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Spring 2013

Robinson Celebrates 57 Years of Barbering

January 21, 2013

BY JEFFREY SAULTON, jsaulton@newsandsentinel.com, *The Parkersburg News and Sentinel*

PARKERSBURG — After 57 years of cutting hair, Emanuel F. Robinson Jr. closed his Avery Street shop in December.

Robinson, a Charleston native, has always practiced barbering in Parkersburg after his training at the School for the Deaf and the Blind in Institute, WV, near Charleston.

Robinson, 77, came to Parkersburg in 1955 and first set up shop on Seventh Street. He said the barber business has changed since he began.

"A lot of people don't go to barbers as much as they used to," he said, through his daughter Lucretia.

Now that he is retired Robinson said he is not sure what he will do with his time.

"I'll take a vacation with my wife," he said. "We might go to Hawaii, wherever the wife wants to go."

Among other things is some work on his house and relaxing.

"He's always been a people watcher, so he likes to sit back and watch," his daughter said.

Robinson said the shop is now closed, a decision he made just before

he actually closed last month.

"It was a quick decision," he said.

Robinson said his lack of hearing did not present any particular challenges as a barber.

"In the shop people would write what they wanted on a piece of paper," he said.

"His shop has sign language charts on the wall and the sign alphabet people



Celebrating the retirement with Emanuel are Jackie Sherrill Robinson (his wife), Ella Jean Hunter (youngest sister), and Nancy Hunter (oldest sister).

(See Robinson Celebrates... on page 3)

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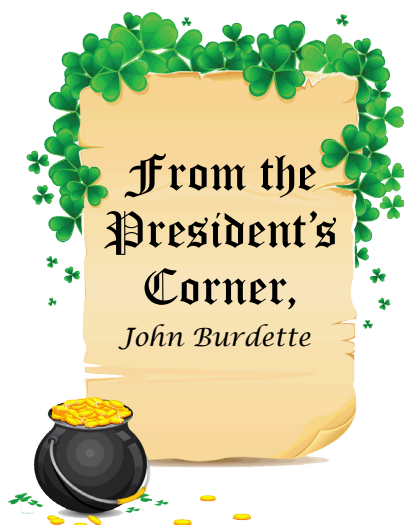
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Happy Spring to Everyone!

I hope everyone stayed warm during these cold months of winter. Spring is just around the corner. I am really looking forward to going out more and I am sure you are too!

We, the board, are deeply saddened to learn of Pierre Sevigny's death. He was a contributing WVAD member, a member of the WV School for the Deaf Alumni Association, and served as a board member on the WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. He will be missed by our board members and friends in the deaf community.

I want to update everyone on the projects or things that have been happening in West Virginia:

- I am pleased to announce the theme for the upcoming WVAD's biennial conference to be held at the Holiday Inn-Martinsburg, WV on August 1-3, 2013. The theme is "New Generation of Advocacy." We, the board, are working with the local conference committee for the conference planning. We will have the next board meeting in Martinsburg, WV on Saturday, March 9, 2013 at the



Holiday Inn. We have the conference flyer (page 4) and registration combo form (page 5) ready. We hope you will come to our conference!

- I attended the WV Board of Education meeting in Charleston, WV on Wednesday, February 13, 2013. One of the agenda was about the WV School for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSD&B). I, along with two other deaf people, listened to Dr. Lynn Boyer, Superintendent of WVSD&B, share her report to the board about the population data and numerical representation of deaf, hard of hearing, blind, and visually impaired students in WV and estimated building costs, to compare the cost of renovating at the current site or relocate to a different location. Dr. Boyer asked the board for more time to explore the options and to gather some information from the alumni, students, staff, and others until next year in January 2014 for further report.
- The smoke alarms project/program application form is ready, which will provide free smoke alarms for people who are deaf

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

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.

For those who have not paid for expired membership (see page 19 for 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 question about membership, please contact Jimmy Harrison, membership coordinator.

In closing, while WVAD website is under construction, please check the West Virginia Association of the Deaf page on Facebook and email blast for updated information on our next board meeting and biennial conference. Keep in mind all our official board meetings are open to the public. Please come and join us to observe and see what's going on with the WVAD organization.

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*.



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Treasurer:	Veronda Harrison
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Trustee:	Worthy Devericks
Trustee:	Doug Casto

(Robinson Celebrates... from page 1) can use," his daughter said. "Everyone is really friendly to him."

Lucretia said he did the old-time haircuts with a straight razor as well as the traditional barber shop shave.

In addition to working as a barber, Robinson worked for the U.S. Post Office in Parkersburg as a mail distribution clerk for 24 years. His sister, Ella Martin, who lives in Charleston, followed him in her career choice and is a beautician there.

Saturday's retirement party and reception was held at The Rock Full Gospel Church in Parkersburg.

"It was a surprise for him," Lucretia said. "I had to hide the announcement

we had in the paper from him," she said. "It was a big surprise."

Robinson had two sons and a daughter with his first wife of 38 years. He also has two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He remarried 13 years ago. 🐼



DOT Recognizes Deaf and Hard of Hearing Truck Drivers

Submitted on Friday, 2/1/2013 (<http://www.nad.org/news/2013/2/dot-recognizes-deaf-and-hard-hearing-truck-drivers>)

In a historic victory for deaf and hard of hearing truckers, the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) announced today, after decades of prohibition, that deaf drivers can operate commercial motor vehicles such as large trucks. Today, the DOT granted 40 applications filed by the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) seeking exemption from the hearing standard that has barred deaf drivers from obtaining commercial drivers' licenses (CDLs). In announcing this historic decision, the DOT cited research demonstrating that deaf drivers are as safe as hearing drivers.

The DOT regulates the physical qualifications standards, or physical requirements, for people who want to operate commercial motor vehicles in interstate commerce. For decades, the DOT has maintained a hearing standard that has excluded safe and skilled deaf drivers from a career in commercial trucking. The DOT hearing standard, contained in 49 C.F.R. §391.41(b)(11), requires that a CDL applicant be able to hear a forced whisper in the better ear at not less than five feet, or that an applicant does not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz with or without a hearing aid. The NAD has long argued that this standard has no relevance to safe operation of commercial motor vehicles and has insisted that the DOT rescind this standard.

In July 2011, the NAD filed exemption applications asking DOT to waive the hearing standard and allow deaf truckers with safe driving records to operate WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2013



commercial motor vehicles. In February 2012, the NAD submitted a second group of applications for exemption. The DOT reviewed the driving records of each exemption applicant and asked for public comment on the exemption requests. In response, 570 individuals and organizations filed public comment, overwhelmingly agreeing that deaf people should be allowed to obtain commercial drivers' licenses. The NAD expresses gratitude to these individuals and organizations that filed comments supporting the exemption petition. Today's announcement not only allows the 40 applicants represented by the NAD to drive commercially, but opens the door to driving careers to any deaf driver with a safe driving record. The DOT explicitly states that this announcement pre-empts any contradictory state law.

"We made history today, and this is a huge victory for all deaf and hard of hearing people in the United States. Previously we had to fight to be able to drive cars, and now commercial driver's licenses are available to deaf and hard of hearing drivers!" says NAD President Christopher Wagner.

Howard A. Rosenblum, CEO of the NAD, adds that "The hearing standard

is the kind of institutionalized discrimination based on stereotyped assumptions, rather than on data or facts, that the NAD has fought to change for many years. The NAD is thrilled that these safe and skilled deaf and hard of hearing drivers can now pursue the career of their choice."

In addition to granting the 40 exemptions, the DOT recognized that the NAD has filed a petition to remove the hearing standard in its entirety from the regulation. That petition is currently under consideration by the DOT. The NAD thanks the DOT for issuing the 40 exemptions at this time and urges the DOT to expedite the petition to remove the hearing standard.

