students are continuing to fight for their jobs.

At Wednesday's state Board of Education meeting, several people spoke out against a new policy that will require all 35 "home parents" at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind to obtain an associate's degree, with no guarantee that they will get their jobs back after completion.

WVSDB employees have until 2018 to receive a degree in child development, and classes would be provided locally in Romney, but people such as Cathy Evans, who has worked on the campus as a caretaker for more than 30 years, say home parents are separate from teachers and special education instructors and do not need more training.

"I'm the children's mom, their friend, their protector, and child-care provider . . . I provide love and understanding. I teach them morals and ethics, so that they may grow into wonderful men and women and have productive lives with families," Evans said. "Why do I need a degree to wipe noses and tears? . . . What these children need are mothers with instincts who share compassion for what they go through."

Caretakers at the school help students with homework, teach them how to do daily chores and also act as "surrogate parents," since many students live away from home to attend classes in Romney.

Christine Cannon, the parent of a student at the school, pleaded with the school board through tears, asking that the current employees be able to stay on without leave.

"Thirty-five people are getting a pink slip with no guarantee of employment — no security for the kids that are coming back in the fall that they'll get to see the people they have literally grown up with," Cannon said. "These people wipe their tears. They got them through puberty, help them with homework, try to keep them entertained."

Susie Fields, 69, is a veteran caretaker at the school and said the new policy is not only a risk to already vulnerable

students but demeaning to school employees.

"I have provided for those kids. I have bought for those kids. I have cried for those kids. I don't think that I need an education to be a mother. I have proved that I'm a mother, and that I am a good mother," Fields told the board.

David Nester, whose father is deaf and worked at the school, now works there himself as a caretaker, interpreter, and bus driver, and said the people who have dedicated their lives to the school are more experienced than possible newcomers with the recommended degree.

"I'm one of the 35 . . . I grew up there, learning the culture," Nester said. "That's our family. That is our community."

A petition with more than 3,000 signatures was given to the school board Wednesday, and it also has been passed on to the Governor's Office. Last month, students at the school demonstrated against the policy during classes.

Gayle Manchin, president of the board, said higher expectations are necessary.

"We hear what you say, and we will discuss and we will deal with these issues, but I would be remiss if I didn't say to each of you that, as a board and as a state, we are raising the standards for every student in West Virginia because we believe that every child can learn, and [we are] raising those standards for teachers and principals — everyone that works with children — because we value the job that we do and we value that they want to be the very best person they can be to work with those children."

WVSDB Superintendent Lynn Boyer said she has met with the caretakers and local teachers union several times to talk about compromises — such as providing more time for them to obtain the degree — but said that, after researching deaf and blind institutions in surrounding states, requiring degrees is the best move.

"In all cases, the differentiation between the school and the home was not there. It was very much a seamless

set of expectations. So that gave us some confidence that we were, in fact, on the right path," Boyer said. "I fully expect that many familiar faces will be with [the students] in August. It is not our intention to do away with jobs or people, but to increase the quality of teachers and provide support to do that."

The controversy over the new degree requirement is not the only issue the WVSDB has struggled with recently. While Boyer has pushed for new facilities and more funding for renovations, it continues to be unclear which state entity is financially obligated to the school.

"Statutes that come out of [the Legislature] do not support the financial infrastructure for the [WVSDB], and the State School Building Authority, after doing some legal investigation by attorneys, has determined that it's not their responsibility, as well," state school board member Bill White said Wednesday. "So, we have this entity of the WVSDB where nobody really has a financial responsibility for it."

Also at Wednesday's meeting — which was held at its new location in the Capitol Room of Building 7 at the state Capitol — the board gave back local control to Preston County, after taking it over in 2009. The board unanimously voted to allow the county school board to oversee the system under a provisional contract for two years while it continues to fix a budget deficit.

The board also introduced new superintendent Michael Martirano, from Maryland, at Wednesday's meeting, following a formal ceremony for Martirano on Tuesday that was hosted by Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin.

"The work has to occur locally, and we're going to move this needle. We're going to make West Virginia the top state in education in America," Martirano said Wednesday. "Our best days are ahead of us. I'm so hopeful."

The state Board of Education will meet again next month, in Greenbrier County.

Reach Mackenzie Mays at mackenzie.mays@wvgazette.com or at 304-348-4814. 🐦

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20th Anniversary WV Deaf Bass Club Fishing Tournament by Steve Nida

The 20th Anniversary WV Deaf Bass Club Fishing Tournament was held in Romney, WV, at the Wapocoma Campground on August 9-10, 2014. The tournament was chaired by Steve Nida.

About 30 people attended and camped. Twelve men fished in the tournament on the South Branch Potomac River. First place winner was Mike Losh. He had 5.52 lbs and won \$500. Second place went to Gene Smith, with

5.21 lbs and won \$250. Tony Keathley placed third with 5.17 lbs and won \$100. Fourth place and lunger winner went to Jeff Courtney who won \$50 plus \$110 for the lunger (18 inches long). Stephen Daniels had 1.0 lb. Everyone had a good time.

The new chairperson for the 21st Anniversary Deaf Bass Club Fishing Tournament is Tony Keathley and co-chairperson is Mitchell Miller. It will

be held in September 2015 and will be at New River.

