

WVAD Quarter News



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

Volume 34, No. 2

Summer 2013

Upholstery Shop Built on Father-Son Rapport

By Sandy Wells, Staff Writer, san...@wvgazette.com or 304-348-5173, *The Charleston Gazette*, <http://www.wvgazette.com/News/201304140082>

HURRICANE, WV — This is not just Tim Smith’s story. It’s also about his dad, the Bob behind Bob’s Upholstery. His father, who can’t hear or speak, started the business 40 years ago in his garage with a ‘49 Ford truck that wouldn’t start without help.

It’s a story of mutual respect — a son filled with admiration for all that his father achieved, a dad grateful for the success his son made of the business he started on a very thin shoestring in 1973.

Located in Hurricane since 1990, Bob’s Upholstery bustles this time of year with marine work. Boat tops and boat seats in various stages of renovation reflect the firm’s go-to reputation in the boating community.

Tim runs the shop with his wife, Carol. His dad, approaching 80, still works 3 days a week.

Generally outgoing and upbeat, the son softens at the thought of his impossible childhood dream: he’d give anything if he could hear his father’s voice.

I’m from St. Albans. My mother and father both are deaf. They weren’t



Father-son upholstery team Bob and Tim Smith celebrate four decades in business as Bob’s Upholstery, located since 1990 in Hurricane. An avid WVU fan who can’t speak or hear, Bob Smith retired years ago but still works several days a week. They’ve worked together since Tim was 14, the year the business started. (Photo by Photographer Chip Ellis, The Charleston Gazette)

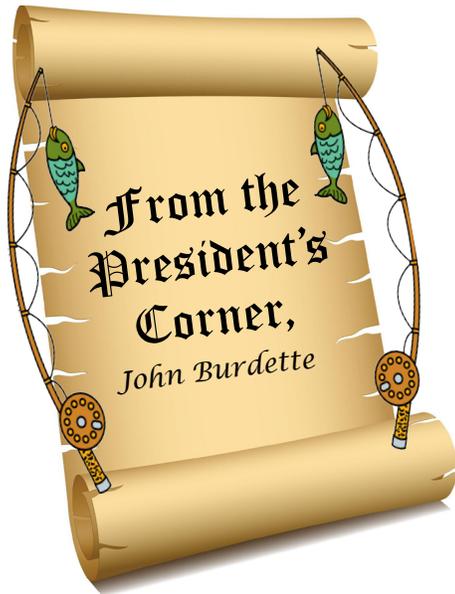
(See Upholstery Shop... on page 3)

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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 Everyone!

Summer season is coming soon. Are you all ready for these hot days?

I hope everyone is busy starting summer activities such as gardening, swimming, planning a vacation, and many more.

WVAD had their Board meeting on June 1st in Charleston, WV. Six Board members were present. There were also four visitors. Much of the discussions were about the upcoming conference in Martinsburg to be held on August 1-3.

I want to update everyone on things that will be happening in the coming months.

I am pleased to announce the new West Virginia Association of the Deaf website. It's still a work in progress. Please check out our new website (www.wvad.net). We also have the West Virginia Association of the Deaf page on Facebook. Please visit and join the Facebook page for updated information.

We have updated the conference information! WVAD warmly welcomes you to attend the conference. The theme

is "New Generation of Advocacy." The conference committee has been working hard on planning the conference and they have several good workshops planned for us. Also, planned for the weekend will be game night, awards banquet, and entertainment. See our flyer on page 8 for tentative conference agenda.

A friendly reminder ... you can still register for the conference by July 31st. (See page 7.) Good news! WVAD is now accepting debit and credit cards for the conference combo, membership, etc. We are currently accepting Visa, MasterCard, and Discover.

The smoke alarms project/program application form is ready, which will provide free smoke alarms for people who are deaf and hard of hearing in their own homes. The program only applies to WV residents. If you need an application, contact Kari Preslar at kari.j.preslar@wv.gov. or go to this website (<http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvcdhh/asap.cfm>) to download forms.

For those who have not paid for expired membership (see page 15 for the

form), please send the form and payment to our Treasurer, Veronda Harrison. If you are not a member of WVAD, please join. Your support and dues help keep WVAD going. If you have any questions about membership, please contact Jimmy Harrison, Membership Coordinator.

In closing, WVAD will be reaching a milestone in 2015—100th anniversary. The Board would like to make plans to celebrate our long and proud history. We will need volunteers to serve on a committee to start planning this 100th Anniversary celebration. Hope you will consider joining the committee.

Have a safe summer and stay cool! Hope to see you at the WVAD Conference!

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*.

WVAD Quarter News




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

<i>Editor:</i>	Tami Deem
<i>President:</i>	John Burdette
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Jimmy Harrison
<i>Secretary:</i>	Liz Leisure
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Veronda Harrison
<i>Senior Trustee:</i>	Jackie Sherrill-Robinson
<i>Trustee:</i>	Worthy Devericks
<i>Trustee:</i>	Doug Casto

(Upholstery Shop... from page 1)

born deaf. He had an ear infection in both ears when he was 3. My mother had rubella when she was a child.

They were good parents. They were strict. But it was hard to explain in sign language what I was trying to tell them as a kid. I don't remember learning to sign. Dad said I caught on when I was about 4.

I have two younger sisters. They would always say "tell mom this" or "tell daddy that." I would say "No, you have to learn to sign, too."

Through grade school, every teacher would find out my parents were deaf, so they would make me stand up in front of class and do the alphabet because they thought it was so neat.

