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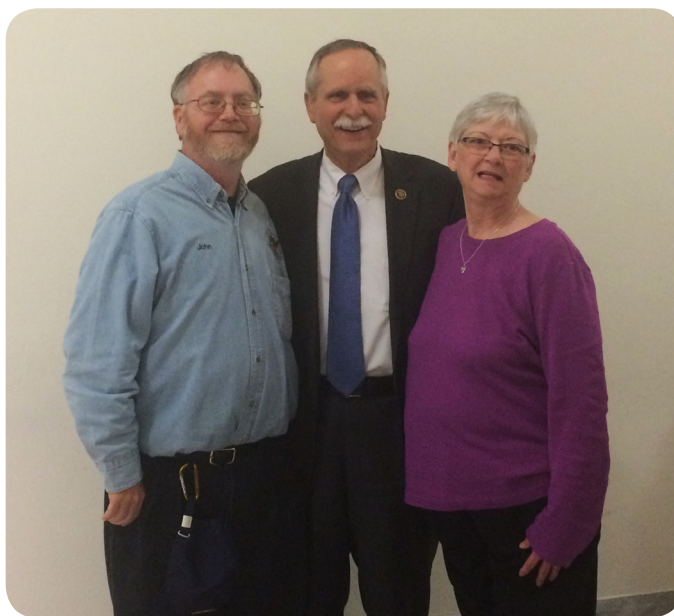
WVAD Officers Travel to U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., March 2, 2016

By John Burdette

John Burdette and Donna M. Williams attended the Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act, H.R. 3535 Advocacy Day in Washington, D.C. on March 2, 2016. They represented West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD), along with 10 other individuals from the WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB) and WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH) plus three (3) students from WVSDB. We left at 5:00 a.m. and rode the bus to Washington, D.C. to get there in time for the kick-off rally at 8:30 a.m. It was a historic day for many of us who attended the Advocacy Day.

Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act, H.R. 3535 Advocacy Day was organized by the Conference of Educational Administrators of Schools & Programs for the Deaf (CEASD) and Council of Schools and Services for the Blind (COSB).

H.R. 3535 was introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives in September 2015 by Representatives Matt Cartwright (D-PA) and David McKinley (R-WV). The bill is named for Anne Sullivan, Helen



L-R: John Burdette, WVAD President, Representative David McKinley (R-WV), and Donna M. Williams, WVAD Secretary

Keller's beloved teacher, and Alice Cogswell, the first deaf girl to be educated in a school for the deaf in the United States. The original bill (H.R. 4040) was introduced in the previous Congress. This updated version of the Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act includes additional language to support students who are

deaf-blind. Advocates for students who are blind/visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, and deaf-blind have worked tirelessly with legislators to compose three strong, parallel titles within the Act, addressing the needs of students in these three sensory-disability areas.

(See WVAD Officers... on page 6)

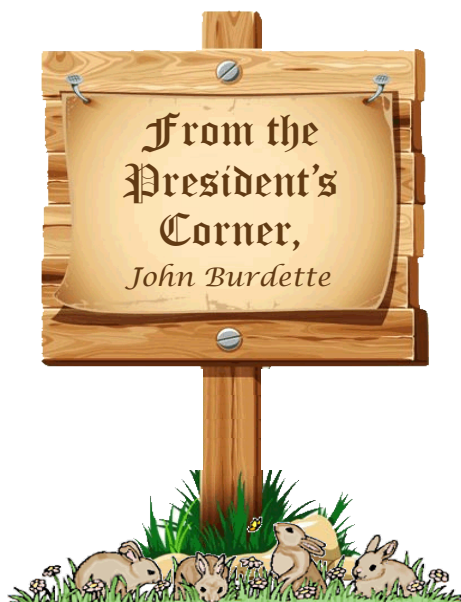
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PUBLICATION INFORMATION AND ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

Spring is here!

I hope everyone stayed warm during these cold months of winter. I am sure everyone are looking forward to going out more in this warm weather!

On March 2, 2016, Donna M. Williams and I went to Washington, D.C., U.S. Capitol, to attend the Alice Cogswell-Anne Sullivan Macy Advocacy Day (see story on page 1).

The WVAD Board met at Marion County Public Library in Fairmont, WV, for the second board meeting on March 7th.

WVAD's Executive Board will be attending the Family-Student Association (FSA) weekend at the WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB) in Romney, WV.

I announced in the last issue that Glade Springs Resort has been selected for the next WVAD Biennial Conference. Please save the date August 3-5, 2017.

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

- The House Bill 4485, Deaf Children's Bill of Rights Act (DCBR), for West Virginia was introduced in the House on February 10, 2016. Last action was to House Education Committee. We were warned by Ruth Rowan, House of Delegate, about this bill, that it will not

be passed in Legislative this year. 2016 Legislative session ended on March 12th. WVAD Education Committee will continue to work on this bill for the next couple months as well to get more sponsors from the legislators.

- First Annual Deaf Awareness Day was held at the WV State Capitol, Charleston, WV, on March 8, 2016. The event was hosted by the WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH) and WV Association of the Deaf (WVAD). It was very successful with approximately 100 people and 25 vendors.

On May 21, 2016, Saturday, a free workshop about SSDI and Employment will be offered by the WVCDHH at the Louis Bennett Public Library from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in Weston, WV, for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community members.

On July 5-9, 2016, 53rd Biennial National Association of the Deaf Conference will be held in Phoenix, Arizona.

On August 13, 2016, WVAD will be hosting our Biennial Picnic at Burns-ville Lake – Shelter #3 at Riffle Run Area. WVAD will provide the meat. Please bring a covered dish. For more information about the picnic, please see flyer on page 10. Come out and

join us for a day of fun and camp out with us that night too.

A quick reminder for those who have not paid for expired membership (see page 23 for membership form), please send the form and payment to our Membership Coordinator, Larry Hubbard. Good news! WVAD is now accepting debit and credit cards for membership fees, etc. We are currently accepting Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. If you are not a member of WVAD, please join. If you have any questions about membership, please contact Larry Hubbard, Membership Coordinator. Your support and dues help keep WVAD going. It is a good way to give someone a membership as a gift.

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

Warmly,

John W. Burdette

WVAD President



WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2016



WVAD Board Minutes

WVAD Board Meeting Held at Marion County Public Library, Fairmont, WV, March 5, 2016

West Virginia Association of the Deaf's Mission Statement:

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

Members Present: John Burdette, Tami Deem, Veronda Harrison, Donna Williams, Larry Hubbard, Worthy Devericks, and Jeffery Simmons.

Visitors Present: Sally Hubbard and Lois Devericks.

The regular board meeting of WVAD was held at the Marion County Public Library in Fairmont, WV. President John Burdette called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m. with Secretary Donna Williams present.

The minutes of the meeting held November 7, 2015 was sent via e-mail. It was corrected and approved via videophone and e-mail. The minutes of the meeting was published in the Winter 2016 newsletter.

Treasurer Veronda Harrison's Financial Report from November 6, 2015 to March 4, 2016:

Balance in checking account – \$2,150.27; balance in savings account – \$3,564.71; Mingo County Fund – \$14,543.66; WVAD Conference Fund – \$2,801.16; Deaf Youth Program – \$1,278.00; 2 Certificate of Deposits – \$12,003.63.

- **Christmas Party:** 81 people attended. Total assets – \$2,994.00; total expenses – \$2,289.63. Profit – \$704.38.
- **Picnic:** Called Summersville, Coonskin, and Burnsville/Bulltown. Summersville shelter holds only 50 people; Coonskin shelter holds 100 people and cost \$200; Burnsville/Bulltown shelters hold 100 people and cost \$80.

Donna moved to accept the Treasurer's report after correction. Passed.

