

Volume 36, No. 2

Summer 2015

Kevin L. Myers, Jr. Graduates from Gallaudet University

by Donna M. Williams

West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) member Kevin Myers, Jr., oldest son of Kevin, Sr., and Opal (Miller) Myers, grew up in Spencer, WV, which is located in Roane County.

Kevin Jr. graduated from Roane County High School in 2008. He was accepted by Gallaudet University in Washington, DC, and enrolled in the summer of 2010 until he graduated on May 15, 2015. He is now a proud alumni of Gallaudet University. He majored in Government and minored in Information Technology. He hopes to find employment with a federal or state government agency or a government organization as a coordinator to advocate and promote ADA awareness and rights of Deaf and hard of hearing people.

On Friday, May 15, 2015, Donna Williams had the honor and pleasure of attending Kevin's graduation at Gallaudet University.

Kevin's parents, Kevin Sr. and Opal (Miller), graduated from the WV School for the Deaf and Blind (WVSDB) in 1979.



Kevin Myers, Jr., and Donna M. Williams, WVAD Secretary, at Kevin's Graduation, Gallaudet University in Washington, DC, May 15, 2015.

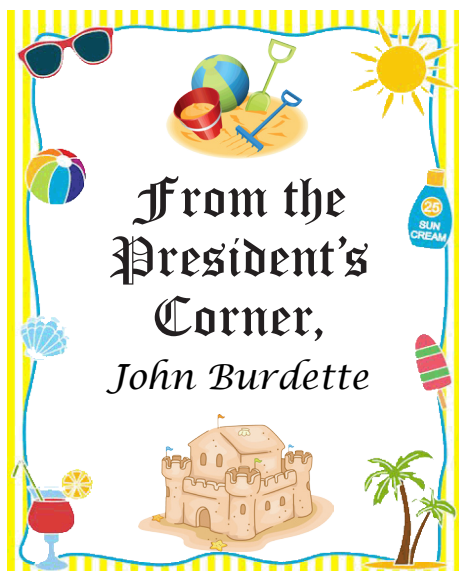
(See Kevin L. Myers, Jr.... on page 16)



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Greetings!

Summer will be here soon! I know many of you are pulling out your shorts and swimsuits! Some of the great ways to spend this summer are to go to the beach; swim at the river, lake, and/or pool; fishing; camping; and traveling.

This summer season is in full swing for WVAD. We are very excited and want to warmly welcome you to attend the 40th Biennial/100th Anniversary Conference at Snowshoe Mountain Resort on August 6-9, 2015, for the first time in WVAD history. The theme is "Celebrating a Century of Bridging the Gap Between WVAD and You." We have the conference flyer (page 7), registration combo form (page 9), and lodging information (page 11) ready. We hope you will come to our conference! Also, planned for the weekend will be game night, awards banquet, and entertainment. Please check the WVAD website (www.wvad.net) or WV Association of the Deaf page on FaceBook for more information and updates.



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

- A friendly reminder ... you can still register for the conference by July 15th (see page 9). Take an advantage and be sure to send in your combo at a cheaper rate today so you can come and enjoy an educational weekend, as well as a social weekend with old and new friends. Good news! WVAD is now accepting debit and credit cards for the conference combo, membership fees, etc. We're currently accepting Visa, MasterCard, and Discover.
- Earnest Covington III, new Executive Director with West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, has hired Rachel Torrence as the new Project Director/Staff Interpreter and Sarah Lowther as the new Secretary replacing Kari Preslar.
- West Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind has posted a job vacancy for the Superintendent position. Anyone who is interested in this job position can apply through this

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

link at https://wvde.state.wv.us/jobs/index.html?job_id=68046.

For those who have not paid for expired membership (see page 23 for form), please send the form and payment to our Membership Coordinator, Larry Hubbard. 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 Larry Hubbard.