When we were growing up, we would flip on a light or stomp to get mom or dad's attention. They could feel the vibration and turn. When I was born, my mother said she would get up every 2 or 3 minutes because she couldn't hear if I was crying. They finally brought in dad's mother to help them.

His mother was so proud of him when he built his own house because they had never owned a home. They lived in a one-room apartment on Clendenin Street where the Civic Center is now. She worked at Superior Laundry over on the Boulevard.

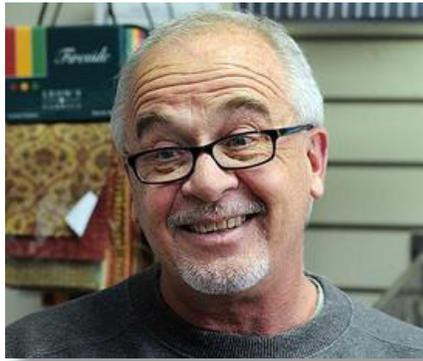
He worked at Tickle's Upholstery for 20 years. He learned upholstering at the deaf school in Romney. When he was a teenager on a summer break, Mr. Tickle would hire him. He would just do the grunt work, tearing off the old stuff.

He quit Tickle and moved to a place called the Bargain Barn on Big Tyler Road. After a few years, he decided to go into business for himself.

He taught mom how to sew, and they worked together. It's unbelievable what they did.

I was 14 when they started the business. His mother was staying at the house at the time. She would answer the phone when I was at school. When I got home, dad would take me on calls for estimates. I was basically just an interpreter.

As soon as I turned 16, he told me to just do it myself. I had learned over the years how to price things and how much fabric it took. It's not a trade you learn in 6 months. He taught me how to tear down, then I learned to sew a little bit.



"One day, it's a little loveseat ... (Photo by Photographer Chip Ellis, The Charleston Gazette)

He started out of his garage. The first couple of weeks, he got no calls. Finally, he got one, and he got the job, and he was so excited. It took off after that.

We started out with this old truck, a 1949 Chevrolet pickup truck. Every time we would deliver something, we would make sure we were on a hill so it would start. Sometimes we weren't, so I would get out and push the truck, and he would pop the clutch. He finally got his first van.

The business stayed in our home for 17 years, until 1990 when we moved down here. We were running out of room at the house. In the mid-'80s, we had branched out into marine stuff. He knew John Lucenti who had the marina where Lou Wendell is now. John asked him to do some seats and tops. Now we do work for all the marinas.

He wasn't real keen about the move here. I told him we needed the space. Now we're running out of space again.

He retired a few years after that. He still comes down and works about 3 days. He will be 80 in December.

You know what my dream was when I was a kid? My parents being deaf, I always wished he could hear my voice, and I wish I could hear how he would sound. He's never heard the sound a bird makes. So many things. He has a voice. He can scream with the best of them.

Think about it. In today's world of I-can't-do-this-or-that-because-it's-too-hard, here's a guy who got out of school with maybe the equivalent of an eighth- or ninth-grade education. They concentrated on teaching them a trade. He actually built a house. It's amazing what he's done.

Previous WVAD Quarter News



IS ONLINE

<http://www.wvad.net>

He's a big Mountaineer fan, although he's a little mad at them these days. He played all the sports in school. He wrestled, too. He wrestled a freshman from WVU and pinned him.

I thought I was going to college, but I started doing this and I kind of liked it. I kept thinking, "Who is going to do this for him? Who's going to go on these estimates?" And even if he finds someone, what if they cheat him? I thought maybe later I would go to college, but I just never did.

It's a good enough living. I'm happy. I've got so many friends who do a job that's the same thing all the time. Here, everything is different. One day, it's a little loveseat. Next day, it's a boat cover. It's interesting to me.

When my dad was a young man working, there were lots of upholstery shops, a dozen or more. Now the trade has whittled down to a handful.

Everybody would buy nice furniture that was worth recovering. Now we live in a throwaway society. You go buy the \$499 set. It wears out, throw it away, and buy another \$499 set. Maybe the younger generation can't afford the high-end furniture. When he started, that was 100 percent of our business. Now furniture is only 20 or 30 percent and the marine stuff is probably 70 percent.

Furniture is a steady trickle now. You see old pieces, heirlooms, something grandma handed down. That's the kind of things we get.

We do work for professional people, too. Lawyers and doctors are regulars. Every professional has a waiting room with chairs. We started doing those, too. My wife, Carol, hooked up with a couple of decorators doing window treatments **(See Upholstery Shop... on page 5)**

WVAD Board Minutes



Date: March 9, 2013

Location: Holiday Inn – Blue Ridge Room,
301 Foxcroft Avenue, Martinsburg, WV

WVAD Board Meeting Held at Holiday Inn – Blue Ridge Room, 301 Foxcroft Avenue, Martinsburg, WV, March 9, 2013

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, Liz Leisure, and Douglas Casto.

Members Absent:

Jackie Robinson and Worthy Devericks.

Visitors Present:

Connie Boyce, Frank Spiker, Mary Ann Jividen, Gloria Hollen, Bonnie Sanderlin, Mary Tingler, Lisa Nemith, Richard Tingler, Sandra Pittaro, Earl Hollen, Kaye Peacock, Eric Dearborn, Thomas Jividen, and Doyle Workman.

The regular meeting of WVAD was held in the Blue Ridge Room at Holiday Inn in Martinsburg, WV, on March 9, 2013. President called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. with the secretary, Liz Leisure, being present.