There are three different bass clubs in West Virginia. One club is called WV Deaf Bass Club which was held in August, the second one is called WV Deaf Bass Anglers Club, chairperson Stephen Daniels, that was held in May in Romney, and third one is called Eastern Deaf Bass Club, chairperson Phillip Hensley, to be held this October 4th. 🐟



(52nd Biennial NAD... from page 1)

activities and field trips while making new friends. With over 70 exhibitors, people were able to enjoy the Exhibit Hall for three days. Many attendees socialized in the main hotel lobby on the first floor and in front of the hotel, which was nice because we were able to do networking and get information and feedback from other state associations' representatives.

The Council of Representatives (COR) had over 150 delegates representing the deaf and hard of hearing community and voted on the top five priorities (see below). Meetings started on Monday, June 30th, and continued through the week until Thursday, July 3rd. Our schedule was very tight and consisted of all-day forums to discuss motions and vote on various proposed priorities for NAD to work on in the next two years. In the beginning there were 44 proposed priorities. After the COR meetings, we would get together with our region representatives for the regional and caucus meetings in the evenings to discuss what priorities we wanted to vote on the next day.

Delegates representing state associations, affiliates, nonprofit organization affiliates, and other groups voted on the top five priorities for 2014-2016 during the conference. Most are tied to the [Vision 2020 Strategic Plan](#); the NAD Board of Directors and committees are responsible for follow-up action. Periodic reports on progress will be posted on www.nad.org website.

The official 2014-2016 conference top five priorities are as follows (for more information on what the priorities are about, please see <http://www.nad.org/about-us/priorities>):

- *Priority Code: 2014-GA-PUB-021*
2014-2016 Priority: **Preservation and Advocacy of Relay Services (PARS)**
- *Priority Code: 2014-GA-PUB-033*
2014-2016 Priority: **FEMA Communication to Deaf and Hard of Hearing**
- *Priority Code: 2014-GA-PUB-049*
2014-2016 Priority: **Preservation of Mental Health Services that Meet the Needs of Deaf People**
- *Priority Code: 2014-GA-PUB-050*
2014-2016 Priority: **Defining and**

Supporting the Education Strategy Team's Focus for 2014-2016

- *Priority Code: 2014-GA-PUB-051*
2014-2016 Priority: **Outreach to Deaf Youth including Mainstream School Students**

There were also 15 bylaw amendment proposals for us to vote on. As approved at the 2014 Biennial NAD Conference Atlanta, Georgia, please see http://nad.org/sites/default/files/2014/September/NADbylaws_edited_7_2_14.pdf.

On July 1st, NAD had their Opening Ceremony at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center which was truly a symbolic representation of history and a celebration of America's 50th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Movement. Attendees also had an opportunity to see Martin Luther King, Jr. and his wife's graves. The Opening Ceremony emcees, Stephanie and Tim Albert, created an inspirational program to kick off the conference for a great week!

On July 3rd, there was a College Bowl competition. The six teams that started the competition were Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID), University of Texas, University of Minnesota, National Technical Institute of the Deaf (NTID), Gallaudet University, and California State University - Northridge (CSUN). Three teams made it into the finals and the final score was NTID/RIT 79, Gallaudet University 77, and CSUN 75, respectively. It was a very

close competition and all the teams did a phenomenal job!

On July 4th, NAD had their July 4th Panoramic Fireworks Bash and Live Auction at the Omni Hotel at the CNN Center. The event was sold out. They also celebrated RID's 50th birthday! Miss Deaf America put her crown down to end the 40-year NAD legacy of the Miss Deaf America Ambassador Program (MDAAP). As MDAAP came to a close, NAD welcomed in a new legacy, the Youth Ambassador Program (YAP). The fireworks at the Omni Hotel were amazing!

On July 5th, YAP had their competition and had six finalists. They were Keith Delk from Beach Park, IL, Allison Friedman from Wheeling, IL, Ryan Hait-Campbell from Seattle, WA, Elena Mayer from St. Louis, MO, Danah Richter from New Kensington, PA, and Satish Thapa from New York, NY. Elena Mayer and Ryan Hait-Campbell were chosen as the newly selected NAD Youth Ambassadors for 2014-2016. Congratulations to them for a job well done! For more information on what their goals are, see <http://www.nad.org/yap/contestants>.

In partnership with the NAD Conference, the ASL Festival was held on Saturday, July 5th. ASL Festival is a festival that transpires to bring everyone together to share a day of learning about American Sign Language (ASL), its history, and culture. Special invitations included the Georgia Deaf International and the Kids Camp to



John Burdette giving his speech about WVAD at the President's Dinner

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give performances for all to enjoy! This was for everyone, whether or not you are an ASL user or if you are curious about different deaf culture around the globe. We celebrated the preservation of American Sign Language!

The new NAD board members are President Chris Wagner (Florida – 2nd term), Vice President Melissa S. Draganac-Hawk (Pennsylvania – 2nd term), Secretary Joshua Beckman (New Jersey), Treasurer Philippe Montalette (Utah – 2nd term), appointed board members Alicia Lane-Outlaw and Pamela Lloyd-Ogoke. The region representatives are

Michelle Cline and Steve Lovi (Region 1), Richard McCowin and Jenny Buechner (Region 2), Larry Evans and Gerald “Jerry” Nelson (Region 3), and David Reynolds and Sherri Collins (Region 4).