The NAD expresses gratitude to many people who worked hard for many years to reach this achievement including but not limited to deaf truckers and their organization Deaf Truckers United; Mary Vargas and Michael Stein at Stein & Vargas, LLP; and Thomas Knope.

To read the Federal Register granting exemptions for these 40 individuals, visit the United States Department of Transportation website (<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2013/02/01/2013-02266/qualification-of-drivers-application-for-exemptions-national-association-of-the-deaf>).

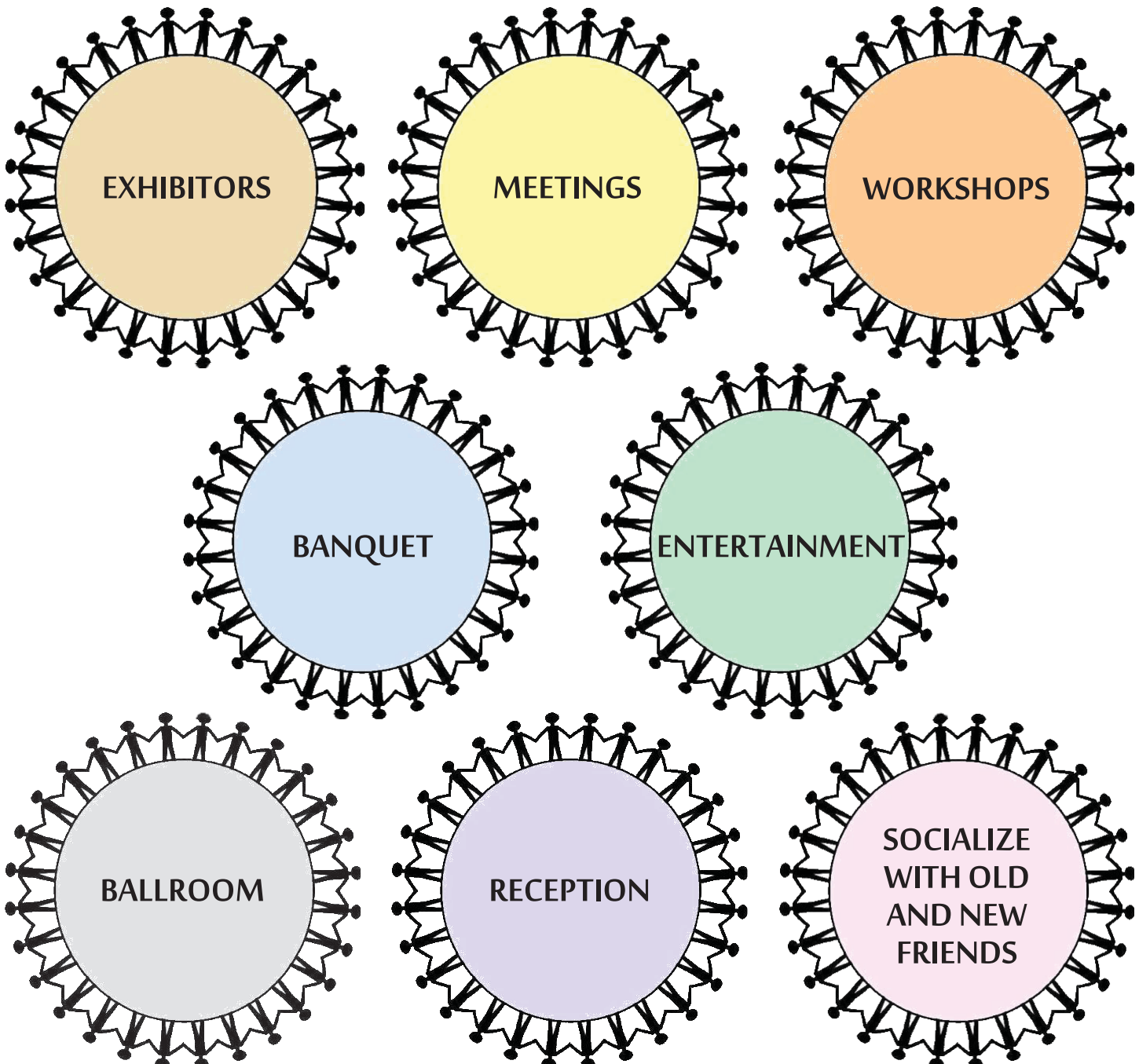
Read more about action taken by the NAD to support deaf commercial truck drivers (<http://www.nad.org/news/2012/7/action-alert-support-deaf-and-hard-hearing-truck-drivers>). 🐼



**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

* WVAD hotel group code is available any time now.

For Reservations:

Telephone No.: 304-267-5500

Group Code: WVA

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: _____

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+)	\$60.00	\$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



BETTY LUCILLE GANOE

Betty Lucille Ganoë, 80, of Romney, WV, died Monday, October 1st, 2012, at her home. Betty was born January 11, 1932, in Wiley Ford, WV. She was the daughter of the late Lester S. Whetzel and Blanche Lela Stump. Also preceding her in death was her husband, Elwood James "Wiggles" Ganoë on August 5, 1973; two brothers, Lawrence and Vernon Whetzel; and one sister, Louella Cheshire.

Betty retired from the WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind in 1996 after 22 years of service. Surviving is one son, Larry J. Ganoë and wife Kris of Romney; four daughters, Brenda J. Ganoë and companion Dick Watson and Karen S. Ganoë and companion David Clayton of Romney, Peggy A. Ketterman and husband Danny of Petersburg, WV, and Janet M. Ganoë of Romney; one brother, Robert Whetzel and wife Jean of Hagerstown, MD; eleven grandchildren, Donis, Kati, Elwood, Geneva, Larry Jr., Kelsey, Nathaniel, David "D.J.", Tara, Carrie, and Eric; and eleven great-grandchildren, Sheylee, Alyssa, Emily, Abagayle, Camren, Dalton, Leah, Ethan, Kendra, Cayden, and Rian.

Friends and family were received on Wednesday, October 3, 2012, from 2 to 4 p.m. and 6-8:00 p.m. at Shaffer Funeral Home in Romney, WV. Funeral services was at the Old Bethel Church, Romney, WV, at 3 p.m. on Thursday, October 4th with Pastor Don Kesner officiating. The family received friends 1 hour prior to service time. Interment was at the Old Bethel Church Cemetery. 🌿



"In Memory of Loved Ones"

NANCY ELLEN CHILDS

Nancy Ellen Childs, 82, Romney, WV, died Sunday, December 2, at the Hampshire Memorial Hospital, Romney, WV. Nancy was born on August 23, 1930, in Lumberport, WV, the daughter of the late George and Ruth (Matthew) Wire. Besides her parents, she was preceded in death by one brother, Sterling Rich, and one step-brother, Dr. George Wire.

Nancy grew up in Lovettsville, VA, graduating from Lovettsville High School in 1947. She graduated from Shepherd College with a Bachelors degree in education in 1952, and taught 2 years at Lovettsville High School before moving to Washington, DC to work for the FBI. She married John E. Childs in 1954 and moved to Romney in 1958. In addition to raising her family of five, she taught at the WV School for the Deaf from 1967-1969. The family moved to Savage, MD and Nancy worked at Mineral Pigments in Laurel, MD. In 1975 upon moving back to Romney, Nancy worked at the DHHR retiring with 20 years of service. She enjoyed walking each morning with "The Walkers" and meeting with another group for dinner each week.

Nancy is survived by her husband of 58 years, John Edwin Childs, Jr.; three sons, Mark Dee Childs and wife, Barbra, Winchester, VA, Joel A. Childs, Romney, WV, and Noel E. Childs, Ranson, WV; two daughters, Mona Louise Childs, Romney, WV, and Beth Ann Carter and husband, Mark, Springfield, VA; one step-brother Charles Wire, Phoenix, AZ; one step-sister, Betty Denaux, Salisbury, NC; four grandchildren, Morgan and Ashley Carter and Matthew and Lindsay Childs; and several special nieces and nephews.