President John Burdette's Report:

- **Ramada Downtown Charleston:** John called the Kanawha County Magistrate Court to check the status. They told him the letter was sent to Ramada Downtown Charleston via a police officer; however, this failed because the clerk said the letter was undeliverable, probably due to wrong name of hotel or address. Received a letter from the Kanawha County Magistrate Court with a form, Veronda had Sheriff's Department delivered. Called the Magistrate Court with questions. WVAD can send the civil complaint form again with an amended change, but we might have to pay the fees again for Sheriff's Department to deliver the letter to Ramada Downtown Charleston.
- **Glade Springs Resort (GSR):** John informed Greg Haynes, Sales Manager, via e-mail that WVAD has selected Glade Springs Resort for our next conference in 2017. John received an e-mail from Susan Kenison with the contract attached. A few things that were negotiated include: Breakfast buffet was reduced to \$10.00. One complimentary activity "Fun Pass" will be included with the room at no extra cost for several events. The "Fun Pass" per attendee includes scavenger hunt, geocaching card, one round of disc golf (includes scorecard and disc rental), one complimentary game

of bowling, one hour boat rental at Lake Mallard, and one bucket of driving range balls. Can reserve same as hotel — do not have to pre-pay until arrival. Group code: WVAD. If want to arrive one or two nights earlier or stay one or two nights longer (up to two nights), the price per night will be the same as for WVAD conference. John will visit Glade Springs Resort on Monday, March 7, 2016, to finalize and pay the required \$1,000 deposit.

- **NAD Regional 1 monthly VP meeting:** John attended the meeting on January 12 and February 17, 2016.
- **An e-mail was sent to April Hottle, WV Education Advocate, and Antonia Vaughan, Legislative Advocate,** asking them if they are interested in attending the Legislative Training workshop provided by Fair Shake. Neither can attend due to school commitments.
- **The annual Fair Shake Disability Advocacy Day at the State Capitol** was held Wednesday, February 10, 2016. John attended for Sprint Relay. Those attending for the WVAD exhibit were Larry Hubbard, Donna Williams, and Julie Simmons.
- **Received e-mail December 18, 2016,** about an announcement that WV counted nearly 600 teachers in WV who are not certified. WVAD Education Committee needs to inquire if any of these non-certified teachers (or interpreters) work with the deaf and hard of hearing students.

(See Board Minutes on page 4)

(Board Minutes from page 3)

- National Deaf Youth Day—Contacted Allie Rice at NAD asking about Deaf Youth Day. NAD wanted to have the event on March 6, 2016, to follow Deaf President Now (DPN) date. However, March 6 is on Sunday this year. But, it can be any day.
- November 17, 2015, received e-mail from Toni about the Alice Cogswell-Anne Sullivan Macy Act (HR 3535) in the U.S. House. Currently they have two (2) co-sponsors—Representative Matt Cartwright from Pennsylvania and Representative David McKinley from WV. We need to send letters to them to push for this act to pass.
- Received e-mail from Lakeview Golf Resort & Spa asking if want to have conference there in the future. It is near Morgantown, WV.
- Received an e-mail from Molly Simonton at Marshall University inviting Donna and me to attend a WV Deaf/Hard of Hearing Educational Advisory Social on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, in Charleston, WV. Neither of us were able to attend.
- Received another e-mail from Molly inviting Donna and me to become part of a Stakeholder's group focusing on education of deaf and hard of hearing children in WV. The first meeting will be Tuesday, March 22 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. at Pierpont Community & Technical College in Fairmont.
- Received an e-mail from Dr. Martin Keller, Superintendent of WVSDb inviting WVAD to visit WVSDb again spring 2016—maybe during Family Student Day May 13-15, 2016.
- Received an e-mail from United Deaf Service (UDS) explaining that they have a new person working there. The check will be sent soon.
- Received e-mail from Toni about a bill for license plate for deaf—third day after session started. Many comments were posted on Facebook plus several e-mails sent to co-sponsor Ruth Rowan. Learned that one person wants this license. However, the bill says the license “may” be purchased. It will not be required. This bill apparently failed because no action was taken.
- Received an e-mail from Steve Lovi, NAD Region 1 representative, asking if there were any problems communicating with the deaf and hard of hearing communities during Snowstorm Jonas. John shared that there were several communications on Facebook. It is one of NAD's 5 priorities to check on state Emergency Plans.
- Received an e-mail from Dr. Martin Keller, Superintendent at WVSDb, about the rally at the U.S. Capitol regarding the Cogswell-Macy Act. He invited WVSDb alumni, WVAD officers, WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH), WVSDb students, etc.
- Donna and I learned at the Fair Shake Disability Day on Wednesday, February 10, 2016, that the Deaf Children's Bill of Rights bill now has a number (HB 4485) and that it would be introduced to the House that afternoon. We spoke with Delegate Ruth Rowan who sponsored this bill that the WV budget is the worse since either 1983 or 1989. That is why the draft that WVAD Education Committee submitted was changed so much to delete anything that had any financial requirements. Delegate Rowan also warned us that this bill will probably not pass but we can try again next year. I asked her if the new bill will have the same number and she said probably not. Donna will explain more in her report.
- Learned that Senator Manchin's wife (Gayle Manchin) will be on the WVSDb Advisory Board.
- Received an e-mail from WVDba asking if WVAD want to advertise in WVDba program book for the 30th Anniversary Bowling Tournament.
- Received an e-mail from Toni regarding 12-step programs and funerals being required to hire interpreters under the Title III of the ADA law. These are considered public places.
- Received an e-mail from WVCDHH sharing information about a workshop on Saturday, May 21, 2016, at Weston Library 10:00 to 12:00 p.m. about SSDI and Employment. The presenter is Deaf and will sign the presentation in ASL. Must inform WVCDHH if planning to attend.
- E-mail was sent to WVAD board regarding exhibits at Bridge Valley Fair (full now but will let us know for October) and One4All Disability Expo April 2 in Huntington (\$40).
- Received an e-mail from Travis Shrodes, Firefighter/Paramedic, asking about sign language class in the Martinsburg area for first responders. I replied referring him to Blue Ridge Community and Technical College.
- Received e-mail from Steve Lovi, NAD Region 1 representative, asking for WVAD membership. Sent the information to him.
- WVAD and WVCDHH would like to provide an exhibit at the State Fair.
- Deaf Awareness Day Tuesday, March 8, 2016—10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the State Capitol. There will be 22+ vendors. At 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. WVSDb Tapestry group will sing and sign. Can make appointment with legislators.

Vice-President Tami Deem's Report:
None.

Secretary Donna Williams' Report:

- Deaf Awareness Day: Handouts will be distributed at the WVAD booth.
- WV Early Hearing Detection Intervention: NAD strongly encourages each state to try to get a member on the advisory board. Learned that one deaf person on the advisory board is a late-deafened person and is a member of WVAD. The advisory board meets 2 or 3 times a year in Charleston during the day. The next meeting will be on March 24, 2016. If interested in being on this advisory board, need to send an e-mail to Tennysa Mace with name, e-mail address, phone number, and organization affiliation. Member MUST live in WV.
- Workshop Surveys: Distributed the latest copy. Forgot to add “conference” so it was added during the Christmas party. Results from Christmas party were 6 responded.
- Alice Cogswell-Anne Sullivan Macy Act in the U.S. Congress: Dr. Martin Keller invited John and me as WVAD representatives as

(See Board Minutes on page 5)

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(Board Minutes from page 4)

well as alumni to attend the rally in D.C. on Wednesday, March 2, 2016.