Region 1 consists of West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland, DC, Delaware, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, and Maine.

Region 2 consists of North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky.

Region 3 consists of Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

Region 4 consists of Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, Alaska, and Hawaii.

The conference was a very rich, learning experience and I thank WVAD for giving us that opportunity to bring back the knowledge and wisdom to help WVAD. The next conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, on July 5-9, 2016. 🇺🇸



NAD Conference Workshops by April Hottle

Hello from the Educational Advocate! I was able to attend the National Association of the Deaf Conference July 1–4 in Atlanta, Georgia. Here are some highlights of the conference.

The first meeting I attended was the Educational Advocate Orientation. I was surprised to have the entire workshop focus on English Language Development both for spoken English and ASL! Tawny Holmes' closing comments were "It (language development) is very complex. That is why we need to include language in everything. Language controls thought. Grammar helps second language acquisition. Language goals in the IEP are critical."

The Overview of ASL/Spoken English Bilingualism Workshop provided an overview for implementing an ASL/English Bimodal-Bilingual approach to educating deaf and hard of hearing children from birth to third grade. The presenters, Heidi Burns and Bobbie Jo Kite, emphasized that the goal is language for the child. ASL/English Bimodal-Bilingual means the child learns both ASL and spoken English – both modalities.

"The important goal is that a child (birth to third grade) have accessible language both spoken English and signed ASL. The child can indicate a preference later." The presenter emphasized that we are NOT picking ASL rather than spoken English. Instead, we are adding ASL skills to spoken English which enhances bimodal (spoken English and ASL) language development.

These are the benefits of a Bilingual Bimodal program: (1) safeguards language development, (2) builds upon a child's strengths and abilities, (3) assessment driven and planned, (4) individualized for each child, and (5) supports development of family language competence. More helpful information and research briefs are found at <http://v12.gallaudet.edu/assets/section7/document238.pdf>.

The presenters emphasized that deaf and hard of hearing children need to develop "Dynamic Bilingualism," meaning using as many modalities as possible and all the tools available to the child in order to develop language fluency. The emphasis is (1) use assessment and thoughtful approach to instruction and (2) instruction must be individualized for each child. "The involvement of the family is needed to assist in the

critical work of early language development (spoken English and signed ASL)."

School staff are encouraged to develop a language ability profile of each child. This profile will show the child's present language levels. Future assessments will be used to measure the child's language growth.

The Past & Future Educational Human Rights Workshop was presented by Dr. Roz Rosen, Director of the National Center on Deafness at California State University, Northridge. Dr. Rosen supports the Deaf Child's Bill of Rights and the choice of human rights for our children. The goal is kindergarten ready children and graduation on grade level.

Some of the concerns that were addressed in the workshop were (1) lack of language benchmarks in deaf education and (2) the need to "make sure the system changes so parents have the right information and strong support and resources so their children can meet (educational) benchmarks and be successful."

"We need one year of academic gains for one year of education – kindergarten onward." The beginning point is House Bill 4040 named the Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macey Act (<http://www.ceasd.org/child-first/alice-cogswell>). The Act reforms education for the deaf and hard of hearing and blind and visually impaired.

The panel presenters stressed "partnerships" and encouraged each of us to work with our local agencies and find common goals. The speakers encouraged deaf citizens to be involved in their local community by serving on boards.

Regarding small deaf children age birth to three or four, presenters emphasized the requirement for "baseline data and goals" and the necessity for reports with data that show "(the goals) are making a difference." Beth Benedict spoke of Newborn Hearing and Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EDHI) which has the goal "to promote communication from birth" and help children reach their full potential.

The deaf community was encouraged to advocate for their unique needs. A free course called "Make Your Case" is available at the Minnesota Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing at <http://www.mncdhh.org>. This six-hour class provides training on lobbying and provides a certificate upon completion.

Beth Benedict gave a workshop called Why Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Newborn Hearing Screening? To promote child language, cognitive, and academic achievement, it is important to have early identification of deaf and hard of hearing infants. The CDC and the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing are two national organizations that work to ensure that deaf children receive recommended services with appropriate cultural and linguistic support for their development.

Benedict emphasized the need to use the right terminology. For example, use the term "deaf" or "hard of hearing" rather than "hearing loss" (I haven't lost anything). Also, when discussing "risk factors," spell the word "R-I-S-K" rather than use the sign "r-across-the-neck." Benedict also pointed out that organizations supporting cochlear implants such as the Alexander Graham Bell supporters and others do not mention American Sign Language and the deaf community. She called it one-sided propaganda and emphasized that it is an issue of "communication choices – not language itself."

Benedict encouraged the deaf community to be visible and get involved in state agencies such as Hands and Voices, Birth to Three, and parent groups at schools. Other ideas include setting up a "story time" at a library or school; leading a Jr. NAD Program; inviting deaf and hard of hearing to come to activities, including parents of deaf children in planned activities in the deaf community; and teaching a community ASL class. "It is a seed . . . when children come. We hope more will come."