Minutes of the previous meeting (October 18, 2012) were read and approved.

The treasurer (Veronda Harrison) gave the financial reports. As of March 6, 2013, there is \$3,941.38 in the checking account; \$4,260.92 in the savings account; \$14,535.86 in the Mingo County fund; \$1,275.87 in the WVAD conference fund; \$923.00 in the Deaf Youth Program; and \$12,003.63 in the Certificate of Deposit accounts, all of which brings a total of \$36,940.66.

President Burdette reported the following:

- He received an e-mail on December 11, 2012, from Kari Preslar, with the WV Commission for the Deaf

and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH), stating that she did not receive any reply from Christy Buckley about the checks that were supposed to be signed over to WVAD. Ms. Preslar suggested that we get a lawyer to write a letter to the Ramada Inn. He sent a certified mail to Mr. Dale Jordan on January 7, 2013, giving him 1 week to send us the checks before taking further action. After 1 week, there was still no check from Mr. Jordan. We had no other alternative but to file a complaint against the Ramada Inn. A complaint was sent to the Attorney General's Office on March 4, 2013.

- He received and signed a renewal contract on November 9, 2012, with the United Deaf Services (UDS) for 3 years starting January 1, 2013.
- He received an e-mail from the National Association of the Deaf on December 12, 2012, regarding the State Association Membership dues.
- He received a letter from Frank Turk on December 13, 2012, regarding information on the Nebraska State Association of the Deaf biennial conference.
- He received a letter from the WVCDHH on January 24, 2013, regarding several new projects such as medical appointments cards, Accessible Smoke Alarm Project (ASAP), and WV Registry of Interpreters (WVRI).
- He received an e-mail from April Hottle on February 17, 2013, asking the Board to approve her request to be placed in the position as

educational advocate for West Virginia. The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) established an Education Strategy Team to discuss and prepare a 5 to 10 year plan to make sure every deaf and hard of hearing child has access to quality education and language access. NAD wants every state association to select one or two individuals to focus on education issues.

- He received an e-mail on March 5, 2013, from Marissa Sanders with the WVCDHH inviting the WVAD Board to attend the legislative reception on Wednesday, March 6, 2013.
- He attended the WV Board of Education meeting on February 13, 2013, at the Capitol complex. The meeting was about whether to use the money to renovate the West Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind (WVSDB) campus or build a new facility elsewhere in the state (in the Morgantown/Sutton area or in the Charleston/Huntington area). Dr. Lynn Boyer has asked the Board for more time (8 months) to explore the options and to gather some information from students, alumni, parents, employees, and members of the community on how they think it would affect the enrollment, on the employees, or on the community if the school was moved. Currently, there are 114 deaf and blind students enrolled at the WVSDB and 626 deaf and blind students in West Virginia.

(See Board Minutes on page 5)

(Upholstery Shop... from page 3)

and furniture, and they subcontract it back out to us. So we also have that.

Carol gets on me about working too many hours. Sometimes in the summer, for 10 or 12 weeks, I'll work 12 or 14 hours a day. Everybody wants their boat in the water right now.

The marine stuff is almost year-round. I tell them to get it to me in the winter. That's the time to do them.

When John Lucenti asked my dad to do boat tops, he didn't know how but he said, "Oh, yes, I can do that." He looked at it and learned by trial and error. We needed a different set of distributors to get things like zippers and snaps.



Otherwise, the furniture in a boat is the same as furniture in a house.

We do a lot of work in Summersville. The hard thing is trying to make covers on boats on the lake. Some boats are big and don't have trailers to bring them here, so you've got to keep measuring, back and forth, back and forth.

I'm considering buying an old bread truck and sticking a spare machine in there and going up there and trying to do it on site.

I bought my first boat in 1988. I've always been around boats. My dad owned a boat when he was doing work for John Lucenti. We would go fishing at Bluestone Lake.

I have a deck boat on Summersville Lake. We leave the camper in storage up at Mountain Lake campground. We go up and do a little work, and as soon as we get done, I buzz out on that beautiful lake and relax a little bit. That's my getaway.

Sometimes I have to hide, but I understood that going in. They say "Hey, come look at this." I say "We can do a little business, but don't call me off the lake." 🐾

(Board Minutes from page 4)

- He announced that Kaye Peacock's son, Nate, is building a new website for WVAD.
- He met with Sandie Ridenour, Holiday Inn manager, along with the WVAD Conference Committee, on March 8, 2013, to tour the rooms that will be used for our conference in August 2013 so that final decisions/arrangements can be made.

Vice-president Jimmy Harrison had no reports to give as this time. As Membership Chairperson, Jimmy reported that there are 177 WVAD members.

Secretary Liz Leisure reported that she sent sympathy cards to Della Corns and Christie Sevigny.

Trustee Douglas Casto had no report to give at this time.

The members from the Martinsburg's WVAD Conference Committee were present in this Board meeting to give their reports. They have held several meetings and gave information on their actions and discussions on the conference planning.

WVAD Quarter News, Summer 2013

The motion for a 10-minute break beginning at 11:05 a.m. was adopted.

The motion for 1-hour break for lunch starting at 12:45 p.m. was adopted.

Sandra Pittaro, Booth Chairperson, talked about where the booths will be set up at the conference.

Kaye Peacock explained why our previous website, www.wvad.org, had to be changed to www.wvad.net. The old website is being used by some other company. Kaye said that if we want to get it back, WVAD would have to pay \$7,000.00.