- WV Deaf Children's Bill of Rights (DCBR) WVAD Education Committee: April Hottle is chairperson. Donna Williams is ad hoc—represent the board. Southwestern group include Gwen Bryant—WV Hands & Voices and parent, Ruby Losh—WVSD Alumni and parent, Christina Payne—WV Hands & Voices and parent, Ressie Thomas—WVSD Outreach Specialist, Julie (Barie) Turley—CODA and Deaf Education teacher, and Antonia Vaughan—WVAD Legislative Advocate and education interpreter. Northeastern group include Christie Ryan Graham—parent of pre-school deaf child at WVSD, Tammy Phillips—principal at WVSD and former Deaf Education teacher in mainstreamed program, and Dr. Martin Keller—superintendent at WVSD. Any questions please ask John, April, or Donna. Southwestern group met November 29 and December 6, 2015. Both groups met in Fairmont January 9, 2016, and completed the final draft. I revised the draft and sent to all committee members for feedback. Communicated several times with Kim Bianco-Majeri, NAD Legislative Advocate, for advice. She was very helpful. January 18, 2016, the final draft of the WV DCBR the committee did was sent to Sponsor Delegate Ruth Rowan and Bill Writer John Reed. I communicated with them several times. They told me the draft DCBR required money for certified interpreters and teachers and WV is in budget deficit. They changed it to follow the DCBR in Louisiana almost exactly. Most of the Education Committee members were not happy about this and wanted to change it again. However, all members agreed to leave it as it is and amend later. February 10, 2016, the bill was introduced to the House of Representatives as HB 4885. It was sent to the WV Legislative Education Committee February 10, 2016; however, no action was taken; therefore, the bill 'died'. See more information in the story "WV Deaf Child's Bill of Rights" on page 8.

Trustees' Report: None.

Editor Tami Deem's Report: Deadline for next newsletter is April 1.

Membership Larry Hubbard's Report: At 2015 WVAD conference, there were 197 members. Now, there are 177 members.

Education Advocate April Hottle's Report via E-mail:

- Over the past several months I have worked with Donna and the WVAD Education Committee members drafting the Deaf Children's Bill of Rights (DCBR). It has been a positive experience. We look forward to DCBR (HB 4485) becoming law.
- West Virginia Deaf Awareness Day at the State Capitol is March 8, 2016. The Capital High School American Sign Language Club and students who are deaf or hard of hearing will attend. Our schedule includes observing the Senate, watching the WVSD group, touring the Cultural Center Museum, and observing the museum use their technology that provides an interpreter, visiting the various booths and demonstrations on the Rotunda and eating lunch at the Rolling Smoke restaurant. We will return to CHS at noon. The ASL students are looking forward to practice their sign language skills with native signers.
- The Annual Optimist Deaf & Hard of Hearing Speech Competition will be held in April. Capital High School staff are encouraging the students who are deaf or hard of hearing to participate. The Optimist Club offers \$2,500 as prize money to the winner.
- As the Education Advocate, I continue to promote excellence and high expectation for deaf and hard of hearing students by communicating with staff who work directly with teachers to implement IEP's and promoting regular education classroom work.
- I am proud to be affiliated with WVAD as you work hard to pass DCBR and continue to serve deaf and hard of hearing people in the state.

Legislative Advocate Antonia Hall's Report via E-mail:

- Kept John and Donna informed about HB 2433 regarding license plate for the Deaf.

- Kept John and Donna informed about HB 4147 regarding making West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind eligible to participate in any and all funding administered or distributed by the WV School Building Authority. Sent to Finance Committee February 15, 2016. It 'died' in the Senate.
- Kept John and Donna informed about HB 4485 regarding the Deaf Children's Bill of Rights. It was referred to the WV House Education Committee on February 10, 2016; however, no action was taken.

Fundraising (Veronda) Jimmy Harrison's Report: That's My Pan! is a personalized bakeware such as cake pan with lids, cookie tin, mugs, etc. Suggested we try That's My Pan! to raise funds.

Old Business:

- Glade Springs Resort (already signed a contract agreement).
- 100th Anniversary group picture.
- Hillbilly T-shirt (need to obtain to use same iron-on design if possible).

New Business:

- Biennial Picnic: Larry moved to have WVAD picnic at Burnsville August 13. Passed. Larry moved to charge \$20 admission and one meal; start at 11:00 a.m.; eat at 2:00 p.m. (age 5 to 12 – \$5.00; age 13 to 18 – \$10.00). Veronda moved to serve pulled pork. John amended to add pulled chicken and hot dogs. Passed. Larry moved to give extra admission ticket for covered dish. Veronda amended to up to 2 tickets for 2 covered dishes. Passed.
- Larry moved to have a WVAD exhibit at the One4All Disabilities Expo in Huntington, WV 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Passed.
- Veronda moved to have Christmas party at VFW in Clarksburg in December. Passed.
- Veronda moved that WVAD attend the 1st Annual WVSD Family School Association Day May 13-15, 2016. Passed.
- Donna moved to get 2 sets of tickets for WVU football game this fall. Passed.

(See Board Minutes on page 19)

(WVAD Officers... from page 1)

Everyone met in Cannon House Office Building, Room 122, at 8:30 a.m. for the kick-off rally about this bill. They shared many points about why this bill is needed. The bill needs to gain more sponsors in the House, and it needs to be introduced in the Senate. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is designed to meet the needs of all eligible students, but students who are deaf, hard of hearing, blind, visually impaired, or deaf-blind fall through the cracks. These children are considered "low incidence."

IDEA says schools must elevate these students, identify and meet their educational needs, provide qualified teachers and service providers, and place them in a setting that supports their learning. However, in most states

and school districts, the schools do not have strategies and resources to make that happen. With H.R. 3535, this will strengthen IDEA to improve results for deaf, hard of hearing, blind, visually impaired, and deaf-blind children, including those with additional disabilities.

After the kick-off rally, we all went to the cafeteria in the basement for breakfast/lunch while waiting for our scheduled appointments with WV legislators in the afternoon. We made visits to Senator Joe Manchin, Senator Shelley Capito, and Representative David McKinley's offices to ask them to support this Act. We didn't get to meet with Senator Manchin, but we met with Senator Capito and Representative McKinley. Representative McKinley told us he had been deaf in his left ear for 40 years and now he wears cochlear

implant. He also has a 9-year-old grandson who is deaf living on the west coast. He knows some sign language but not having his grandson nearby to communicate with, he does not use it much.

It was a wonderful experience for those of us who attended. With special thanks to Dr. Martin Keller, Superintendent of WVSD, for inviting Donna and me; Christine Lewis, who arranged for us to sleep in Keller Hall; and to Penny Maphis, executive assistant, for making the arrangements for us to meet with the WV legislators in the afternoon. We also want to thank them for giving us this wonderful opportunity to experience the historic day with them.

For more information on this Alice Cogswell and Anne Sullivan Macy Act, please check out this website: <http://www.ceasd.org/child-first/alice-cogswell>.



COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

WV Association of the Deaf (WVAD) is selling cookbooks. They are \$20.00 a book (plus \$5.00 shipping & handling). The cookbooks are 110 pages long. This cookbook would make a perfect gift for Christmas, weddings, anniversaries, and birthdays. Proceeds will go towards the WVAD non-profit organization. If anyone is interested in buying a cookbook, please see John Burdette, Jimmy Harrison, Veronda Harrison, Donna Williams, Tami Deem, Larry Hubbard, Jeff Simmons, or Worthy Devericks. For credit card purchases, please contact Veronda Harrison (Treasurer) at 304-964-6025 Videophone or e-mail verapple@aol.com. Feel free to let your family and friends know about this as they are more than welcome to purchase a cookbook!