Child First Workshop was given by James E. Tucker and Barbara Raimondo. Child First is a national campaign to ensure that the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) appropriately address the language, communication, and educational needs of deaf and hard of hearing children. The Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act (HB 4040) grew out of the Child First. When passed, HB 4040 will amend IDEA to better serve deaf and hard of hearing and blind and visually impaired students.

Principles of Child First include (1) communication and language is a human and educational right; (2) language deprivation is disabling; (3) "one size" does not fit all; (4) access to all ([See NAD Conference... on page 17](#))

(NAD Conference... from page 16)

interactions; and (5) complete, accurate information for parents.

The workshop explained that 90 percent of what a child learns comes from social activity which reminds us of the need for language interaction with peers. The presenters explained that there is a lack of parent input at IEP meetings. Parents need to lead the development of their child's IEP goals. Tools to meet the child's needs include qualified evaluators; data tracking; mentors; evaluation of language and communication with peers and teachers which includes expressive, receptive,

and pragmatic language; and social skill development.

The main emphasis of the workshop related to Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) which places a child in an educational environment that may NOT be the child's desired environment. Instead, we must look at the child's needs first then talk about placement. An example of this is when the school district may place a child in a mainstream classroom when the child may want to go to a deaf school.

The NAD Conference provided me with information that I may never have learned on my own. However, like some of you, I wonder how to use it and where

to start. I believe the important thing is to be more visible and become active in our communities. We need to keep current on issues facing the deaf community by reading and learning from people like Beth Benedict, Mary Hartnett, director of the Minnesota Commission of the Deaf, Deaf-Blind, and Hard of Hearing, using the Gallaudet/Clerc Center website and others. Finally, I hope many of us will plan to attend the 2016 NAD Conference in Arizona where we can build partnerships and continue to become knowledgeable about current issues and concerns facing children and adults in the deaf community. 🖊️



(In the News from page 12)

WV School for the Deaf & Blind Compromise Childcare Worker Job Status

By Nicole Neidenberg, WHAG NBC25 Reporter, Hagerstown, MD, <http://www.your4state.com/story/wv-school-for-the-deaf-blind-compromise-childcare/29516/dzD0IRpJK0WG8u1FIGqwvw>, Wednesday, September 3, 2014

ROMNEY, WV — The debate over the job status for childcare workers at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind is over.

The school, along with the West Virginia State Board of Education, recently announced a new agreement that 35 childcare workers will be able to keep their jobs as long as they agree to attain a Associates Degree by June 30, 2020.

This announcement comes after months of strife between staff and workers, teacher strikes, and legislation. In April, Superintendent Dr. Lynn Boyer proposed requiring all childcare workers have an Associate Degree, pending a change in residential requirements.

This was something many workers did not have.

On Tuesday, Boyer sent a statement to childcare workers addressing the

new stance on their jobs. Many said it's a good one.

"We've basically been told that we get to keep our jobs, we do not have to re-interview, we do not have to re-submit a resume and we can rollover into the new position and truthfully that's the best news I've heard in the past six months," childcare worker Kim Buckley said.

The statement reads, "After consultation with our attorneys, we were able to agree to make an adjustment to the proposal that will allow us to come together and focus on accomplishing this change in a collaborative manner."

It goes on to say, "All current childcare workers who wish to transfer to the new position of residential care specialist will be allowed to do so without application or interview as long as there

is written intention that the required degree will be completed no later than June 30, 2020."

State Senator Don Cookman, who's been working on legislation from the beginning, trying to keep the childcare workers their jobs, applauded the compromise.

"I think it's a huge concession that's being made on behalf of the superintendent and the board of education by guaranteeing these child care workers their jobs, and that wasn't included before," Cookman said.

The proposal of attaining an Associates Degree would have left 35 workers without a job, but thanks to the new compromise many of those childcare workers say they are happy with the ending solution and ready to put forth the commitment to their new degree. 🖊️



WVSDDB Ready to Move On

Posted by Jim King, Hampshire Review Staff, <http://www.hampshirereview.com/blog/2014/09/10/relieved-wvsdb-workers-ready-to-move-on/#>, Wednesday, September 10, 2014

ROMNEY – At the end, getting better for the kids was all that mattered.

Six months of contention between 35 child care workers at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind and Superintendent Lynn Boyer ended a week ago when Boyer changed course and guaranteed the workers would have their jobs as of next July if they made one commitment, to pursue a 2-year degree in child development or a related field.

"As long as folks know they have a job, that's what we wanted all along," child WVAD Quarter News, Fall 2014

care worker Kim Buckley said. "I think people are ready to try to move forward."

She said she was ready to take classes and start the process. "Everybody wants to be better at their jobs," she said.

That was much the same point made by Gayle Manchin, president of the State Board of Education, a week ago.

"The message is how can we raise the standards and everyone be better for the students," Manchin said.

Boyer put it this way in a letter she gave to the workers last Tuesday,

Sept. 2: "This change has always been about ensuring that children and youth in the residential program receive the informed educational and social support they have a right to expect."

Late last week Boyer said she didn't have anything to add to what she said in the letter.