The family received friends at the Shaffer Funeral Home, Romney, WV, on Friday, December 7 from 6-8 p.m. The funeral service was held on Saturday, December 8, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. at the Romney First United Methodist Church with Dr. Roy Knight officiating. Interment followed at the Ebenezer Cemetery, Romney, WV. 🌿



DONNIE HOWARD EVERETT

ROMNEY, WV — Donnie Howard Everett, 57, of Romney, WV, passed away on Monday, December 10, 2012, at the Western Maryland Regional Medical Center. Born on March 21, 1955, in Cumberland, he was the son of the late Jesse H. Everett and Sarah (Davy) Everett. He worked for Romney Concrete for 20 years, then for Suddath Masonry, and the past 12 years at WV School for the Deaf and Blind in Romney, WV. He was a member of the Church of the Brethren and an avid hunter, fisherman, and loved to play softball.

Surviving is his wife, Teresa (Hott) Everett; two sisters, Linda Davis and husband Pete and Betty Jo Jackson and husband Troy, both of Augusta, WV; and nine nieces and nephews, Carla Davis, Katie Jackson, Holly Jackson, Bethany Hott, Brittany Hott, Lauren Ayers, E.J. Ayers, Katlyn Orndorff, and Lucas Orndorff.

The family received friends on Wednesday from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. in the McKee Funeral Home, Augusta, WV. Funeral services was conducted on Thursday, December 13, 2012, at 11 a.m. in McKee Funeral Home Chapel, Augusta, WV, with Pastor Danny Ludwick officiating. Interment followed in Elijah High Cemetery, Purgitsville, WV. All arrangements were handled by McKee Funeral Home, Augusta, WV. 🌿



(See Obituaries on page 7)

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FRANK VANDETTA

Frank Vandetta, 84, of Monongah, died Sunday night, January 13, 2013, at United Hospital Center in Bridgeport. He was born in Monongah on May 8, 1928, son of the late Frank and Olga Grandoni Vandetta.

Frank retired from North American Phillips with 35 years of service. He was a member of Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Monongah. He graduated from the West Virginia School of the Deaf in 1949, and in 1997, he was inducted in the school's Hall of Fame for football and baseball. He enjoyed farming, remodeling his home, and was very mechanically inclined. Frank enjoyed sporting events, the New York Yankees, Pittsburgh Pirates, West Virginia University football and basketball teams, and especially loved the North Marion Huskies. He was a former member of the bowling leagues in Marion County for more than 30 years.

Frank is survived by his wife Fannie Caputo Vandetta, two sons and daughters-in-law Frank and Brenda Vandetta, Jr. of Monongah, Carlo Anthony and Kimberly Vandetta of Fairmont, and one daughter Tina Riggs and significant other William Carpenter of White Hall. He is also survived by

his grandchildren Frankie (Stephanie) Vandetta, John Jenkins, Gina Jenkins, Christopher Vandetta, Logan Jenkins, JoMarie Bogard, Gianni Vandetta, Joey Riggs, and great-grandchildren, Nathan Kotsko and Meya Kotsko. Frank is also survived by one brother-in-law Sam Lopez of Monongah and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, Frank is preceded in death by one son John Vandetta, and sisters Joanne Lopez, Mary Jean (Alfred) Bonfantino, and Margaret (Bill) Shaffer.

Friends called at the Ross Funeral Home, 801 Fairmont Ave., Fairmont on Wednesday from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m. Mass of Christian burial was celebrated on Thursday January 17, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Monongah with Fr. Steve Joseph as Celebrant. Entombment followed at Shinnston Masonic Cemetery in Shinnston. A vigil was held at 8:00 p.m. Wednesday evening at the funeral home. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rossfh.com.



JOSEPH "PIERRE" ALPHONSE SEVIGNY

Joseph Pierre Alphonse Sevigny passed away on the morning of Sunday, January 27th, due to a heart attack. He was 74 years old. He was a lifelong educator, loving father, loving husband, and was dedicated to the pursuit of sports through participation, coaching, mentoring, and supporting local teams. He was an avid fan of Hampshire High School, WV School for the Deaf (WVSD), and Gallaudet athletics.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Yvonne Tanguay Sevigny and Edouard Sevigny. Pierre is survived by his wife of 43 years, Christie Clayton Sevigny. He is also survived by his WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2013

brothers Andre and Michel Sevigny, Quebec, Canada; two nephews, Paul and Daniel, Canada; three children, Forrest, Hayley, and Christopher; three grandchildren, Avery, Joshua, and Noble with a fourth grandchild due in early April, a baby girl.

Pierre was born in Quebec, Canada. He lost his hearing at the age of 5 due to mumps and measles. He attended the MacKay School for the Deaf in Montreal until he left his hometown to attend Gallaudet University in Washington DC, joined the Kappa Gamma Fraternity and graduated in 1961. At Gallaudet, he took up the sport of wrestling, for the first time, and quickly rose up the ranks and represented the U.S. in the Deaf Olympics. In 2010, he was inducted into Gallaudet's Athletics Hall of Fame due to his wrestling achievements at Gallaudet University.

After graduation from Gallaudet, he found himself on his way to West Virginia due to a job offer at WVSD. Pierre taught at WVSD for 44 years. While there, he met his wife, Christie Clayton Sevigny, a graduate of WVSD, class of 1968. During his early years at WVSD, he studied successfully to become a U.S. citizen and relied on the local WVSD

janitor to teach him how to drive and pass his driver's test. At the age of 50, he graduated from Western Maryland College with his Master's degree.

Once at WVSD, he pursued his love of sports by coaching the WVSD football team. During his tenure with WVSD, he was a role model to many students and educators. When some sports were no longer available at WVSD, he advocated for the chance to have WVSD students participate at Hampshire High School where they could fully participate in sports. Pierre continued his coaching career by coaching public school students in track and field and the discus. After educating himself about the field of discus throwing from books and uncaptioned videos, he produced several state champions at Hampshire High School.

After his retirement, he continued to give back to his local communities by coaching students in the discus. Pierre was an active and contributing board member of the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. He was an active and contributing member of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf and WVSD Hall of Fame Committee member. Pierre was inducted into (See Obituaries on page 8)

(Obituaries from page 7)

the 2005 WVSD Hall of Fame class due to his achievements as a football coach and track and field.

Pierre always encouraged the students and young adults that he encountered to reach or strive to reach their full potential, particularly in sports. In his opinion, sports was a great leveling field between those who were poor or rich, deaf or hearing, and was the greatest asset to those who were brought into this world without a fair chance in life. Pierre knew that with dedication and discipline, that anyone could use sports to rise above their current conditions.

He never hesitated to share with youth his opinions about sports and that they should be actively pursuing them in one form or another. He once told a young man, whom he had learned had dropped out of sports, that children are like the branches of a tree. They are meant to be high off the ground, with other branches thriving in the wind, active and carefree. Branches, like children, are not meant to be alone on the



Pierre with his 2005 WVSD Hall of Fame Class

ground by themselves languishing on the soil.

The family received friends at the Shaffer Funeral Home, Romney, WV, on Friday, February 1, from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. with a memorial service that followed at 3:30 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the WVSD Hall of Fame Committee P.O. Box 1764, Martinsburg, WV 25402-1764 and/or The J. Pierre Sevigny Memorial Fund in care of The Bank of Romney, Romney, WV 26757. 🍀

"Children are like the branches of a tree. They are meant to be high off the ground, with other branches thriving in the wind, active and carefree. Branches, like children, are not meant to be alone on the ground by themselves languishing on the soil." — Pierre Sevigny

"He didn't have three kids. He had a thousand." — Chris Sevigny

PIERRE SEVIGNY 1938 - 2013

Coach Connected Patiently, Positively

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

BY JIM KING, 304-822-3871 (Courtesy of Hampshire Review and Jim King, Hampshire Review Staff)

Whether Pierre Sevigny was coaching deaf students like himself or athletes at Hampshire High School (HHS), he simply connected with kids, say the people who knew him best.