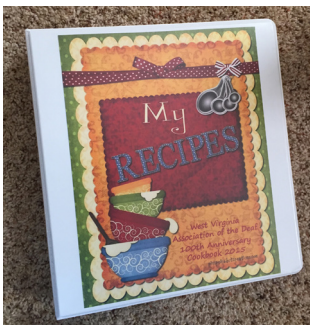


ORDER FORM

Use the order form below to obtain additional copies of this Cookbook.

Fill in Order Form Below — Cut Out and Mail to:

Veronda Harrison
WVAD Treasurer
5 Cordoba Drive
Hurricane, WV 25526



You may order as many copies of our Cookbook as you wish for the regular price at \$20.00 each, plus \$5.00 postage and packing per book ordered.

Please mail _____ copies of your Cookbook.

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

Mail book(s) to:

First Name, Last Name: _____

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 Acct. No.: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

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

Signature: _____

Date: _____

WV Deaf Children's Bill of Rights (DCBR)

By Donna M. Williams

The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) encouraged each state to draft a Deaf Children's Bill of Rights (DCBR) and push to have it passed. So far, there are 18 states that have DCBR. West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) agreed to start working on this. However, the board agreed to wait until NAD completed the model bill and sent it out. NAD announced at the National Leadership Training Conference (NLTC) last fall that it had been completed. We received the copy on October 12, 2015.

In the meantime, WVAD Education Advocate, April Hottle, and WVAD Legislative Advocate, Antonia Vaughan, were busy recruiting people that are willing to serve on the WVAD Education Committee to work on this bill. In addition to April, Antonia, and Donna Williams, WVAD Board ad hoc, nine (9) people were recruited. They are:

Southwestern Group:

- Gwen Bryant — WV Hands & Voices and parent
- Ruby Losh — WVSD Alumni and parent
- Christina Payne — WV Hands & Voices and parent
- Ressie Thomas — WVSD Outreach Specialist
- Julie (Barie) Turley — CODA and Deaf Education teacher

Northeastern Group:

- Christie Ryan Graham — Parent of pre-school deaf child at WVSD
- Tammy Phillips — Principal at WVSD and former Deaf Education teacher in mainstreamed program
- Dr. Martin Keller — Superintendent at WVSD

On Friday, November 6, 2015, Donna met with some of the northeastern group and Delegate Ruth Rowan in Romney, WV. Delegate Rowan is on the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind Schools board of trustees. She is very supportive of education for children who are deaf and hard of hearing. She agreed to help us finalize the draft and sponsor the bill.

On Sunday, November 29 and December 6, 2015, most of the

southwestern group met to start drafting the WV DCBR using the NAD model and several DCBRs in other states.

Both groups met in Fairmont, WV, on Saturday, January 9, 2016, to complete the draft. After several revisions and e-mails, the final draft was sent to Delegate Ruth Rowan and Bill Writer John Reed on January 18, 2016.

Donna consulted with Kim Bianco-Majeri, NAD Legislative Advocate, for advice and feedback in between meetings.

In the meantime, Delegate Ruth Rowan and Bill Writer John Reed informed Donna that due to the severe WV budget deficit, the draft had to be revised to eliminate those requests that required funding, such as certified and qualified educational interpreters and teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing. The final draft of the DCBR proposed to the House of Representatives is almost identical to the DCBR in Louisiana.

The bill was finally introduced to the House of Representatives on February 10, 2016, as House Bill (HB) 4485. However, the bill was near the bottom of the list. Delegate Rowan warned both WVAD President John Burdette and Donna that the bill will most likely not go through this year for several reasons:

1. There were not enough sponsors. One person told Donna that this bill should have 10 to 11 sponsors, especially from the WV Legislative Education Committee. The second sponsor who agreed to work with us dropped out. He felt it was not the right time.
2. There were too many financial requirements in the bill. We need to reduce some of those requirements.

The WVAD Education Committee members were not very happy with the final draft; however, we all agreed to leave it as it was and make amendments later.

Now that legislative session is over, the WVAD Education Committee will meet again soon to make plans for the upcoming months. Both Kim Bianco-Majeri and Ann McDaniel from Fair Shake suggested we do the following:

1. The Education Committee should meet with Delegate Ruth Rowan and Bill Writer John Reed to negotiate a new draft and discuss what steps we should take next.
2. Send the new draft to Kim Bianco-Majeri for her feedback.
3. Find out when legislators will meet during interim.
4. When the new draft is approved by all committee members, send it to various members of the WV Legislative Education Committee with a letter asking him/her to sponsor or support this bill. We have a delegate (Ruth Rowan). We need to recruit a senator. Then, together with Delegate Ruth Rowan and the recruited senator, we can recruit more sponsors.

Why does WV need the DCBR?

1. It will make sure the choice of language and communication mode of deaf/hard of hearing children is respected and to ensure these children have fully accessible educational opportunities through an Individualized Education Program (IEP) focused on language and communication needs.
2. It would require the IEP team to use a Language Access Plan as a critical tool to focus on the unique language and communication needs of these children. The IEP team should include an appropriate professional who is knowledgeable in the education of deaf/hard of hearing children. Specifically, the Language Access Plan would address:
 - Provide scheduled evaluations to reach fluency in American Sign Language and English; student's primary language/communication mode chosen; opportunity for direct instruction.
 - Teach peers and role models how to communicate in the student's preferred language/communication mode.
 - Make sure teachers and other personnel are qualified and proficient in the student's

(See WV Deaf Children's... on page 11)

Jeremiah Hall Receives his 2nd Degree Black Belt

Jeremiah Hall, a 35 year old male, of Clendenin, WV, is believed to be the first deaf person to receive his martial arts black belt in West Virginia.

Jeremiah receives his martial arts training from Senseis Kevin and Nancy Miller, a Clendenin husband and wife team, who owns and operates the

Dueling Dragon Seiei Kan Karate Academy in Elkview, WV (<http://ddragonkarate.com/>).

Jeremiah was the first deaf individual to be inducted into the Black Belt Hall of Fame in 2013. Recently, on January 16, 2016, Jeremiah received his second degree black belt.

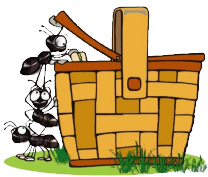
If any deaf or hard of hearing children or adults want to learn martial arts, Jeremiah would love to teach them. He also said he would be willing to go to different places to teach martial arts.

Jeremiah's sister, Toni Vaughan, is WVAD's Legislative Advocate.

Congratulations Jeremiah! 🖤



West Virginia Association of the Deaf



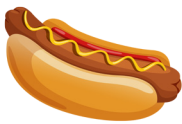
PICNIC



August 13, 2016

**Burnsville Lake, Shelter #3
Burnsville, WV**

Open at 11:00 a.m. until Dark



\$1,000 Giveaway
(Depends on Attendance)



Chance to Win Cash Prizes and Gifts
(10 Tickets for \$5.00 or 30 Tickets for \$10.00)

\$20.00 per person – includes 1 meal and door prize

\$10 per child (13 to 18 years old)

\$5.00 per child (5-12 years old)

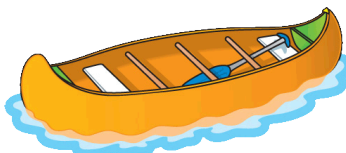
Children under 5 years old – free

BBQ



We will provide BBQ pulled pork, BBQ pulled chicken, and hot dogs. Please bring covered dishes and desserts (for those who bring covered dish or dessert will get an extra door prize ticket – limit 2 tickets). Drinks are \$1.00 each.

Come Out and Join Us for Food and Good Times!
Plan to camp out Friday and Saturday nights with us.



(See Directions on page 11)

WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2016

DIRECTIONS TO BURNSVILLE LAKE

From I-79, take Exit 79 (Glenville/Burnsville exit), travel on Rt. 5 East. Follow signs into campground.