"It's behind us," she said. "We're moving forward for the children. We have other things to deal with." (See In the News on page 18)

(In the News from page 17)

State Sen. Donald H. Cookman (D-Romney), who had been a vocal advocate for the child care workers (CCW) during his election campaign, expressed his satisfaction with the outcome.

"I am pleased to see that the CCWs will indeed retain their employment," read in part a statement released by his campaign.

Late next winter the workers will have to sign documents agreeing to complete the degree by 2020 in order to retain their jobs for the 2015-16 school year.

Those who do will be on a transfer list presented to the State Board of Education at its April 2015 meeting, Boyer said. Those who don't will be listed as a reduction in force for the board to terminate employment.

When they return to work after July 1, 2015, the child care workers will become residential care specialists, earning \$8,000 a year more than they do now.

They will be required to enroll in courses each semester toward the degree. Boyer said 1-semester exemptions could be granted on a case-by-case basis.

To ease the burden of the coursework, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College has opened classrooms on the WVSDC campus and will offer key courses there.

"People are willing to try going to classes," Buckley said of her colleagues. "They're going to try."

Some workers had expressed frustration at the new requirements.

A spokesman for the group, James Dean, complained in July that an associate's degree wasn't necessary.

"Our argument is that it's not necessary," he said then. "It's all about the children and raising standards. And yes, standards do need to be raised, but where do you raise the standards?"

Boyer wanted to raise the education level of residential care workers as part of a model of 24/7 education the school is moving toward. WVSDC has a proposal before the School Building Authority for funds to construct new residential facilities.

The model, she has said, is that students receive a classroom education during the day and their education continues around the clock on life skills and socialization.

Her original proposal in March was to terminate the 35 child care workers, requiring them to apply for the residential care specialist jobs that start in mid-2015. The current employees had no guarantee they would receive one of the new positions even if they met the qualifications.

That changed last week with the new proposal.

"It is a shame that such a struggle had to go on for so long," child care worker Dave Nester said "Hat's off to Lynn Boyer for finding a way to compromise and help CCW's to keep their jobs intact."

Child care workers had been lobbying against the termination and had a fund-raising dinner planned for Sept. 20.

Now, Buckley said, the dinner will be held, but with different intent.

"It's more of a celebration," she said. Money raised will go into a fund to help reimburse workers for tuition and books as they pursue the required courses.

The \$10 baked-steak dinner is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Sept. 20 upstairs at the American Legion in Romney. Buckley said a raffle there will include a couple of quilts, photography, and other items people are donating. 🍷

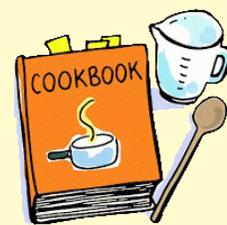


**RAFFLE TICKETS — 2 TICKETS (2 DRAWINGS)
FOR WVU BASKETBALL GAME, WVU VS. BAYLOR,
2/7/14 – NOON**

WVAD is selling raffle tickets for 2 tickets (2 drawings) to the WVU vs. Baylor basketball game, scheduled for February 7, 2015 (home game) at 12:00 p.m. (noon). Proceeds will go towards the 2015 WVAD conference. If anyone is interested in buying any raffle tickets, please contact any of the Board members. For credit card purchases, please contact Veronda Harrison at 304-964-6025 VP. Feel free to let your family and friends know about this as they are welcome to participate in the drawing. Drawing will be held on December 13, 2014 at the WVAD Christmas party (need not be present to win). There will be 2 drawings. For more information, please contact any Board members. 🍷

<p>West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc. 2015 WVAD Biennial Conference</p> <p> 2 West Virginia Mountaineers vs. Baylor Bears Tickets – 2/7/15 (Noon) </p> <p> 2 Drawings on December 13, 2014 Need not be present to win </p> <p>\$2.00 per ticket OR 6 tickets for \$5.00</p>		<p>PHONE/VP</p>	<p>ADDRESS</p>	<p>NAME</p>
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**RECIPES
WANTED!**



*From the Kitchen of
The 100th Anniversary
Committee*

The 100th Anniversary Committee is looking for recipes to create a cookbook as a fundraiser to raise money for the 100th Anniversary that is coming up Summer 2015! Please send your recipes to the WVAD Editor (extraordinary45@comcast.net) or Veronda Harrison (verapple@aol.com). Your help will make this anniversary a success! Thank you!

WVAD Biennial Picnic Held at Burnsville Lake by Tamera A. Deem

WVAD held its biennial picnic on August 2, 2014. The weather was great until the picnic was over then the rain-storm came! We were fortunate to have great weather during the picnic.

There were 71 adults and 3 children that attended (16 adults and 1 child were from the Maranatha Fellowship Church sign language class in St. Albans, WV). WVAD provided chicken, mashed potatoes, and gravy while others brought covered dishes and desserts. Food was great!

The prizes included \$700 cash giveaways, deep fryer, lounge lawn chair, dock clock, two zipper fly swaps, pivoting fan, WVU clay pot figurine donated by Theresa Pack, a drill donated by Lowe's, 2 Shoney restaurant gift cards, and a 32-inch TV.