New Business:

Veronda Harrison moved that we raise the WVAD scholarship from \$100 to \$125 for Valedictorian and from \$75 to \$100 for Salutatorian. The motion passed. Refer to the General Assembly to amend Bylaws.

Douglas Casto moved that April Hottle be appointed educational advocate for West Virginia. The motion tabled.

 Find us on
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/West-Virginia-Association-of-the-Deaf/175193862245>

West Virginia Association of the Deaf has a Facebook group page. You will be able to keep up with WVAD news and information every time you check your Facebook. You will also be able to post events and be involved in discussions.

Check out the West Virginia Association of the Deaf Facebook page today to see what's happening.

Many thanks to John Burdette for doing this for our organization!



Douglas Casto moved that we Board officers be reimbursed for mileage and lodging to attend this Board meeting today (March 9, 2013). The motion passed.

Jimmy Harrison moved that we pay for souvenirs (note pads with card holders, pens, and tote bags) at the most reasonable cost. The motion passed.

Jimmy Harrison moved that we print 1,000 raffle books (6 tickets for \$5.00) to use for raising money for the 2013 WVAD conference. The motion passed.

Veronda Harrison moved that the WVAD pay the lodging cost for Tami Deem to attend our WVAD conference in August for all the work she has done on the newsletters. The motion passed.

Veronda Harrison moved that we have our next Board meeting in Charleston. The motion passed.

Announcements:

There were no announcements.

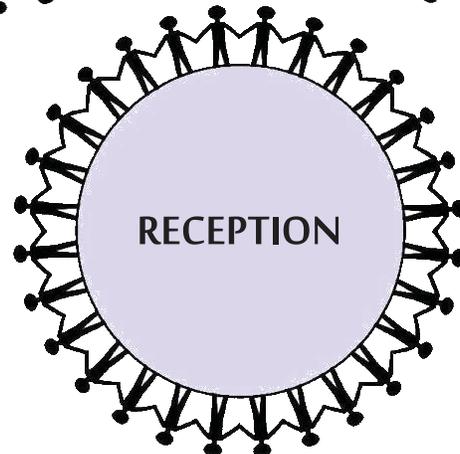
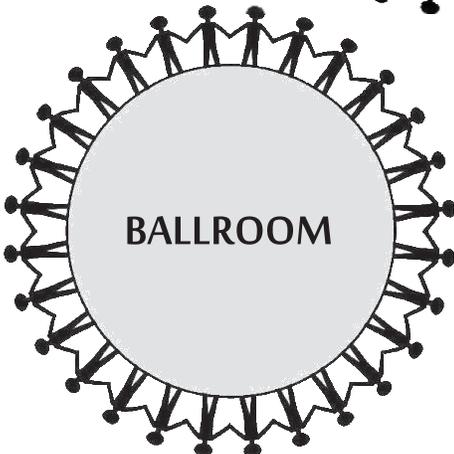
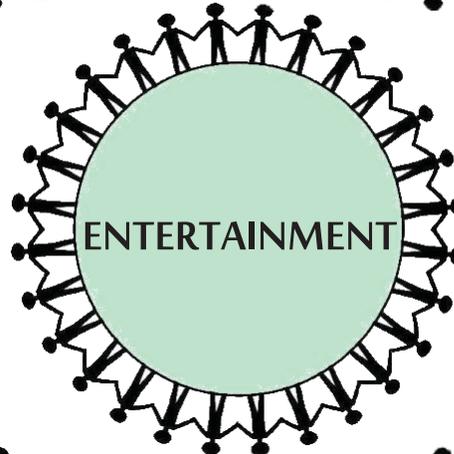
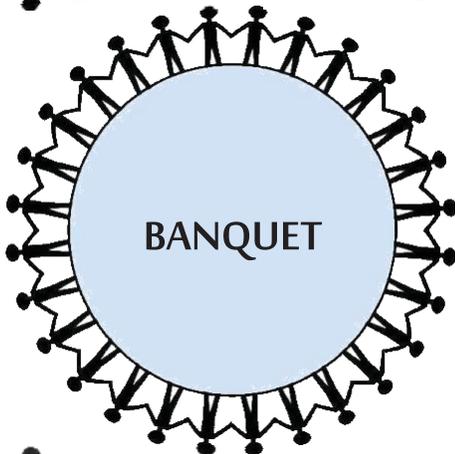
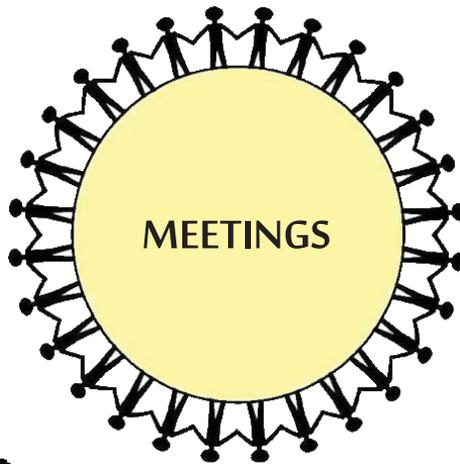
There being no further business, by general consent, the President adjourned the Board meeting at 5:30 p.m. 🐾



**West Virginia Association of the Deaf
39th Biennial Conference
August 1-3, 2013**



**HOLIDAY INN
301 Foxcroft Avenue (I-81, Exit 13)
Martinsburg, WV 25401**





WEST VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

39th Biennial Conference

Martinsburg, WV

August 1-3, 2013



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, 2013. Please contact Mary Ann Jividen at tmajividen@gmail.com or Gloria Hollen at ghbear52@yahoo.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: Mary Ann Jividen, tmajividen@gmail.com
Co-Chairperson: Gloria Hollen, ghbear52@yahoo.com
Advertising Chairperson: Thomas Jividen, tmajividen@aol.com
Exhibition Chairperson: Sandra Pittaro, boysmama2.sp@gmail.com

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

Hotel Information:

Holiday Inn (I-81, Exit 13)
 301 Foxcroft Avenue
 Martinsburg, WV 25401

For Reservations:
 Telephone No.: 304-267-5500
 Group Code: WVA

* WVAD hotel group code is available any time now.