Shelter #3 is located adjacent to the marina/boat dock near the Burnsville Dam. The Burnsville Dam is located about 3 miles above the town of Burnsville, WV. Watch for the sign that says "Burnsville Lake."

Near the Burnsville Dam, there is Riffle Run Campground. There are 54 sites with electrical hookups, shower/restroom facilities, sewage dump stations, and fresh water fill-up stations.

On the other side of the lake, there is Bulltown Campground that has 204 campsites. It takes about 30 minutes to drive over there. To get to Bulltown Campground, take the Flatwoods exit via I-79. Turn left at the stoplight. Go about 10 miles.

For more information about camping, call (304) 853-2371 for Riffle Run campground and (304) 452-8006 for Bulltown campground.

(WV Deaf Children's... from page 8)

- preferred language/communication mode.
 - Make sure teachers and other personnel are accountable of providing academic instruction, school services, and extra-curricular activities.
 - Provide assistive devices/services; communication and physical environment accommodations that could assist in teaching language.
 - Intervene if evaluations shows that language development is lacking.
3. It would require that parents and guardians are informed of all educational options available including WV Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (WVSDB).
 4. It would force the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) to identify and keep track of students' progress towards language fluency.
 5. While there are several hundred deaf/hard of hearing students in West Virginia, it is considered a

low-incidence disability with just a handful of these students spread out in any one district. Many local schools have minimal experience with deafness and would benefit from a helpful tool such as the Language Access Plan to address unique language and communication needs of this low-incidence population.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Williams at dmwilliams49@yahoo.com. 🐼





NELMA THORNE

Nelma Jean "Sally" Thorne, 67, of Oak Hill passed away Tuesday, January 5, 2016, at home.

Born on December 10, 1948, at Fayetteville, WV, she was the daughter of the late Calvin and Opal Jeffries Thorne.

The family received friends one hour before the funeral on Monday, January 11, 2016, at the funeral home. Funeral services was held at 1:00 p.m., Monday, January 11, 2016, at Dodd-Payne-Hess Funeral Home, Fayetteville. Burial followed at Huse Memorial Park, Fayetteville.

The family entrusted arrangements to Dodd-Payne-Hess Funeral Home, 350 W. Maple Avenue, Fayetteville, WV. For those wishing to express your condolences to the Thorne family, you may do so by visiting our website at www.doddpaynehessfuneralhome.com. 🕊

"In Memory of Loved Ones"

KATHERINE "GERT" BURCH

Katherine Jean "Gert" Burch, 83, of Romney, WV died on Sunday, January 3, 2016, at her home while under the care of Hospice of the Panhandle.

Mrs. Burch was born on August 14, 1932, in Paris, TN, the daughter of the late Robert F. and Mary B. Phelps Sanford. She was employed at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind in Romney for 25 years.

Mrs. Burch married Frank R. Burch on June 6, 1980, in Delray, WV. Surviving with her husband are three sons: Jack Aclin of Romney, WV; John Aclin and his wife Lynn of San Diego, CA; Carl Long and his wife Debbie of Martinsburg, WV; a daughter: Donna Aclin of Cross Junction, VA; ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her son Tom Key.

Private services were held. Memorial contributions may be made to the Hospice of the Panhandle, 278 North High Street, Romney, WV 26757 (http://www.giffinfuneralhome.com/memsol.cgi?user_id=1727378). 🕊



DONOVAN G. WRIGHT

Donovan Garrett Wright, 29, of Vienna, WV, passed away Sunday, January 17, 2016, at his residence in Vienna. He was born September 29, 1986, to Debra Clegg of Davisville and Marvin Ricky Wright of Mineral Wells.

Donovan graduated from the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind in Romney, WV. He attended West Virginia University.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his maternal grandparents Archie "Eugene" and Janet Knotts of Davisville; paternal grandmother Betty Wright of Boaz; stepmother Beverly Wright; stepfather Michael Clegg; sister Charity Wilhelm (Jay) of Athens, OH; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, and a niece and nephew.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, Howard Wright, and maternal grandfather, Larry Lawson.

A memorial service was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. at Williamstown Church of Christ. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in his name to The Friendship Kitchen of North Parkersburg Baptist Church, 3109 Emerson Avenue, Parkersburg, WV, where Donovan volunteered. Leavitt Funeral Home, Parkersburg assisted the family with cremation arrangements (<http://www.leavittfuneralhome.com/obituary/Donovan-Garrett-Wright/Vienna-WV/1582750#sthash.F4pCHdHk.dpuf>). 🕊



MARGARET "PEG" FRASER

Margaret May "Peg" Fraser, 93, left this quiet Earth to be with her Heavenly Father on January 15, 2016. She was born on September 28, 1922, the daughter of the late Neal and Ruth Ort Fraser.

A native of Charleston, WV, she enrolled at the WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind in 1931, attended Morris Harvey College, and worked with Voter's Registration in Kanawha County for 30 years before retiring. She was a gifted artist. She was a member of the Bream Memorial Presbyterian Church.

She is survived by several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services was held at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at Bartlett Burdette Cox Funeral Home. Burial followed at Cunningham Memorial Park in St. Albans. Friends were received one hour prior to the services at the funeral home.

Online condolences may be left at www.BartlettBurdetteCox.com. 🕊



(See Obituaries on page 13)

WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2016



ANNA BESSLER POOLE

Anna Bessler Poole, age 75, of Fairmont, passed away Saturday afternoon, January 2, 2016, in the Hospice Unit of Ruby Memorial Hospital in Morgantown, WV, with her family at her side.

Mrs. Poole was born March 25, 1940, in Charleston, WV, a daughter of the late Charles and Lillian (Bays) Carpenter.

Survivors include two daughters and their spouses, Deborah Lynn Mann and her husband Brian of Bealeton, VA, and Della Stewart and her husband Greg of Chesapeake, VA; three grandchildren, Dale Mann and his wife Katherine, Dallas Mann and Chelsea Poole; five siblings, Iris Foutt, Betty Bradshaw, twins Ronald and Donald Carpenter, and Keith Carpenter; her companion of 23 years Mark Warner; and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Poole graduated with the Class of 1958 at the WV School for the Deaf, Romney, WV.

Contributions in Mrs. Poole's memory may be made to any chapter of the American Cancer Society.

For more information, please visit www.smithfuneralandcremationcare.com. 🌿



MAGDALENE W. SITAR

At 6:15 p.m. on Monday, January 18, 2016, Magdalene died peacefully at her home west of Romney, WV, at age 91, surrounded by family.

Magdalene was born on November 25, 1924, at Sycamore Dale, the home of her Williams grandparents on South Branch River Road, just west of Romney. Magdalene was the oldest of four daughters born to Daniel Taylor Williams and Elizabeth Sloan Harmison Williams.

Magdalene is survived by her husband of over 70 years, John Sitar. She is also survived by her three sisters, Elizabeth (Bettie) Sloan Williams Brown and husband Robert T. Brown of San Marino, CA, Jean Taylor Williams Grose of Cranestown, WV, and Jane Wright Williams Slocum of Romney, WV; two sons, John Daniel Sitar and wife SuzAnn of Romney, WV, and Kenneth Karun Sitar of Albuquerque, NM; and three grandsons, John Holland Sitar of Houghton, LA, Samuel Paul Sitar of Hadley, MA, and Thomas Kenneth Sitar of Romney, WV.

Magdalene taught science at the WV School for the Deaf in the 1960's-1970's.

She donated her physical bodily remains to the West Virginia University School of Medicine for research and training.