The football game raffle tickets (WVU vs. Towson held on September 6, 2014) were won by Sharon Flenniken from Morgantown, WV, and Molly Bonar from Romney, WV. The basketball raffle tickets are now being sold by Board members if anyone is interested in a chance to go to the WVU basketball

game scheduled for February 7th, 2015 (see raffle ticket on page 18).

The autographed WVU football and case was won by Joshua Simmons (son of Julie and Jeffery Simmons). The autographed WVU poster was won by Veronda Harrison and she gave the poster to Jason, her youngest son, at the picnic. The boys were thrilled to have the autographed items from WVU!

Some attendees were able to camp, swim, and go boating all weekend and enjoyed being with others, which made it even more fun! 🍷



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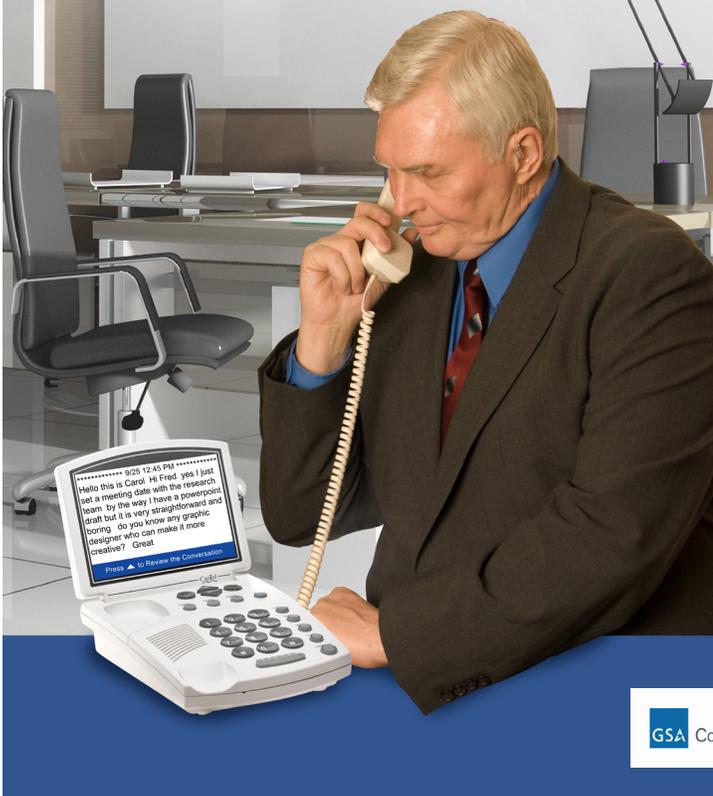
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“CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF
BRIDGING THE GAP
BETWEEN WVAD AND YOU”



**WEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF
40th Biennial Conference and 100th Anniversary Celebration
Snowshoe Resort, WV
August 6-9, 2015**

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CONFERENCE:

Registration Rates:

- Full combo includes registration, workshops, business meeting, Friday night social, and Saturday banquet and entertainment.
- WVAD membership is NOT included in the combo registration fee. Each WVAD member will be responsible for their own membership renewal when it's due. It may be renewed at the conference if desired.

Accessibility Request: Accessibility requests must be received no later than June 30, 2015. Please contact Jimmy Harrison at JHarrison5@aol.com or Veronda Harrison at verapple@aol.com.

Cancellation Policy: We will refund the combo except registration fee if there is death in the family or health reasons (written documentation is required from the doctor).

Chairperson: Jimmy Harrison, JHarrison5@aol.com

Co-Chairperson: Larry Hubbard, HubbardLarry18@yahoo.com

Advertising Chairperson: TBD

Exhibition Chairperson: TBD

Desktop Publishing Coordinator/Editor: Tamera Deem

- You may make arrangements with Veronda Harrison (VP # 304-964-6025 or e mail Verapple@aol.com) to make payments.

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Snowshoe Mountain Resort
10 Snowshoe Drive
Snowshoe, WV 26209

For Reservations:

Telephone No.: 877-441-4386
Group Code: TBA

- Prices VARIES for different lodging unit types. All rooms are village lodges; some are townhouses where more people can room together and split costs.
- FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LODGING, please see <http://www.snowshoemtn.com/plan-your-trip/lodging/lodging-landing.aspx>.

NOTE: Please be aware there is limited cell phone service in many areas surrounding the resort. AT&T has the most reliable service in the resort area. There is WiFi in rooms, conference rooms, and at Starbucks.

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

(Please print clearly. One form per person. You can make a copy for second person. Make personal check or money order payable to WVAD and write "CONFERENCE" on check memo line. Mail to Veronda Harrison, WVAD Treasurer, 5 Cordoba Drive, Hurricane, WV 25526.)