Website: <http://www.holidayinn.com/hotels/us/en/martinsburg/mrbww/hoteldetail>

WVAD Room Rate:

- Double Bed Rate — \$92.00/night
- King Bed Rate — \$92.00/night
- Suite — \$109.00/night



----- CUT AND MAIL BOTTOM PORTION WITH PAYMENT -----

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

(Please print clearly. One form per person. You can make 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 Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

EARLY BIRD COMBO RATES (Select One)			
COMBO REGISTRATION	PLEASE CHOOSE ONE:		ON FLOOR (8/1-3/13)
	<input type="checkbox"/> COMBO 1 (2/1 - 4/30)	<input type="checkbox"/> COMBO 2 (5/1 - 7/31)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Members	\$70.00	\$80.00	\$120.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Members	\$95.00	\$105.00	\$140.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Members (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$105.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Members (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$80.00	\$90.00	\$130.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Students	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$35.00

ON FLOOR RATES (Select One)				
COMBO REGISTRATION	REGISTRATION (REQUIRED)	FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL	SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS BANQUET AND ENTERTAINMENT	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> Members	\$20.00	\$40.00	\$60.00	\$120.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Members	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$70.00	\$140.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Members (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$20.00	\$30.00	\$55.00	\$105.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Members (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$20.00	\$45.00	\$65.00	\$130.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Students	\$10.00	—	\$25.00 (Banquet Only)	\$35.00

WVAD 2013 BIENNIAL CONFERENCE HOLIDAY INN, MARTINSBURG, WV AUGUST 1-3, 2013

TENTATIVE CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, August 1, 2013

4:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Registration
7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. WVAD Board Meeting

Friday, August 2, 2013

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration
8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Welcome
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Workshop #1 – Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Program
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Workshop #2 – Diabetes
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Workshop #3 – Obamacare
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Workshop #4 – Social Security
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**
1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. General Assembly I
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. **DINNER ON YOUR OWN**
6:30 p.m. Doors Open for Evening Activities
7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Game Night (WVAD Feud and Dingo) and Appetizers

Saturday, August 3, 2013

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Registration
8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Welcome
9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Workshop #1 – Video Relay Service Consumer Association (VRSCA)
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Workshop #2 – Deaf's Right/Empowerment
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. **LUNCH ON YOUR OWN**
1:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Workshop #3 – Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID)
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. General Assembly II
5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Registration
5:30 p.m. Doors Open for Evening Activities
6:00 p.m. – Midnight Banquet, Awards, and Entertainment

* **Dress Code: Casual (No Jeans)**



In the News



April 11, 2013: Hearing Impaired Students House Bill 2470 Won't Help Hearing Impaired Students

April 10, 2013 (<http://www.wvgazette.com/Opinion/Letters/201304100099>)

Editor:

The Senate Education Committee passed House Bill 2470 Tuesday with a cost of approximately \$20,000 annually. This bill includes providing waivers to sign support specialists, interpreters who have not passed the state-required Educational Interpreter Proficiency Assessment (3.5 EIPA). In fact, the bill allows the Department of Education to give waivers to these "specialists" without 3.5 EIPA sign language skills. It allows them to be placed in classrooms with deaf and hard-of-hearing children for 1 year, then a second year and longer to provide language access and relay teachers' instruction through sign language. I do not believe this is in the best interest of our deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

Representatives from the state superintendent's office and the state Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing were present and spoke in support of the bill. Additionally, the Office of Special Education, West Virginia Association of the Deaf and Hard

of Hearing have voiced support of HB 2470.

An interpreter's role is to provide language access for deaf and hard-of-hearing students, making the classroom instruction available to them in sign language. Why do the directors of deaf education and organizations that represent deaf and hard-of-hearing people of West Virginia believe deaf children can be taught without skilled interpreters?

I hope readers will express their disapproval of giving waivers to sign support specialists. Instead, we must train these interpreters and help them gain the necessary sign language skills. We can provide mentorship through the videophone to give one-on-one classes. Also, because there is a shortage of interpreters, we can offer American Sign Language as a foreign language in our high schools so that our students will choose the field of interpreting as a profession and enter a training program. We can ask colleges for reciprocity agreements, which give college credits to students who take American

Sign Language classes in high school. Additionally, we need to value educational interpreters as reflected in the salary they receive.

As I told the Senate Education Committee members, not one of them would want their child to go to school, knowing their son or daughter would not be able to "hear" the teacher's instruction. Equally, we must not permit HB 2470 to offer waivers that cause our deaf and hard-of-hearing children to attend school for 1 year, a second year, and ongoing with interpreters who are not proficient in sign language. Instead, we must provide intense training so these interpreters can successfully work with our deaf and hard-of-hearing children.