"He related to the kids real well," said Jimmy Alkire, who coached football and track at HHS. "He was very patient."

Joseph Pierre Alfonse Sevigny, a Canadian who coached state champions and championed the deaf community here, died of a heart attack at his Sunrise Summit home Sunday morning. He was 74.

The Quebec native lost his hearing at age 5 in bouts with mumps and measles. A graduate of the MacKay School for the Deaf in Montreal, he attended Gallaudet

University in Washington, DC, receiving his degree in 1961.

From there, he accepted a position at the West Virginia School for the Deaf (WVSD) and made Hampshire County his home for the rest of his life, leaving a huge imprint on the community.

"He didn't have three kids," said his youngest son, Chris. "He had a thousand."

Kelly Colebank, a 1993 Hampshire graduate, is a prime example.

She had qualified for state in the discus throw her sophomore and junior years before she turned to Sevigny for coaching as a senior.

The result was a state championship for her and HHS just two years after

Sevigny had coached his own daughter, Hayley, to the state discus title.

"He would stand out in the field and hold up his hands and yell 'Power!' to let me know I needed to throw harder," Colebank recalled.

Communication was not an issue, she said.

"He got through everything he needed to get through to me," Colebank said. As for the other direction, "I would try to spell out certain words and he just got tired of waiting on me to try to talk, so he would just lip read."

But more than coaching her to the state title, Sevigny provided life-long inspiration to the young athlete (See Coach Connected... on page 9)

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(Coach Connected... from page 8)

who went on to become a track coach herself.

"My focus is still on the shot and disc," Colebank said. "I find myself now using the same things he taught me in high school. Every time I do it I'm thinking Mr. Sevigny is here with me. He would be so proud."

That includes, she said, standing out in the field for her discus throwers and yelling, "Power!"

Through the years, whenever the two would run into each other at track meets, Sevigny would take an interest in her team and how those athletes were doing.

Even after he retired as a teacher 10 years ago, Sevigny stayed active in sports and life. He and his wife, Christie, donated a hurdle to HHS during a 2009 campaign.

"He had been to a home ball game not too long ago," recalled Bob Haines, athletic director at WVSD. "He would come and walk the track."

Chris Sevigny said his dad "never sat still."

In recent years, Pierre and Christie traveled, often to Las Vegas to visit their daughter and grandchildren.

"He went to Canada. He cruised through the Panama Canal. He went to every deaf association meeting, San Francisco, and that's probably not naming them all," Chris Sevigny said.

Alkire said he would often see Pierre Sevigny at the Hampshire Wellness and Fitness Center, walking and lifting weights.

Sevigny began his career at WVSD, coaching football before eventually handing over the reins to Haines and J.D. Corbin, now principal at the Secondary School for the Deaf.

"He was a great role model for the kids for himself being deaf," Haines said, "and for the accomplishments he had."

When declining enrollment made football and some other sports no longer feasible, Sevigny advocated for WVSD students to be allowed to join teams at Hampshire High.

One of those students was Keith Richardson, who first met Sevigny when he came to WVSD to start school in 1988.

"I was very afraid of him because he looked like a drill sergeant ready to do a boot camp with us," Richardson recalled of his first woodworking class with Sevigny.

WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2013



Pierre Sevigny, surrounded by athletes he coached.

The Princeton native played football for Romney Middle School and then HHS.

"Pierre was my number one fan at all of the football games," Richardson said.

His ties to Hampshire led to a new coaching interest: track.

When daughter Hayley began throwing the discus in high school, Sevigny taught himself the event inside and out, coaching her, and then Colebank, to state championships.

"He had technical expertise," Colebank said. "He always gave positive help."

Oldest son Forrest said his father's greatest gift was bringing out the best in people.

"All of those things were usually accomplishments which you didn't think you were capable of in the first place," Forrest said.

Despite his dad's busy schedule as a coach, youngest son Chris said Pierre Sevigny always attended the sports events he, Hayley, and Forrest participated in.

"He never missed that," Chris said. "He made sure we all graduated, went to college, and always played sports."

Sevigny built on his volunteer work at HHS to become the head girls track coach for a few years.

The coach was an athlete first.

At Gallaudet he decided to become a wrestler even though he had never participated in the sport before that.

In his sophomore year Sevigny won the 157-pound weight class at the Mason-Dixon championships. At one point in his four-year wrestling career he won 13 consecutive matches. He served as team captain and earned Gallaudet's Thompson Clayton award for leadership and dedication.

He was inducted into the school's Hall of Fame in 2010.

"He inspired others to be successful. People looked up to him," said Dr. Frank Turk in presenting him. "It is hard to find somebody like him. He always thought about others before himself."

Off the playing field, he served as a leading advocate for the deaf.

Sevigny sat on the board of the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. He was a member of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf and WVSD's Hall of Fame committee. The school inducted him to its Hall of Fame in 2005 for his achievements as a football and track coach.

"A lot of the deaf kids really looked up to Pierre," Haines said.

He reached out in small ways as well as big. When Richardson married Danielle Surber and they settled about a quarter mile from the Sevignys, Pierre was there to help.

"When I needed a tool, I would go over to borrow one of Pierre's," Richardson said. "When Pierre needed help in fixing one of the broken things at his house, I would come over and help him."

The two would just hang out together.

"We always celebrated Super Bowl together," Richardson said. "This coming Super Bowl will be sad without Pierre there with us."