A memorial service for Magdalene will be held at the Romney Presbyterian Church at a later time in the spring of 2016 (<http://shafferfuneral.com/obituary/magdalene-williams-sitar/>). 🌿



LEE F. RICE

Lee F. Rice, 51, of Huntington, WV, went to be with the Lord on Thursday, January 21, 2016, at Cabell Huntington Hospital.

Lee was born on March 27, 1964, in Huntington, WV, the son of Geneva E. Rice and the late Paul R. Rice Sr. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his siblings; Paul R. Rice Jr. (Rachael), Darlene Frye, Teresa Sexton (Mike), and Penny Carver (Mike) and a dearest uncle: Donald Rice and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, great niece, great nephews, and cousins. Lee attended the WV School for the Deaf and Blind at Romney, WV.

"And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain for the former things are passed away," Revelation 21:4.

Friends called from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at the Reger Funeral Home. Funeral services were conducted at the Reger Funeral Chapel by Pastor Paul R. Rice Jr. Private burial services followed. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Grace Gospel Church Deaf Ministry, 1111 Adams Ave., Huntington, WV 25704. Online condolences may be made to the family at www.regerfh.com. 🌿



(See Obituaries on page 14)



MELVIN PRESTON WARDEN

Melvin Preston Warden, age 84, passed away on Monday, February 15, 2016, at Novant Health Prince William Medical Center, Manassas, VA.

He was born on June 8, 1931, in Rhodell, West Virginia, to the late Jess and Ora Alice (O'Neal) Warden.

Predeceased by his parents and his wife Selma J. Warden. Survivors include one son: Benny Warden of Manassas, VA; one daughter: Shirley Lynn Cortese of Lake Mary, FL; two granddaughters: Kristen Eisenbarth and Samantha Cortese both of Florida; one sister: Sarah Perry and husband Accie of Delaware; and numerous extended family members.

Melvin enrolled at the WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind in 1938.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of flowers or donations to West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind, 301 East Main Street Romney, WV 26757 in loving memory of Melvin Preston Warden. Condolences may be sent to www.piercefh.com. 🖐



HAROLD F. MYERS

Harold F. Myers died peacefully in his sleep on February 18, 2016, in Beavercreek, Ohio, at the age of 77.

Harold is survived by his wife, Betty, and children Candy Lohner and Joey Myers of Beavercreek; and, Tanya Rickert of Indianapolis. Harold was a loving/loved grandfather to Daniel Lohner, Zoe Myers, Zachary Lohner, Braden Myers, Mikayla and Tayla Rickert.

Harold was born on January 21, 1939, in Benbush, West Virginia, to Tina and Dewey Myers. He graduated from the WV School for the Deaf in 1957. He married his sweetheart in May 1965.

A memorial service was scheduled for 1:00 p.m., Sunday, February 21, 2016, at Cornerstone Baptist Temple, 1707 Ohmer Street, Dayton, Ohio 45410. Pastor Siler officiated the ceremony.

For more information, see <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/dayton/obituary.aspx?n=harold-f-myers&pid=177769261&sthash.7k68HzqH.dpuf>. 🖐



LOIS IRENE BULLOCK

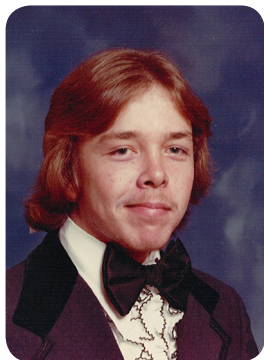
Lois passed away peacefully on February 4, 2016.

Lois was born in Gering, Nebraska. She graduated from the School for the Deaf in Vancouver, Washington. At Gallaudet Lois met the love of her life (Don Bullock, former teacher and coach at the WV School for the Deaf).

Lois is survived by four sons: Barry, Tim (Laura), Robert (Heather), and David (Renee); fifteen grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brother Don Hecker; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband Don; son Gregory; and her brothers and sister, Glen Hecker, William Hecker, and Iris Jean Hecker.

A celebration of life and memorial was held at 10:30 a.m. on February 13, 2016, at the Oakmont Memorial Park Inspirational Chapel, Lafayette, CA.

Online condolences may be expressed at <http://www.oakmontmemorial.com/book-of-memories/2373404/Bullock-Lois/obituary.php>. 🖐



MICHAEL G. RILEY

Michael G. Riley, 55, of Elkins, formerly of Kunst Drive, Weston, WV, passed away February 22, 2016.

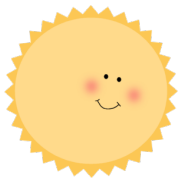
He was born in Clarksburg, WV, on April 28, 1960, a son of the late John Robert Riley and Theresia Chapman Riley. He is survived by three brothers: Joseph Robert, John S. Riley and wife Nancy, and Dennis Riley, all of Weston; three sisters: Veronica Sue Cunningham and husband, Gary, of Sassafras, Mary Jane Fallon and husband, Thomas, of Jane Lew, and Theresia Manchee and husband, Pete, of Ft. Lauderdale, FL; sister-in-law Ruth Ann Riley of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one brother, Patrick Riley; and one sister, Margaret Conner.

He was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Weston, WV.

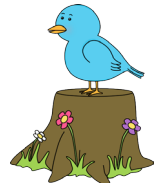
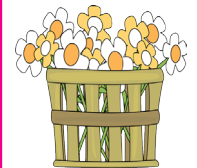
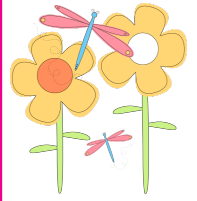
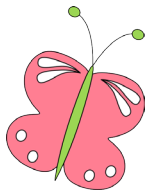
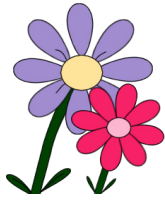
Mike graduated from the WV School for the Deaf in June 1979.

Rosary service was held at 7:00 p.m. from the Pat Boyle Funeral Home Chapel. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Weston at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday with Reverend Father Mark Riley as celebrant. Interment followed in the St. Mary's Cemetery in Fink, WV.

Online condolences may be expressed at www.patboylefuneralhome.com. 🖐



IT'S SPRING TIME!



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

Baby Animals
Baseball
Bloom
Blossom
Bunny

Butterfly
Chick
Crocus
Daffodil
Easter

Flowers
Galoshes
Grass
Hyacinth
Life Cycle

Melting Snow
Narcissus
Puddles
Rainbow
Raincoat

Rebirth
Robin
Showers
Spring Break
Spring Cleaning

Sprout
Sunshine
Umbrella
Vernal Equinox
Windy Breezes

(See Fun Page Answers on page 19)



In the News



4-H Group Donates to Students at WVSDb

By Review Staff, *Hampshire Review*, http://www.hampshirereview.com/farm/4h/image_6499439c-a8ec-11e5-b7b4-7303e0e8a2b5.html, Posted: Wednesday, December 23, 2015, 9:00 a.m.

The multi-sensory program at the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind was very fortunate to have a wonderful donation from Landon Dunham with the help of his 4-H group, Saddles and Smiles, from Jefferson County, Charles Town. The multi-sensory program consists of deaf, blind, or deaf-blind students from 3-21 years of age with severe cognitive and physical challenges.

This is the 3rd year Landon and his 4-H group have taken on this department as part of their yearly project. This year, many items for the students' swim therapy sessions with the occupational therapist were purchased. Life jackets, swimsuits, floating boards, swim noodles, and swim toys were donated to the students. They also purchased iTunes cards for the teachers to purchase communication apps for the students' iPads. Gift cards were donated for some

of the students' families who are in need. Many products from Lemongrass Spa were also donated. Things like shampoo, soaps, lotions, aromatherapy sprays, lip balms, healing balms, and more were donated to the children.