First Name, Last Name: _____
 Member (New; Current) Non-Member

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Video Phone No.: _____ Cell Phone (Text) No.: _____

E mail: _____

Or complete the credit card information below:

Visa MasterCard Discover Card

Name on Credit Card: _____

Credit Card Account No.: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Exp. Date: _____ CVS (Security Code Number on Back): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

AT DOOR RATES				
MEMBER, NON-MEMBER, OR STUDENT	REGISTRATION (WORKSHOP, EXHIBIT, AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY)	FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL	SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS, BANQUET, AND ENTERTAINMENT	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00	\$105.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60.00	\$140.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	\$115.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student*	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE	—	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	\$40.00
MEMBER, NON-MEMBER, OR STUDENT				
MEMBER, NON-MEMBER, OR STUDENT	REGISTRATION ONLY	SATURDAY NIGHT — ENTERTAINMENT ONLY (DOES NOT INCLUDE BANQUET)		TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00		<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00		<input type="checkbox"/> \$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00		<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00		<input type="checkbox"/> \$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student*	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00		<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00
EARLY BIRD COMBO				
MEMBER, NON-MEMBER, OR STUDENT	1ST COMBO (9/1/14 – 11/30/14)	2ND COMBO (12/1/14 – 2/28/15)	3RD COMBO (3/1/15 – 5/31/15)	AT DOOR (6/1/15 – 8/6/15)
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	\$95.00	\$105.00	\$115.00	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$75.00	\$85.00	\$95.00	\$105.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	\$110.00	\$120.00	\$130.00	\$140.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$95.00	\$105.00	\$115.00	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student*	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00

* Students must show proof of student status (valid student ID from high school or college required).

DIRECTIONS TO SNOWSHOE RESORT, WV

Martinsburg, WV (180 miles — 3 hours, 45 minutes)
Morgantown, WV (142 miles — 2 hours, 45 minutes)
Parkersburg, WV (185 miles — 3 hours, 30 minutes)
Huntington, WV (200 miles — 4 hours)
Baltimore, MD (260 miles — 5 hours)
Pittsburgh, PA (215 miles — 3 hours, 45 minutes)

Romney, WV (120 miles — 2 hours, 45 minutes)
Clarksburg, WV (110 miles — 2 hours, 30 minutes)
Charleston, WV (150 miles — 3 hours, 15 minutes)
Beckley, WV (120 miles — 2 hours, 30 minutes)
Youngstown, OH (275 miles — 4 hours, 45 minutes)
Altoona, PA (200 miles — 4 hours, 15 minutes)

From Morgantown/Clarksburg Area to Snowshoe: Take I-79 South to Exit 99 – Weston, WV. Take US-33 East (4-lane) to Elkins, WV. Take US-219 South for 48 miles to Snowshoe. Turn left off of US-219 South onto Route 66 East toward Big Springs/The Market/Exxon. Go less than 1 mile to Snowshoe Drive North on the left unless you are lodging at The Inn at Snowshoe or made your reservations through an independent realty company. All are located off of Route 66. Please use either Google map or Mapquest websites for more specific directions from your area.

Using GPS / Navigation Systems: Because of the rural location, GPS units are not always the most reliable source for turn-by-turn directions. Some of the roads in the area are not properly mapped. We suggest inputting longitude and latitude coordinates, rather than using a street address. Here are some of the coordinates for popular locations on the mountain:

Mountaintop Check-In: 38.4018 North - 79.9936 West

Village Center: 38.4119 North - 79.9963 West

Silver Creek: 38.4405 North - 79.9893 West

Inn at Snowshoe: 38.4159 North - 80.0366 West

Suggested Physical Address: 10 Snowshoe Dr. Snowshoe, WV 26209

Please always double check your directions with a reliable map.

Check out the location of Snowshoe, WV on <https://www.google.com/maps/@38.5305423,-80.288301,9z> (Google map).





PHOTOS



Logan Leroy Kapaldo, son of Webmaster Andrew and Jacklyn Kapaldo, grandson of Tami Deem, was born on July 8, 2014, at 11:35 p.m. He was 7 pounds, 8 ounces and 20 inches long.



Scarlet Grey Lawson was born on June 3, 2014, at 3:03 p.m. to Linda (formerly Phillips) and Darrin Lawson. She weighed 7 pounds and 1 ounce. She is the granddaughter of Liz and Mike Leisure.

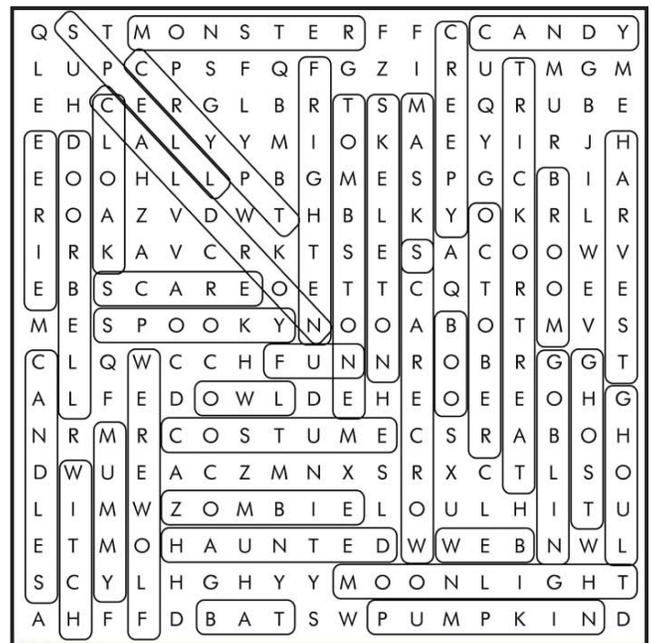


Theodore David Morehead was born on March 21, 2014, at 8:27 p.m. to Michelle (formerly Leisure) and David Morehead. He weighed 6 pounds and 6 ounces. He is the grandson of Liz and Mike Leisure.