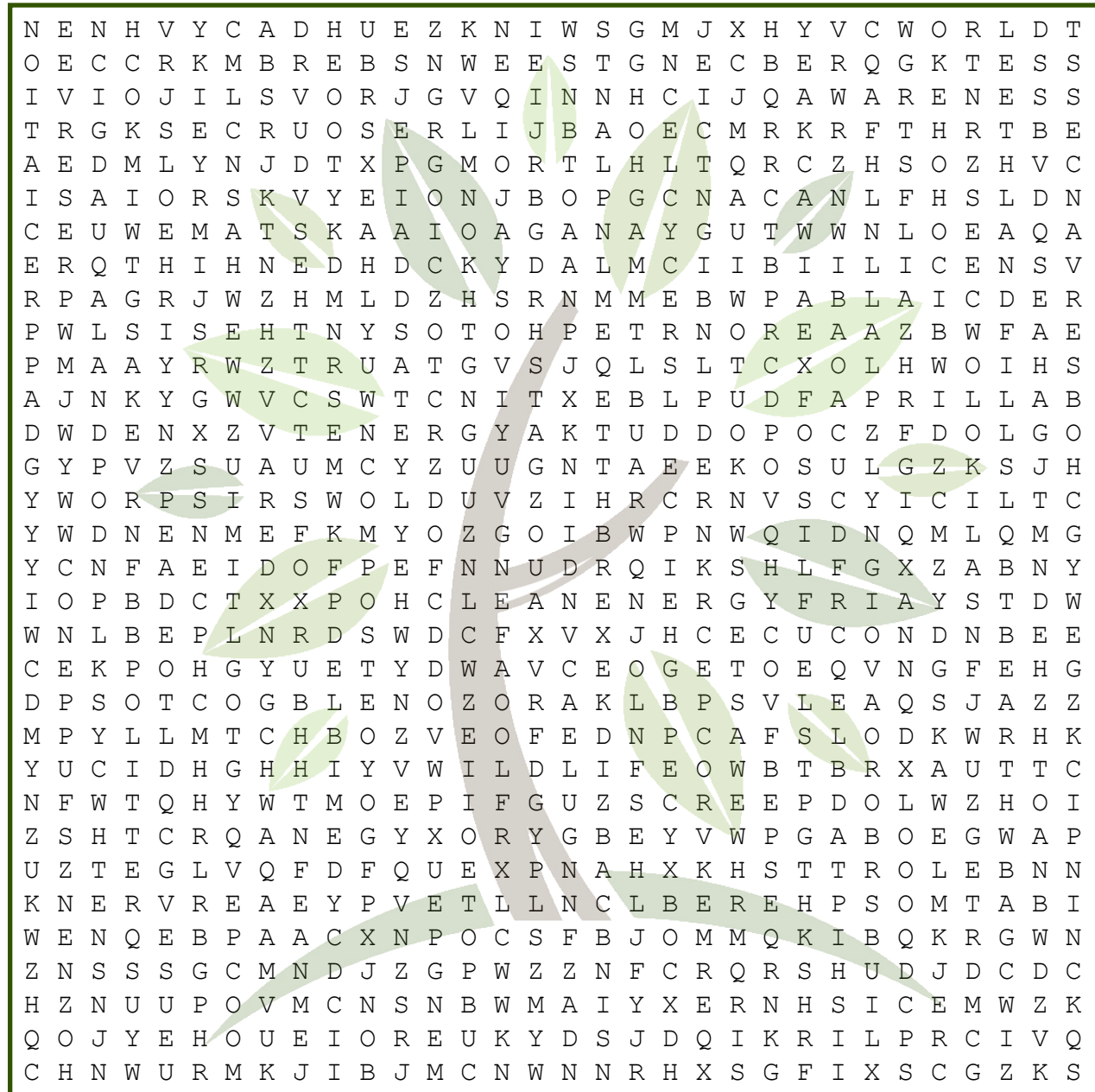
A visitation was held from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. Friday, February 1st, at Shaffer Funeral Home in Romney. A memorial service followed.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the WVSD Hall of Fame Committee, P.O. Box 1764, Martinsburg, WV 25402-1764. Donations can also be made to the Trojan Athletic Association.

A complete obituary appears on page 7. 🐾



Earth Day is celebrated on April 22 this year. To learn more about Earth Day, go to <http://www.earthday.org/2013> website.



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Global

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Water
Wetlands
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World

(See answers on page 17)



In the News



Move WVSDB? Not So Fast!

State Board Asks for Costs to Relocate, but Legislator, SBA Head Question Idea

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

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

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

ROMNEY — The fate of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind may be in the hands of the State Board of Education.

The board has asked WVSDB Superintendent Lynn Boyer to compile information on whether it would be more feasible to renovate buildings on campus and build some new ones or build elsewhere in the state.

The state board is rapidly changing. Three new members will be serving when it convenes in February.

"All board members are choosing to be more knowledgeable of WVSDB, and that is a positive step," said Boyer.

Boyer, along with architects that worked on the original comprehensive facilities plan, are researching what it would cost to build a new school in a more populated area.

A report(s) will be presented to the state board at the February 13 meeting.

With an estimated \$70 million price tag to restore and renovate the WVSDB, State Board of Education board members questioned renovation versus rebuilding somewhere else.

During a discussion at a January 9 meeting, board president Wade Linger pointed out the state didn't have unlimited resources and wondered what would be most cost efficient — renovating and rebuilding or relocating.

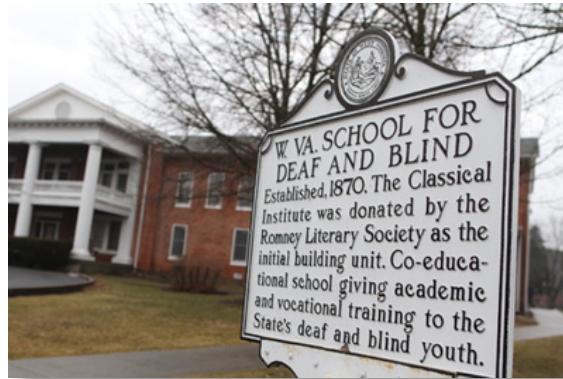
In an interview Monday, Dr. Mark Manchin, executive director of the School Building Authority, said, "To be frank I'm not sure of the wisdom of moving."

Manchin said the SBA made a commitment to \$950,000 to the schools' phase one \$4.5 million project.

"In order for the schools to get our money, the West Virginia Legislature is going to have to provide money too," said Manchin.

Manchin said the offer to WVSDB is good only until April 19.

"If the Legislature doesn't come up with their share, \$3.5 million, we'll WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2013



The West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind were placed in Romney by a legislative act in 1870.

take ours off the table and distribute the \$950,000 to other projects," said Manchin.

Manchin said any monies coming from the Legislature would have to be budgeted.

"I'm not aware of any talk on relocating the schools. That would have to be a decision made by the West Virginia Legislature," said Manchin.

The WVSDB were established by WV Code or state law as explained in Chapter 18 – Education.

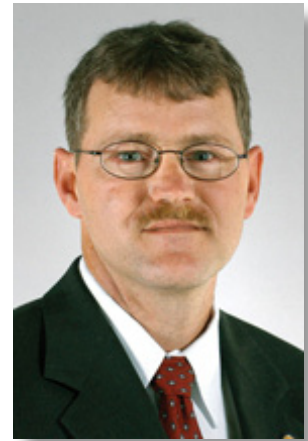
The Code says the West Virginia schools for deaf pupils and blind pupils is established and located at Romney, in Hampshire County.

The Code would have to be changed through a legislative process in order to change the location of the schools, which is an issue the state board would have to discuss.

Delegate Darryl Cowles (R-58th District) said he is against the schools moving to another location.

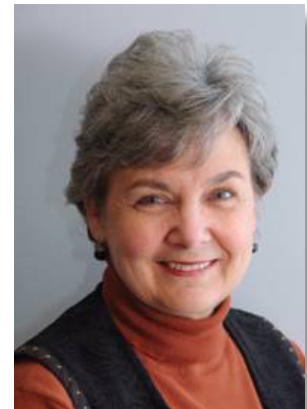
"I will peel the paint off the halls of the capitol in my wild boisterous opposition to moving that school from Romney," said Cowles.

"I will do all that I can with my colleagues to make sure it doesn't move or to make sure they understand the impact of what moving it from here would mean."



DELEGATE COWLES

"I will peel the paint off the halls of the Capitol in my wild boisterous opposition."



DR. BOYER

"We need to look at what the kids need and what the community can offer."

In a Monday morning message to the staff of the schools, Boyer said articles that have appeared in the media regarding the discussions during the January 9 meeting are basically correct.

Boyer said the state school board has asked her to compile information only regarding renovation versus relocation.

Boyer said she will be addressing the board in February with information (See Move WVSDB?... on page 12)

(Move WVSDDB?... from page 11)

from the Comprehensive Education Facilities Plan as well as new data that will assist the state board to understand the needs of students.

"I also have the expertise of ZMM Architects and Engineers and Dickenson Partners, firms which helped develop the plan. They are providing numbers related to land values in several other areas of the state, comparable costs for certain aspects of the plan, and considerations of other states that have approached this question when renovating their state schools," said Boyer.

Delegate Ruth Rowan (R-57th District) has been a champion of the schools.

Rowan said she has heard about the discussion held at the state board meeting.

"I called Charleston and was told the funding had been tabled. As far as the schools relocating, I was told that it was something mentioned when they were discussing costs for renovation. As far as I know there are no plans for moving the schools," said Rowan.

"It would be devastating to our community if the schools should move."

Rowan said Dr. Manchin, asked her early in the fall to gather together a community group to discuss the schools and the renovation plans being considered by the board.

More than a dozen community leaders attended the meeting and toured the campus.