We must respectfully demand that all deaf and hard-of-hearing children in our state attend school and learn — not just attend school. I ask that readers request that HB2470 not provide waivers for interpreters who do not have the state-required 3.5 EIPA score.

April Hottle, Ripley, WV



WVSDB Campus Closing from Dusk to Dawn

Wednesday, May 8, 2013

BY MARLA PISCIOTTA, marlapisciotta@frontier.com, 304-822-3871

(Courtesy of Hampshire Review and Marla Pisciotta, Hampshire Review Staff)

ROMNEY — Recently the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind safety and security committee made a decision that will most likely affect some local residents.

Within the next few weeks, the WVSDB campus will post signs that read "Closed Dusk to Dawn."

However, during daylight hours, the campus will continue to be open as it is now. Local residents will be able to take their daily walks through the grounds and have access to the campus.

Lynn Boyer is the superintendent of the schools.

"Here at WVSDB, the safety of our students is paramount. We also recognize that our campus is part of the community and is used by many of our neighbors. We don't want that to stop. We are happy to be an integral part of the Romney community," said Boyer.

WVSDB staff said given recent events in the nation, it is not unusual for schools to be extra vigilant in maintaining the security and safety of their students.

Boyer said it is not appropriate, after dark, for people unconnected with the school to be on campus.

"We are concerned that this could pose a safety risk to our students. Our security staff need to be able to identify people on campus at night, and to request that those who are not connected with the school or on school business to leave," said Boyer.

Boyer said the issue has been discussed with the Romney police and all have agreed that the decision to close after dark is a suitable measure to take.

The school's safety and security committee is also in the process of evaluating all of its security procedures, to ensure that they are appropriate, effective, adequate, and complete.



HIDDEN NUMBER FUN



Find the numbers 1 - 32 hidden in the picture below. If you would like more hidden picture puzzles, please visit www.wellgames.com. Answers are on page 13.

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |



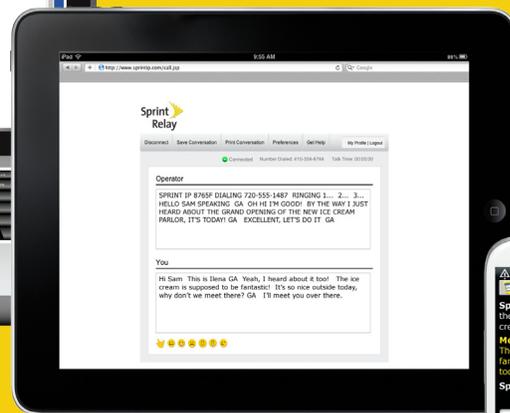
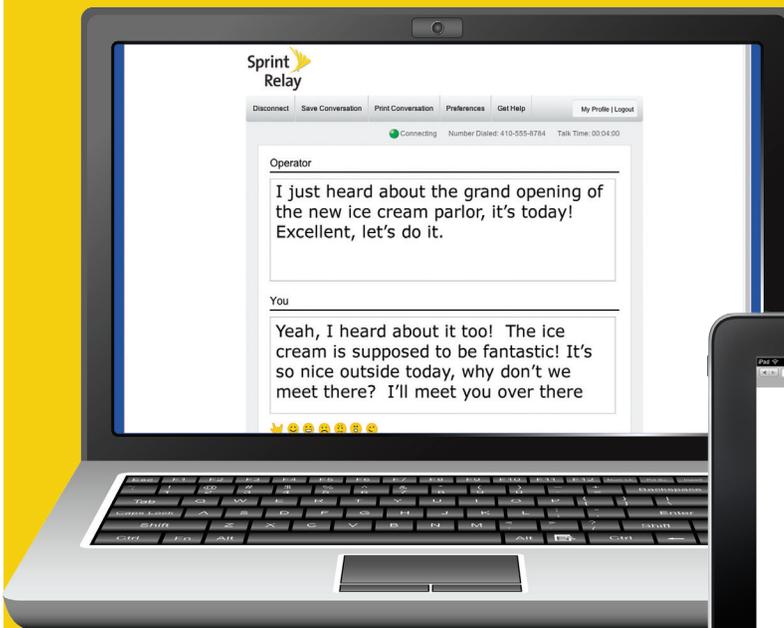
(See Answers on page 13)

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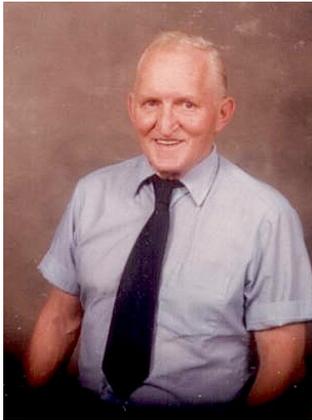
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"In Memory of Loved Ones"



REN SEYMOUR FULLER, JR.

Ren S. Fuller, Jr., 85, of Romney, WV, died Sunday, April 21, 2013, at his residence. Ren was born on May 16, 1927, in Romney, WV, the son of the late Ren Seymour and Edna Craig Fuller. In addition to his parents, he was

preceded in death by infant son, William Lee Fuller.

Ren was a 1944 graduate of the WV School for the Deaf and retired from the school after many years of service as a vocational teacher. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Fae Anna (Long) Fuller and one son, Terry Lee Fuller and wife, Beverly, Romney, WV.