They presented each student with a gift bag and a tactile and brailled Christmas card. All together they were able to donate \$2,600 worth of items to benefit the students in the department. It was a wonderful Christmas event that was enjoyed by all. 🌟




Dr. Martin Keller, Superintendent of WVSDb, and Landon.



SADDLES & SMILES



 **Ride with pride!** 

Displayed are the Christmas donations from Landon and Saddles and Smiles 4-H group.



(See In the News on page 17)

WVAD Quarter News, Spring 2016

(In the News from page 16)

WVSDB Students Experience Page Life

By Review Staff, *Hampshire Review*, Posted Wednesday, March 16, 2016

CHARLESTON — It was an exciting time at the State Capitol in Charleston last week for a select group of students from the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind.

Six students participated in the Honorary Senate Page Program. It was the first time WVSDB students have been involved. The senators saw that the students are fully capable of being involved in the program with minor accommodations.

The students who participated were Jamie Crosser and Sadie Moon from the School for the Blind and Annie Barnhart, Patrick Epperly, Logan Gray, and Jordan Simmons from the School for the Deaf.

The students' involvement in the page program coincided with the Deaf Awareness Day event staged at the Capitol.

"This trip couldn't have happened without Dr. Keller's support and the guidance of the students' social studies teacher, Bill Kesler," said Patricia Liller-Cox, a teacher at the school.

"I could tell that the six students enjoyed the experience firsthand and they saw how heated a legislative session can get," said Superintendent Martin Keller. "They enjoyed interacting and learning more about the senators personally that they worked for."

The students learned a lot and had a great time doing so.

"It was a fun and great experience for me," said Patrick Epperly. "I would like to go again soon as possible to meet some of the delegates, other government officials, and the governor. I would like to thank all the senators for a pleasant experience. I also want to thank Senator Miller for his nice gift," he said.

Jordan Simmons agreed. "I had fun and really enjoyed my experience at the Senate. We helped serve the members of the senate and watched them in action for 5 hours. We also got to meet and work with other young people from the state, their state senators, and those from different areas of the state. I got to learn and experience the role of the legislators and their influence in effecting positive change in the state."

"Going to Charleston to be an honorary page for the Senate was actually fun," said Annie Barnhart. "I think it was funny how we all were anxiously waiting for the page light on the side of the podium to finally pop up so we had a reason to move around. Afterwards, we were able to meet our sponsoring senators and was able to get pictures with them."

"I really enjoyed going to the senate and being an honorary page," said Logan Gray. "It was a new experience for me. Watching the senators debate with each other was my favorite part," he said. 🇺🇸



We Are The Future.



Superintendent Martin Keller and the student pages from WVSDB in Charleston, WV. Photo Credit: Martin Keller.

(See In the News on page 18)

(In the News from page 17)

WVSDB Consolidating School for the Deaf

Marla Pisciotto, *Times-New* Correspondent, January 21, 2016, http://www.times-news.com/news/local_news/wvsdb-consolidating-school-for-the-deaf/article_03007306-97b0-50b7-a1fd-a9a767e6e7b3.html

ROMNEY, WV—Floors are being repaired, rooms have been painted, and walls are being reconfigured to consolidate the West Virginia elementary and secondary school for the deaf.

"After holding many meetings with key school stakeholders and the administrators to discuss the feasibility ... we have determined that it would be both efficient and practical to proceed with this plan," said Martin Keller, superintendent of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind.

Keller said in a report sent to the school community that, beginning in the fall, preschool and elementary classes for deaf students will be relocated in what is currently the secondary school for the deaf building.

The preschool and elementary classrooms will be located on the first floor and in the basement; the secondary classrooms will be primarily located on the second floor.

Due to room configurations and regulations, Career and Technical Education classrooms will remain on the first floor in a separate wing of the building, which cannot be accessed by elementary students.

Keller said specialized services such as speech therapy, occupational therapy and physical therapy, as well as the school psychology office, will be located in the basement.

"By the end of this month, we will proceed with renovating and retrofitting

some of the existing classrooms in the secondary school building to better serve our preschool and elementary students' needs in preparation for the 2016-2017 school year," Keller said. "Our deaf student enrollment currently stands at 77, and the secondary school building can accommodate as many as 140 students, allowing room for future growth in student enrollment."

The work is part school's Comprehensive Education Facilities Plan, said Mark Gandolfi, the school's chief financial officer.

Keller said there are many advantages as to why the administration is proceeding with the consolidation plan, including significant financial savings in operations, staffing and maintenance, streamlined services, and creating a more inclusive learning environment.

"With the change, our younger deaf students will have more opportunities to observe and learn from older deaf student role models and it will also create opportunities to utilize student-to-student tutoring and shared reading experiences," Keller said.

During the 2016-17 school year, the elementary school for the deaf building will be used to accommodate Sign Language Proficiency Interview offices, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College classes and to expand the Center for Excellence in Learning and Teaching research center.

In addition, Keller said, "We are looking into the possibility of leasing some of the available classrooms to be used as office space by state government agencies as well as community business. The residential program for our elementary deaf and blind students will continue to occupy the elementary residential wing for the 2016-17 school year, which will not be accessed by the public."

A bill to make the schools eligible for state School Building Authority funding has been introduced during the current session of the West Virginia Legislature. In April 2015, Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin vetoed legislation that would give the schools that right.

Tomblin ordered a study of campus needs, which included Lynn Boyer, former WVSDB superintendent; state Superintendent of Schools Michael Martirano; Larry Malone, director of policy in the governor's office; and outside consultants.

Martirano said in the study, completed in July, that the schools were an integral component of statewide education.



In the meantime, the consolidation will continue with existing funds.

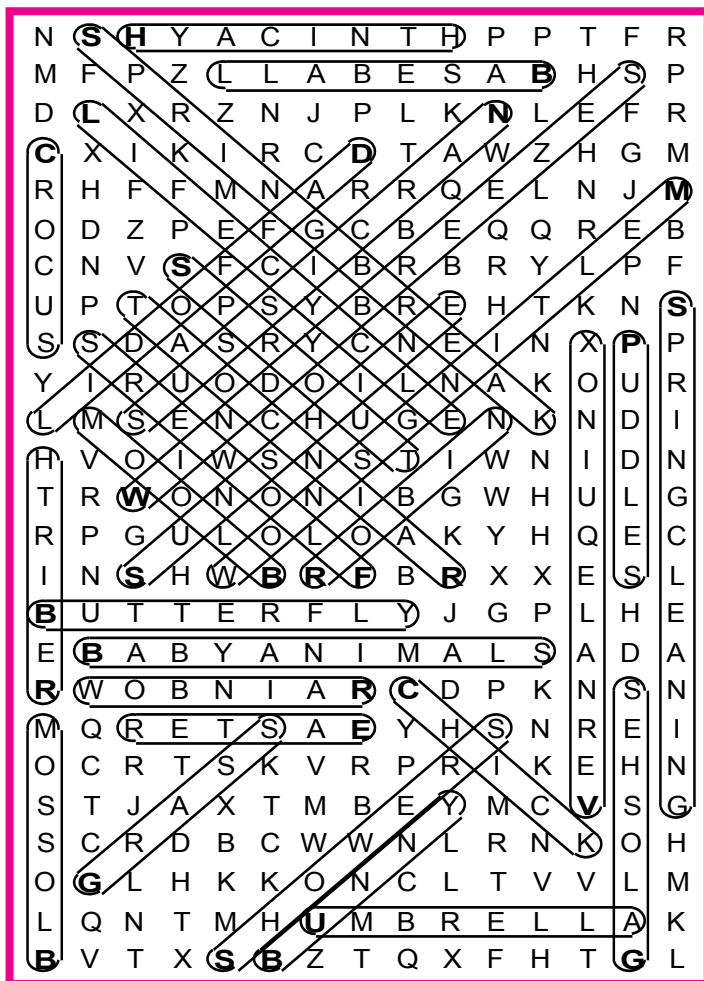
"We are truly excited about this plan and know it will pay off handsomely in the long run benefiting our deaf students' critical language, communication, cognitive, and social development," Keller said. 🐼