Rowan said Manchin was more than impressed with what he called the movers and shakers of the community.

In the meantime Rowan said she continues working with the governor's office to discuss and secure funding for the facilities renovations.

Hampshire County Commission President Bob Hott attended the campus tour with Manchin.

Hott said Monday he hasn't heard a word about the possibility of the schools relocating.

"I recall they talked about taking down buildings and renovating buildings," said Hott. "Nothing has been said about relocating."

In October 2012 the West Virginia Board of Education approved the WVSDDB comprehensive education facilities plan that included taking down deteriorated buildings and building new.

With a new board in place the best direction for the campus and its plan is again a topic of discussion.

Boyer said the plans for the campus are multifold and the financial impact on the community is immense.

"Eighty-one (81) percent of our employee population lives in Hampshire County. With salary and compensation that amounts to \$11 million and translates to \$25 million a year in the area for shopping," said Boyer.

Boyer said, "The board has asked for what land would cost in other areas and what another community would offer to students. They also want to know the comparison of construction costs and the move itself."

The renovation of the campus is estimated to cost \$75 million. The discussion of renovating or relocating came within

Dr. Boyer's request for the board to support \$3.4 million to renovate the Secondary School for the Deaf as a first step.

The board tabled the financial request pending the information in February.

Boyer said she feels the state board members are doing due diligence to make the right decisions.

Linger said, "It's about the kids, not the adults."

"We need to look at what the kids need and what the community can offer. Any community should be saying what can I do to help," said Boyer.

Boyer said she is providing the information the board has requested and waiting to see if they wish to take the conversation beyond February.

Regardless of the decision by the state board, Boyer said, any plan would take 3 to 5 years to come to fruition. 🍀



Residential Living Changes Made at WVSDDB

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

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

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

ROMNEY — Beginning in August all residential students at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind will be located in Seaton Hall and in the elementary dormitory, which is located in the Elementary School for the Deaf.

In a January 17 letter to families of students, Superintendent Lynn Boyer explained upcoming changes at the schools.

Students with either vision or hearing loss grades 6 through 12 will reside in Seaton Hall. Students with either vision or hearing loss Pre-K through grade 5 will reside in the elementary dormitory and all students in the multi-sensory program will continue to reside in their area of the Elementary School for the Deaf.



In addition, the letter stated, students with hearing loss will reside on floors and in areas with their like peers and students with vision loss will reside on floors and in areas with their like peers.

Only staff with expertise in the needs of a group of students will be assigned to that group.

Boyer said students with vision loss who reside in the elementary dormitory would be transported by bus from that dorm to the School for the Blind and returned to the dorm by bus at the end of the school day.

Another change in the schools focuses around the cafeteria.

"The cafeteria in the Elementary School for the Deaf will be renovated for full service. The availability of Seaton Hall dining and this second cafeteria will provide the most flexibility in providing convenient food service to all students," said Boyer.

Senior apartment rooms have been maintained in Seaton Hall and will be available to seniors of each group. The two-bedroom apartment located in Seaton Hall will remain a residential option through the application process.

These and other changes are expected to take place at the campus by June, Boyer said. 🍀

State BOE President, "We Want What's Best for the Children"

Wednesday, January 30, 2013

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

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

CHARLESTON — Concern for children's welfare, taxpayer money, and the future of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind were all topics of conversation in a telephone interview Monday with state Board of Education president Wade Linger.

Linger said the state board's request January 9 asking WVSDS Superintendent Lynn Boyer for information on options of location for the schools is, "Really as simple as that. We want to know how to get the best bang for the buck and for the children."

"There's nothing more to it than that."

Linger said the board has to look at the realities of the cost of renovating and rebuilding the campus versus what it would cost to build a new campus in other areas of the state.

Last year the board approved the schools' comprehensive facilities plan.

Linger said there is a big difference in approving a plan and actually having the money to execute the plan.

"We have to look at the realities of the cost. That is when we start getting into looking at all of our options," said Linger.

So far \$950,000 in funding for renovation and rebuilding at the WVSDS campus has come from the state School Building Authority.

The SBA money has to be matched by \$3.4 million from the Legislature, otherwise it would be vested in other projects.

Linger said although the \$950,000 is a lot of money to lose, "It could benefit many projects around the state. It's not like it's going away. It would be used for some other worthy project."

"The SBA will still be around next year and the year after that."

He also said the cost of the entire comprehensive plan would be in the neighborhood of \$100 million.

Linger said what the board is looking into is whether it would be wise to invest chunks of money into the beginning of

the renovation and rebuilding if the entire project isn't feasible.

"Why start spending a few million here and there before the political decision is made whether to do the whole plan," said Linger.

"If the determination is that it is more financially suitable to stay in Romney — I'm sure we'll be happy to see that," said Linger.

Regarding the West Virginia Code that states the WVSDS is in Hampshire County, Romney, Linger said, "The Legislature could change that code. There will be lots of code changes this year. Almost everything having to do with public schools is in the code."

"I realize that these questions are emotional," said Linger.

He said he didn't think it possible for Boyer to provide all the information necessary to make decisions in February.

Linger said the board is taking the first step on a long journey. 🐢



Architect Says Moving WVSDS Could Cost \$100 Million

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

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

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

CHARLESTON — The potential cost of relocating the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind could far exceed renovating and rebuilding the existing campus while at the same time create many problems.

Dave Ferguson, architect with ZMM Architects, Charleston said last Friday, "Depending on where you move, anywhere else in the state the ballpark cost could be \$100 million."

"It lends itself to stay where they are," said Ferguson.

Since the January 9 state board of education meeting Ferguson said he has worked with WVSDS Superintendent Lynn Boyer to compile figures that will be presented to the board at the February 13 meeting.

"Basically what we have done is look at what it would cost for property. Property cost varies depending on the WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2013

location in the state. We looked at the cost of the actual move," said Ferguson. "We looked at areas in the central highly populated areas between Morgantown and Flatwoods and in the Charleston and Huntington areas."

Ferguson said at least 30 acres of land would have to be purchased to build a new campus.

The existing campus sits on nearly 80 acres.

"We also had to take into account that land doesn't have infrastructure like gas, electric, water, and sewer. All of that would be additional costs," said Ferguson.

"I assume these issues will be discussed at the February 13 meeting. It would be a prudent thing to do."

Ferguson said some of the other issues include qualified staff.

"Some of the staff may not move. They may not be able to relocate. It is

difficult to find highly trained staff that specializes in this field," said Ferguson.

"Studies have shown that down time to bring a vocational program up and running to where it was prior to moving is three years."

Ferguson said the Ohio School for the Deaf researched the same question.

"They found it to be more expensive to move. They stayed on the same campus site," said Ferguson.

Ferguson said the existing campus has adequate acreage and infrastructure.

However, he said a lot of change has to take place on the existing campus.

"It has a haphazard layout. It's hard for students to navigate, especially in the winter," said Ferguson.

Ferguson said he and Boyer have been working with John Dickenson, a deaf architect that partnered up to [\(See Architect Says... on page 14\)](#)

(See Architect Says... from page 13)
prepare the comprehensive facilities program.

"It would be hard to go in and try and make some of those old buildings 21st century learning facilities," said Ferguson.

He said he understands that the campus is historical to people and their many memories.

"The two most significant architectural buildings, the administration building and the Elementary School for the Deaf, have not been drastically changed over the years. Those are the two buildings we plan to renovate first," said Ferguson.

Ferguson said the facility's insurance company made them close the blind cafeteria during the time the comprehensive plan was completed.

"They also closed certain areas of Seaton Hall due to structural issues," said Ferguson.

Prior to the January 9 meeting, the decision was to begin the first phase of renovation.

"Which is to renovate one of the existing buildings with new lighting and new heating, ventilation and air condition," said Ferguson.

The cost, he said, is over \$4 million.