The family received friends on Thursday, April 25, 2013, from 11:00 a.m. until 12 noon. A memorial service was held at 12 noon on Thursday, April 25, 2013, at the Shaffer Funeral Home with the Rev. Dr. Stephon Reed officiating. Interment will be at a later date. Memorials may be made to Hospice of the Panhandle, 122 Waverly Ct., Martinsburg, WV 25401, or the Hampshire County Committee on Aging, School Street, Romney, WV 26757. 🍀

GLORIA L. (BOYD) ASBURY

Gloria L. (Boyd) Asbury, 82, passed away on April 25, 2013, of Dormont.

Beloved wife of the late Wilbur R. Asbury; loving mother of David (Karen) and Jeffrey L.; cherished grandmother of Jason, Phillip, Jacob, and Jenna Asbury; great-grandmother of Isabella, Layla, Hayden, and Delaney Asbury; beloved sister of the late Betty Newman (Mickey - deceased), Richard Boyd (Irene - deceased), and Patricia Weil (Paul).

Gloria was a long time member of the Deaf Association. A service was held on Saturday, May 4, 2013, at Grandview Church of God, 1901 Fallowfield Avenue, Beechview, PA 15216, at 11:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Deaf Association. Gloria was laid to rest at Asbury Cemetery, Charleston, WV.

Send condolences at post-gazette.com/gb. Published in Pittsburgh Post-Gazette on April 29, 2013. 🍀

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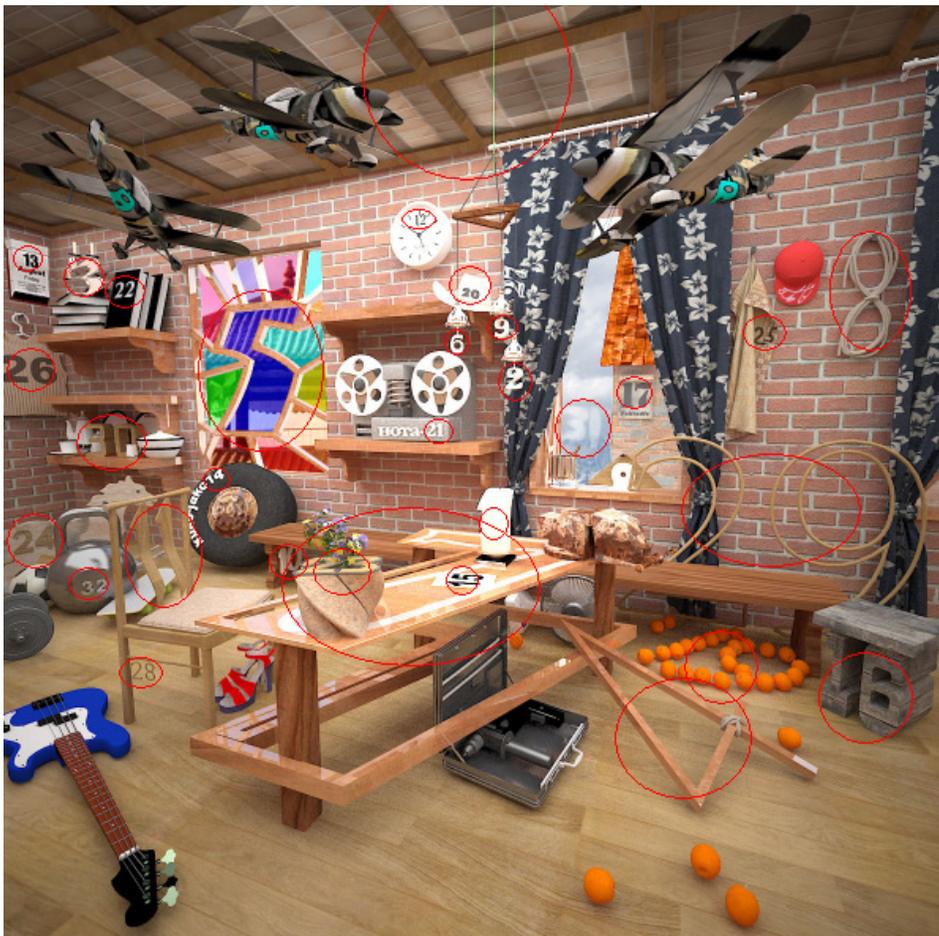
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

This is the moving season when people move the most so please let us know if you have moved.

Remember to send change-of-address note to the WVAD Editor at extraordinary45@comcast.net or Veronda Harrison at verapple@aol.com as soon as possible so that your newsletter will continue uninterrupted and go to the correct address at your new home! Thank you. 🍀





WVCDHH UPDATE, JUNE 2013

West Virginia Registry of Interpreters (WVRI)

Fourteen (14) interpreters have registered so far. Funding is available to help pay for interpreter testing costs until October 1, 2013. Remember, you can find out if an interpreter is registered by asking to see their registration card. Interpreters are required to register by October 1, 2013.

Accessible Smoke Alarm Project

We continue to receive applications for smoke alarms. Please remember that you must send us an audiogram along with your application. The funding for this project will last through September. We are still looking for additional funding in October.

Law for Educational Interpreters

House Bill 2470 passed the legislature and was signed by the Governor!

WVAD Quarter News, Summer 2013

This bill does several things to help educational interpreters, which benefits deaf and hard of hearing students by making it easier for schools to hire and keep good interpreters. This bill:

- Defines two levels of educational interpreters in state code;
- Changes the title "Sign Language Specialist" to "Sign Support Specialist" in state code;
- Clarifies that educational interpreters are members of the educational team who attend IEP meetings;
- Gives interpreters a small pay increase when they have met all the requirements for being an interpreter;
- Requires counties to pay for all mandatory testing and training for interpreters and for the cost of registering with WVCDHH.