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	
	
<small>"News brought to you by the West Virginia Association of the Deaf organization."</small>	
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Vice-President:	Tamera Deem
Secretary:	Donna Williams
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Trustee:	Larry Hubbard
Trustee:	Jeffery Simmons



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Previous WVAD Quarter News



IS ONLINE



<http://www.wvad.org>

(Board Minutes from page 5)

Announcements:

- WV Deaf Grassroots Movement (WV DGM) — Larry Hubbard:
 - WV DGM have three (3) goals: communication access, education, and employment.
 - We have eight (8) leaders.
 - We will have a table at Deaf Awareness Day at the WV Capitol on March 8, 2016.
 - We will have a rally on May 4, 2016, on the WV Capitol grounds from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will be outside if it's a nice day or ground floor if it's raining.
 - We have a group page on Facebook.
- Eight (8) deaf students from WVSDS will be pages at WV Capitol during Deaf Awareness Day.
- Fall 2016 — WVSDS hopes to set up a National Honor Society.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m. 🐼





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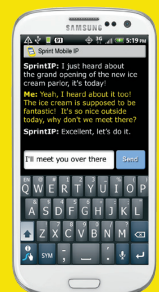
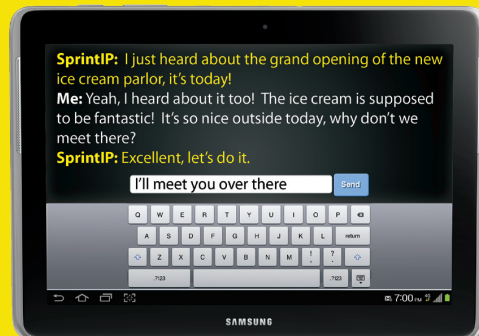
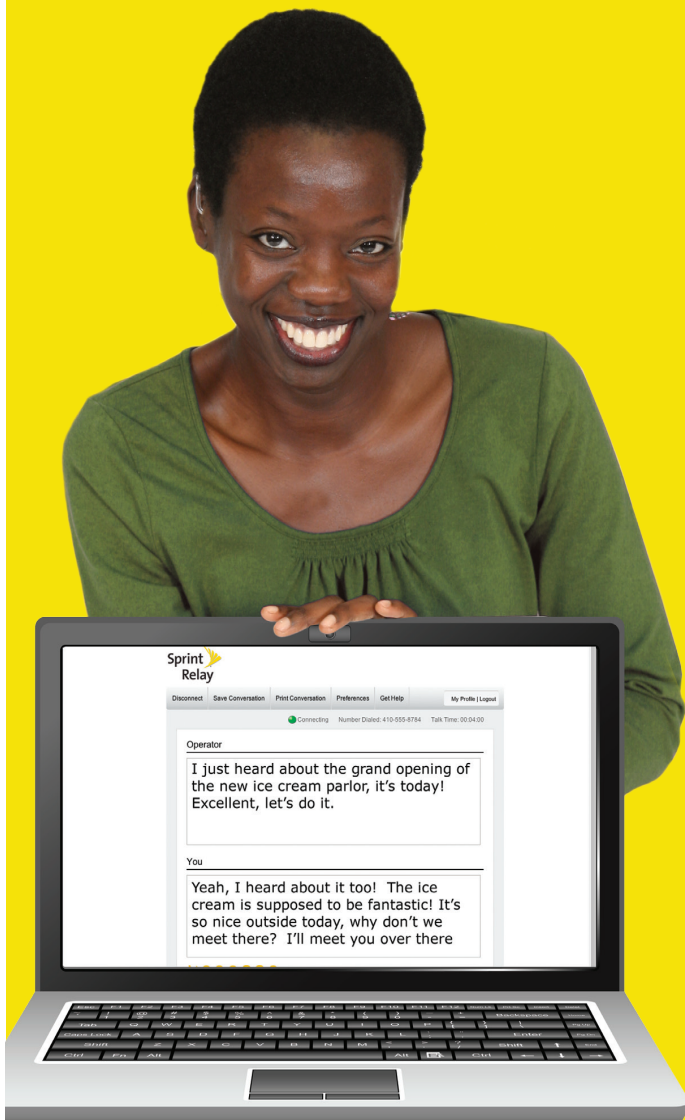


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BRAISED BALSAMIC CHICKEN

This chicken is good with either rice or pasta. Green beans or broccoli make a nice side dish.

6 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves	1 teaspoon garlic salt
Ground black pepper to taste	2 Tablespoons olive oil
1 onion, thinly sliced	1 (14.5 oz) can diced tomatoes
1/2 cup balsamic vinegar	1 teaspoon dried basil
1 teaspoon dried oregano	1 teaspoon dried rosemary
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme	



1. Season both sides of chicken breasts with garlic salt and pepper.
2. Heat olive oil in a skillet over medium heat; cook seasoned chicken breasts until chicken is browned, 3 to 4 minutes per side. Add onion; cook and stir until onion is browned, 3 to 4 minutes.
3. Pour diced tomatoes and balsamic vinegar over chicken; season with basil, oregano, rosemary and thyme. Simmer until chicken is no longer pink and the juices run clear, about 15 minutes. An instant-read thermometer inserted into the center should read at least 165 °F.



ROASTED GARLIC LEMON BROCCOLI

2 heads broccoli, separated into florets	2 teaspoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 teaspoon sea salt	1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
1 clove garlic, minced	1/2 teaspoon lemon juice



1. Preheat the oven to 400 °F.
2. In a large bowl, toss broccoli florets with the extra virgin olive oil, sea salt, pepper, and garlic. Spread the broccoli out in an even layer on a baking sheet.
3. Bake in the preheated oven until florets are tender enough to pierce the stems with a fork, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove and transfer to a serving platter. Squeeze lemon juice liberally over the broccoli before serving for a refreshing, tangy finish.



CAESAR SALAD SUPREME

6 cloves garlic, peeled	3/4 cup mayonnaise
5 anchovy fillets, minced	6 Tablespoons grated Parmesan cheese, divided
1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce	1 Tablespoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard	Ground black pepper to taste
Salt to taste	4 cups day-old bread, cubed
1/4 cup olive oil	
1 head romaine lettuce, torn into bite-size pieces	



1. Mince 3 cloves of garlic, and combine in a small bowl with mayonnaise, anchovies, 2 tablespoons of the Parmesan cheese, Worcestershire sauce, mustard, and lemon juice. Season to taste with salt and black pepper. Refrigerate until ready to use.
2. Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Cut the remaining 3 cloves of garlic into quarters and add to hot oil. Cook and stir until brown, and then remove garlic from pan. Add bread cubes to the hot oil. Cook, turning frequently, until lightly browned. Remove bread cubes from oil and season with salt and pepper.
3. Place lettuce in a large bowl. Toss with dressing, remaining Parmesan cheese, and seasoned bread cubes. A wonderful, rich anchovy dressing makes this salad a meal. Serve with crusty Italian bread.

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 Spouse's Name _____ ☐ New ☐ Renewal
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You

- ☐ Deaf
☐ Hard of Hearing
☐ Hearing
☐ Interpreter

Dues for You

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

Spouse

- ☐ Deaf
☐ Hard of Hearing
☐ Hearing
☐ Interpreter

Dues for Spouse

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

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

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION: \$ _____

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

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