The goal is to refurbish everything in that building and put the vocational program back," said Ferguson.

Ferguson said the staff and the children of the schools have been involved and informed about changes on the campus.

"They voiced their opinions. They were very vocal. They want a safe place, a new place, a place with HVAC, and better facilities," said Ferguson.

"At this point it's not up to Boyer. It's not up to me. The state board has to make a decision at some point. They can determine what to do from information we provide. They have to weigh the pros and the cons."

WVSDB Family has Been Torn Apart (Letter to the Charleston Gazette Newspaper Editor, <http://wvgazette.com/Opinion/Letters/201302210106#.USewqSETdNE.mailto>, February 21, 2013)

Editor:

As I returned to school following our respected Pierre Seigny's funeral on Friday, it finally came together in my head why all these changes and rumors and plans have been so upsetting for many on our campus.

The West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind have been family for 140 years. Perhaps we have not been so to the community, but to the students and staff who have existed together in this microcosm in Romney, we have supported each other, loved each other, fought at times like brothers and sisters, but we have always been the WVSDB family. We have raised the children of

West Virginia who are deaf or hard-of-hearing and blind or low vision when they were not with their own parents.

In the funeral home, there were current students, former students/alumni, staff present and past, and friends. All packed in there together were members from the School for the Blind, School for the Deaf, and the Multisensory Unit. They talked (signing is talking too), visited, comforted, and held each other as only family members do.

This feeling was palpable, because we are, or were, the WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind. This is something that outsiders who see us only as a commodity for economic or political use

will never understand. Our hurt and mistrust comes from the breaking up of our family as we have known it.

I realize times change, and things change, but to tear apart the family unit that has always been WVSDB is something that must not be taken lightly by the powers who be. Many of us will be in mourning, and we may be that way for a very long time. Because, you see, we held our students "Always Child First" long before you paid any attention to us.

Robin Dohrman Ayers
Family and Consumer Sciences
Daily Living Skills and ProStart Teacher
Romney

Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure

Whose life are you running for? Participate in the Susan G. Komen West Virginia Race for the Cure® and show everyone whose life you are running for. Are you running for your mother, your sister, a co-worker, a friend? Are you running for your own life? Or are you running for the future? No matter whose life you are running for, now is the time to get involved and run for their life!

Komen West Virginia Race for the Cure will held be on May 4, 2013, in Charleston, WV. The site opens at 7:00 a.m. for registration at the Capitol Complex Kanawha Blvd, Charleston, WV. The walk/run will begin at 9:00 a.m.

All funds from the Komen Race for the Cure go to research, education, screening, and treatment programs.

Get Involved! Keep the Promise! Please click on this website (<http://www.komenwv.org/komen-race-for-the-cure/>) for more information.

For the safety of all participants, rollerblades and pets are discouraged from participating in this event.

Theresa Pack is the team captain for the Deaf Pink Warriors team this year. Click on www.komenwv.org then click Komen Race for the Cure to register with the team.

If you have any questions or want to get involved with the team, please contact Theresa at huskyeye62@aol.com.



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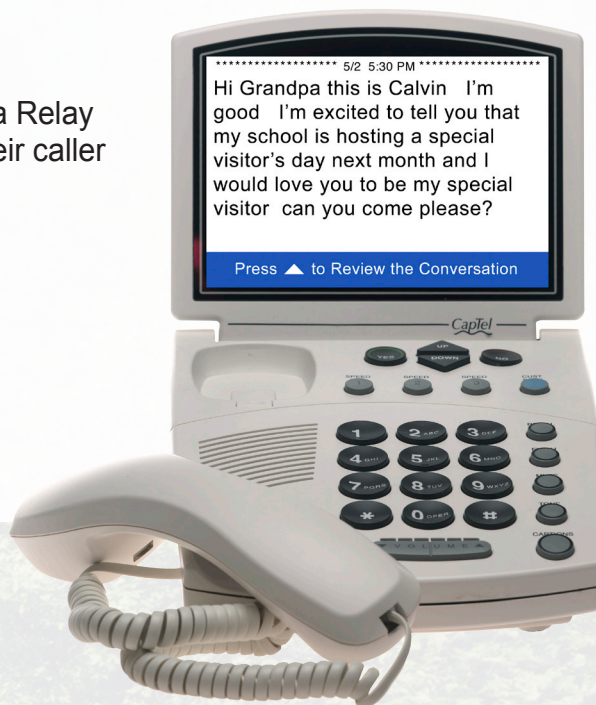
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St. Patrick's Day History, March 17

St. Patrick's Day is celebrated on March 17, the saint's religious feast day and the anniversary of his death in the fifth century. The Irish have observed this day as a religious holiday for over 1,000 years. On St. Patrick's Day, which falls during the Christian season of Lent, Irish families would traditionally attend church in the morning and celebrate in the afternoon. Lenten prohibitions against the consumption of meat were waived and people would dance, drink, and feast—on the traditional meal of Irish bacon and cabbage.

St. Patrick and the First St. Patrick's Day Parade

Saint Patrick, who lived during the fifth century, is the patron saint and national apostle of Ireland. Born in Roman Britain, he was kidnapped and brought to Ireland as a slave at the age of 16. He later escaped, but returned to Ireland and was credited with bringing Christianity to its people. In the centuries following Patrick's death (believed to have been on March 17, 461), the mythology surrounding his life became ever more ingrained in the Irish culture. Perhaps the most well-known legend is that he explained the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) using the three leaves of a native Irish clover, the shamrock.

Since around the 9th or 10th century, people in Ireland have been observing the Roman Catholic feast day of St. Patrick on March 17. Interestingly, however, the first parade held to honor St. Patrick's Day took place not in Ireland but in the United States. On March 17, 1762, Irish soldiers serving in the English military marched through New York City. Along with their music, the parade helped the soldiers reconnect with their Irish roots, as well as with fellow Irishmen serving in the English army.

Growth of St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

Over the next 35 years, Irish patriotism among American immigrants flourished, prompting the rise of so-called "Irish Aid" societies like the Friendly Sons of Saint Patrick and the Hibernian Society. Each group would hold annual parades featuring bagpipes (which actually first became popular in the Scottish and British armies) and drums.

In 1848, several New York Irish Aid societies decided to unite their parades to form one official New York City St. Patrick's Day Parade. Today, that parade is the world's oldest civilian parade and the largest in the United States, with over 150,000 participants. Each year, nearly 3 million people line the 1.5-mile parade route to watch the procession, which takes more than 5 hours. Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, and Savannah also celebrate the day with parades involving between 10,000 and 20,000 participants each.

St. Patrick's Day, No Irish Need Apply and the "Green Machine"

Up until the mid-19th century, most Irish immigrants in America were members of the Protestant middle class. When the Great Potato Famine hit Ireland in 1845, close to 1 million poor and uneducated Irish Catholics began pouring into America to escape starvation. Despised for their alien religious beliefs and unfamiliar accents by the American Protestant majority, the immigrants had trouble finding even menial jobs. When Irish Americans in the country's cities took to the streets on St. Patrick's Day to celebrate their heritage, newspapers portrayed them in cartoons as drunk, violent monkeys.

The American Irish soon began to realize, however, that their large and growing numbers endowed them with a political power that had yet to be exploited. They started to organize, and their voting block, known as the "green machine," became an important swing vote for political hopefuls. Suddenly, annual St. Patrick's Day parades became a show of strength for Irish Americans, as well as a must-attend event for a slew of political candidates. In 1948, President Harry S. Truman attended New York City's St. Patrick's Day parade, a proud moment for the many Irish Americans whose ancestors had to fight stereotypes and racial prejudice to find acceptance in the New World.