Emergency Preparedness Conference

On Saturday, June 8, WVCDHH hosted an emergency preparedness conference in Charleston. Speakers representing several agencies spoke, including: Kanawha-Putnam Emergency Planning Council, a local fire station, FEMA, WV Department of Homeland Security, WV Center for Threat Preparedness, WV DHHR, and the Office of Governor Earl Ray Tomblin. Participants learned about developing an emergency plan, putting together an emergency kit, fire safety, and other emergency preparedness information. They also had a chance to share their ideas and needs with emergency administrators in West Virginia.

WVCDHH Board and Community Meetings

WVCDHH held a Board meeting and community meeting in Beckley on June 11.

The next Board and community meetings are tentatively scheduled for August 30 in Bridgeport.

WVCDHH Board Vacancies

WVCDHH is looking for people who are interested in serving on the Board. We have one vacancy for a deaf or hard of hearing person and one for an ear, nose, throat doctor. If you are interested or know someone who is, please fill out an application on our website at <http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvcdhh/Board/becoming.cfm>.

Hiring Project Director

Interviews for the WVCDHH Project Director position have been completed. The state has a hiring freeze until at least July 1, 2013. As soon as the hiring freeze ends or we are given permission to hire, we will move forward with filling this important position.

Visit <http://www.wvdhhr.org/wvcdhh/index.cfm> to know more about us!

We look forward to seeing many of you at the WVAD Conference in August in Martinsburg! 🇺🇸





CREAM OF BROCCOLI SOUP

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 Tbsp butter | 1 large carrot, 1/2-inch dice |
| 1 medium onion, chopped | 1 large stalk celery, 1/2-inch dice |
| 1 medium potato, scrubbed, peeled, 1/2-inch dice | 3 cups half-and-half** |
| 1 medium head broccoli* | 2 cups chicken broth |
| 3 Tbsp all-purpose flour | 1-1/2 cups grated sharp cheddar cheese |
| 1/4 cup chopped, cooked bacon (optional) | Salt and pepper to taste |

* Separate the broccoli into florets, then chop down the stock on the florets to make smaller florets. The main stalk can be peeled with a paring knife and sliced thin crosswise.

** Do not use fat-free half-and-half. It does not thicken well and has a bitter aftertaste.

Melt the butter over medium heat in a large stockpot. If you are using bacon, add that with the butter. When the butter is melted, add the onion, carrot, potato, and celery. Sauté over medium heat until onion is softened.

While the vegetables are sautéing, rinse the broccoli and place in a microwaveable dish and microwave for about 3 minutes, or until crisp-tender. Refresh under cold water to stop the cooking, and drain. Sprinkle the flour over the vegetables and whisk constantly for 3 minutes. Slowly add the chicken broth, whisking, over medium-high heat. The vegetable-flour mixture will become very thick. Then slowly add the half-and-half, whisking constantly, about 5 more minutes.

Reduce heat, continuing to stir, until it no longer bubbles when not stirred. Add salt and pepper to taste, and stir in the cheddar cheese, stirring until melted. If the soup is thicker than your liking, add a little more chicken broth, 1/4 cup at a time, until reaches desired consistency. Readjust seasonings. Serves four nicely.

REUBEN DIP

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 cup Swiss cheese, shredded or chopped, divided in half | 1/2 lb corned beef, chopped |
| 18-oz pkg cream cheese, softened | 1 cup sour cream |
| 2 Tbsp ketchup | 2 Tbsp spicy brown mustard |
| 1/2 cup sauerkraut, squeezed well and drained | 1 pkg of rye cocktail bread squares |

Preheat oven 350 °F. In a large mixing bowl, mix half of the Swiss cheese with all the ingredients except the bread squares. Place the mixture into an oven-proof dish and sprinkle the top with remaining cheese. Heat in the oven until bubbly, about 20 minutes. Turn on the broiler and brown the top. Serve the dip with the bread squares alongside. Serves 6-8.

EASY CHOCOLATE CRACKLED COOKIES

(Original Recipe Yield: 4 dozen)

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| 1 (18.25 oz) pkg Devil's food cake mix | 1 Tbsp water |
| 1/2 cup butter-flavored shortening | 2 eggs |
| 1 cup confectioners' sugar | |

Preheat oven to 375 °F. Grease cookie sheets. In a medium bowl, beat together the shortening, water, and eggs. Add the cake mix, and mix until smooth. It is best to chill the cookie dough for about 45 minutes to an hour before rolling out the dough. Roll the dough into walnut-sized balls, and roll the balls in the confectioners' sugar. Place cookies 2 inches apart on the prepared cookie sheets. Bake for 10 minutes in the preheated oven. These are best served the same day, as the confectioners' sugar becomes absorbed by the cookie giving it a pasty look. This can be fixed by dusting the cookies with sugar again.

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West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc.
Jimmy Harrison, Membership Coordinator
5 Cordoba Drive
Hurricane, WV 25526

WVAD Membership Benefits

Subscriptions to the quarterly WVAD newsletter, communication access through our advanced visual website at www.wvad.net or Facebook (WV Association of the Deaf), opportunities to serve as an elected officer, opportunities to share your ideas at WVAD conferences and board meetings, information about statewide and nationwide activities, social and leadership growth opportunities, social and professional networking opportunities, serve as an advocate for deaf rights, discounts on WVAD Biennial Conference fees, and you can make a difference for yourself and for WVAD!