Tami Deem's grandsons Hunter (3 years old) and Logan (2 months old).

(Fun Page Answers from page 7)



FALL RECIPES

CHOCOLATE CHIP BARS STUFFED WITH CHEESECAKE

(YIELD: Makes 20 bars – more if you cut them smaller)

Chocolate Chip Cookie Layer:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour | 1 tsp baking soda |
| 1 tsp salt | 1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened |
| 3/4 cup granulated sugar | 3/4 cup packed brown sugar |
| 1 tsp vanilla extract | 2 large eggs |
| 1 12-oz pkg semi-sweet chocolate morsels | |

Cheesecake Filling:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 8 oz cream cheese, softened | 1/2 cup sugar |
| 1 egg | 1/2 tsp vanilla extract |



Preheat the oven to 350 °F. Line a 9 x 13-inch pan with non-stick foil. Set aside.

For the cookie layer, combine flour, baking soda, and salt in small bowl. Beat butter, granulated sugar, brown sugar, and vanilla extract in large mixer bowl until creamy. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Gradually beat in flour mixture. Stir in morsels. Press half of the dough onto the bottom of the prepared pan. It will be a thin layer, so use lightly moistened hands to press the dough into a thin even layer, filling in any holes with a bit of cookie dough from the bowl.

For the cheesecake filling, mix the cream cheese and sugar together with an electric mixer on medium-high until light and fluffy, 1-2 minutes. Add the egg and vanilla extract and mix until well combined. Spread the cheesecake filling over the layer of cookie dough in the pan.

Using the remaining cookie dough, flatten tablespoon sized amounts of cookie dough in your hands into flat disc shapes, about 1/8- to 1/4-inch thick. Place these discs over the top of the cheesecake layer, pressing very lightly to adhere them to the cheesecake layer. It's ok if there are small spaces; the entire top doesn't need to be completely covered; just make sure it is mostly covered with cookie dough.

Bake the bars for 35-40 minutes until very lightly browned on the edges. Remove to a wire rack to cool completely. Refrigerate until chilled, 1-2 hours. Add a chocolate drizzle, if desired. Cut into squares and serve. Store covered in the refrigerator for up to 2 days. Editor's Note: I have tried this and it's HEAVEN!

BLUEBERRY CHEESECAKE

Nutty Graham Cracker Crust:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 cup graham cracker crumbs (can roll with rolling pin or use food processor until finely ground) | 1/2 cup ground walnuts or nuts of your choice |
| 1/2 cup old-fashioned rolled oats (could use quick-cooking oats) | 2 Tbsp brown sugar |
| | 1/2 cup or 8 Tbsp butter or margarine (melted) |

Combine all ingredients and press into a sprayed 8 x 8 inch baking pan. Bake in preheated 350 °F oven 10 to 12 minutes. Remove and let cool.

Cream Cheese Filling:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 (8 oz package) cream cheese, softened | 1 (14 oz) can sweetened condensed milk (not evaporated milk) |
| 1/3 cup lemon juice | |
| 1 tsp vanilla extract | |

Combine ingredients and mix on high for 3 or 4 minutes. Pour over cooled crust. Refrigerate for 3 hours.

Fresh Blueberry Topping:

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 2 cups fresh blueberries (you could use frozen) | 1/2 cup sugar |
| 1 Tbsp cornstarch | 1/4 tsp cinnamon |
| 1/4 tsp nutmeg | 1/2 cup water |
| 1 Tbsp lemon juice | |

Combine all topping ingredients except lemon juice and bring to boil on top of the stove stirring constantly so as not to burn. Cook for 2 minutes to thicken. Remove from stove, stir in lemon juice and let cool. Pour over cheesecake after it has been refrigerated for 3 hours.

Keep this cheesecake refrigerated. Makes about 10 to 12 servings. Enjoy! Note: You could use any fresh fruit with this recipe such as strawberries or blackberries. Editor's Note: I have also tried this and this is wonderful as well!



WVAD MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____ New Renewal
Spouse's Name _____ New Renewal
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone No. _____ TTY Voice Both
E-Mail/Internet _____
Video Phone No. _____

You:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 for 1 Year — Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hard of Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 for 2 Years — Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 for 2 Years — Senior (Age 55 and up) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interpreter | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 for 2 Years — Student (Age 12 – 18) |

Spouse:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deaf | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 for 1 Year — Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hard of Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 for 2 Years — Regular |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 for 2 Years — Senior (Age 55 and up) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Interpreter | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10 for 2 Years — Student (Age 12 – 18) |

- Yes!** Here is my donation: \$ _____
 Yes! I want to donate to Deaf Youth Program: \$ _____
 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

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.
Larry Hubbard, WVAD Membership Coordinator
572 Thompson Road
Culloden, WV 25510
Video Phone No.: 304-397-5729

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!