The Chicago River on St. Patrick's Day

As Irish immigrants spread out over the United States, other cities developed their own traditions. One of these is Chicago's annual dyeing of the Chicago River green. The practice started

in 1962, when city pollution-control workers used dyes to trace illegal sewage discharges and realized that the green dye might provide a unique way to celebrate the holiday. That year, they released 100 pounds of green vegetable dye into the river—enough to keep it green for a week! Today, in order to minimize environmental damage, only 40 pounds of dye are used, and the river turns green for only several hours.

Although Chicago historians claim their city's idea for a river of green was original, some natives of Savannah, Georgia (whose St. Patrick's Day parade, the oldest in the nation, dates back to 1813) believe the idea originated in their town. They point out that, in 1961, a hotel restaurant manager named Tom Woolley convinced city officials to dye Savannah's river green. The experiment didn't exactly work as planned, and the water only took on a slight greenish hue. Savannah never attempted to dye its river again, but Woolley maintains (though others refute the claim) that he personally suggested the idea to Chicago's Mayor Richard J. Daley.

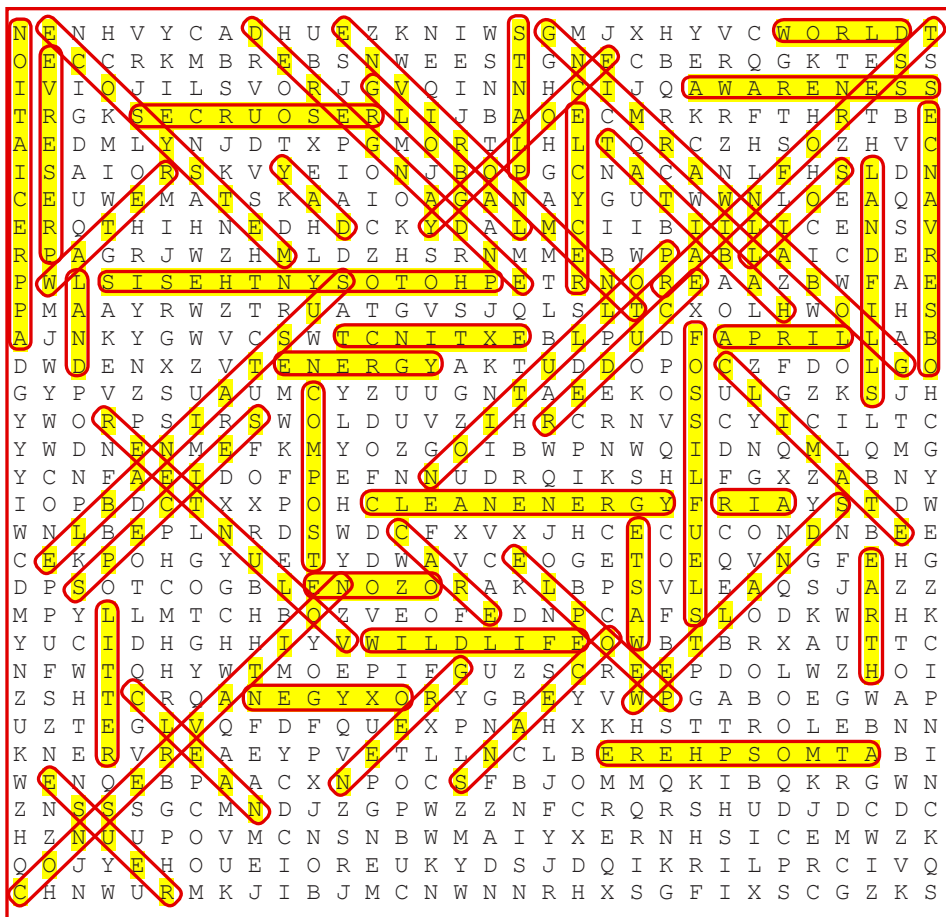
St. Patrick's Day Around the World

Today, people of all backgrounds celebrate St. Patrick's Day, especially throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia. Although North America is home to the largest productions, St. Patrick's Day is celebrated in many other locations far from Ireland, including Japan, Singapore, and Russia.

In modern-day Ireland, St. Patrick's Day was traditionally been a religious occasion. In fact, up until the 1970s, Irish laws mandated that pubs be closed on March 17. Beginning in 1995, however, the Irish government began a national campaign to use interest in St. Patrick's Day to drive tourism and showcase Ireland and Irish culture to the rest of the world. Today, approximately 1 million people annually take part in Ireland's St. Patrick's Festival in Dublin, a multi-day celebration featuring parades, concerts, outdoor theater productions, and fireworks shows.

For more information about the St. Patrick's Day history, see <http://www.history.com/topics/st-patricks-day>. 🍀

(Answers to Fun Page on page 10)



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<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!

8th Annual Ramp Dinner

by John Burdette

The 8th annual ramp dinner will be held on April 27th, 2013, from 12:00 til 6:00 p.m. at the Alderson Community Center in Alderson, WV.

Menu includes ramps, ham, scrambled eggs, cole slaw, desserts, corn, fried potatoes, brown beans, cornbread or bread, and iced tea/coffee. Carryouts are available. Meal price is \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12.

The event is sponsored by the Greenbrier Valley Association of the Deaf. For more information, please contact John Burdette at jwburdette@sprint.blackberry.net or call at VP 304-707-3209.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

The photo below that was in the last issue did not mention that Bob and Mary Patton are from Romney, WV.



L-R: Daughter Brenda Grinstead, Robert and Mary Patton from Romney, WV, and son Dale Patton. Their anniversary dinner was in Hagerstown, MD, and appetizers were served at their granddaughter's house in Martinsburg, WV, on November 10, 2012.



Everything Irish Recipes

ST. PATRICK'S CORNED BEEF DINNER

(<http://www.tasteofhome.com/Recipes/Corned-Beef-Dinner>)



This flavorful meal is a must for St. Patrick's Day but great any time of the year. While it usually cooks on the stovetop, a slow cooker makes it even easier. The recipe serves four people nicely with enough leftover meat for Reuben sandwiches or other dishes.



4 to 5 medium red potatoes, quartered
2 cups fresh baby carrots, halved lengthwise
1 corned beef brisket with spice packet (3-1/2 lbs)

3 cups chopped cabbage
3 cups water
1 Tbsp caraway seeds



Place the potatoes, carrots, and cabbage in a 5-quart slow cooker. Cut brisket in half; place over vegetables. Add water, caraway seeds, and contents of spice packet. Cover and cook on low for 8-10 hours or until the meat and vegetables are tender. Yield: 8 servings.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY BROCCOLI AND RICE

(cooks.com)



1 can cream of chicken soup
1 rib celery, chopped
1 stick butter
1-1/2 cup cooked rice
1 onion, chopped

1 cup grated cheese or small
jar of Cheese Whiz
Salt and pepper to taste
1 pkg chopped broccoli (frozen)
Bread crumbs



Turn oven to 350 °F, and grease casserole dish. Cook broccoli according to package directions; drain well. In a large skillet, saute onions and celery in butter until they are clear.

Mix the cooked broccoli, cheese, celery, and onions with the can of soup. Add the rice and seasonings. Mix well. Pour into a casserole dish and top with bread crumbs. Bake 45 minutes. Make ahead and freeze. Serves 6.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PISTACHIO CAKE

(cooks.com)



1 white cake mix
1 cup of water
1 pkg instant pistachio pudding mix

1 cup of oil
3 eggs

Mix well. Bake at 350 °F for 30 minutes in 9 x 13-inch pan.



FROSTING:

8 oz Cool Whip
1 cup milk

1 pkg pistachio pudding mix

Mix well. Spread over cooled cake.



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PUNCH

(cooks.com)



1 (2 liter) bottle 7-Up
1/2 gal lime sherbet, softened

1 large can pineapple juice



Mix and serve with sprigs of green mint leaves. For more zip, add some ginger ale and real lime juice.

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