In closing, WVAD will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary during the conference. If you have any history of/related to WVAD such as souvenir program books, pictures, etc., send them to Tami Deem (extraordinary45@comcast.net) or me at jwburdette90@gmail.com. We would love to share and celebrate with you our long and proud history at the conference!

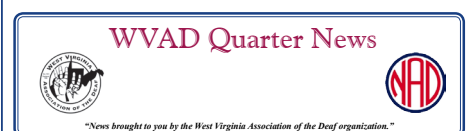
Have a safe summer and stay cool! Hope to see you at the WVAD Conference at Snowshoe Mountain Resort!

John Burdette

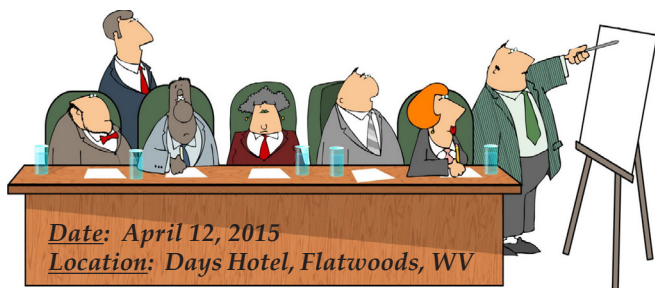
WVAD President

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*.



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



WVAD Board Minutes

WVAD Board Meeting Held at Days Hotel, Flatwoods, WV, April 12, 2015

West Virginia Association of the Deaf's Mission Statement:

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

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

Committee: Doug Evans, Chair of Advertisers and Sponsors for the 2015 WVAD Conference, and Robyn Evans, Chair of Exhibitors and Entertainment.

Visitors Present: Lois Devericks, Sally Hubbard, Tina Hamlin, Joey Major, and Erin Fulton.

The regular board meeting of WVAD was held at Days Hotel in Flatwoods, WV on Sunday, April 12, 2015. President John Burdette called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. with Secretary Donna Williams present.

The minutes of the meeting held October 1, 2014, was sent via e-mail. It was corrected and approved via video phone and e-mail. The minutes of the meeting was published in the Winter 2014 newsletter.

Treasurer Veronda Harrison's Financial Report:

As of April 10, 2015, total expenses October 1, 2014 to April 10, 2015 – \$8,178.58; checking account – \$3,348.21; savings account – \$4,063.95; Mingo County Fund – \$14,541.95; conference fund – \$2,221.46; 100th Anniversary fund – \$7,059.37; Deaf Youth Program – \$1,333.00; 2 Certificates of Deposits – \$12,003.63. Total balance in all accounts – \$44,571.57. A profit of \$1,651.80 was made from the 2014 Christmas party.

President John Burdette's Report:

- **Ramada Downtown Charleston:** After several correspondence with the Small Claims Court requesting more information, everything was sent again to Kanawha County Magistrate's Court with certified check for \$55.00 via certified mail on February 13, 2015. February 19, received Return Receipt for Certified Mail. February 24, received receipt and copies of documents from Kanawha County Magistrate Court. Hope to hear the results soon.
- **Snowshoe Mountain Resort for 2015 Biennial Conference:** Corresponded with Maureen McGee (sales representative at Snowshoe Mountain Resort) via e-mail several times regarding the contract for the biennial conference to be held August 6-9, 2015. On November 11, 2014, sent two e-mails to Maureen with countersigned copy of contract agreement and Veronda's countersigned copy on credit card authorization form. On November 11, received e-mail from Maureen with her countersigned copy of the contract for WVAD's records. On November 20, 2015, received an e-mail from Maureen attaching the Reservation Call-in Information Sheet.
- October 1, 2014, received an e-mail from Dr. Lynn Boyer, Superintendent of WVSD, announcing job posting for Principal of the School for the Deaf asking us to share.
- October 1, 2014, received an e-mail from Kim Bianco-Majeri, NAD Legislative Advocate, about Legislative Training in Richmond, VA on

November 15, 2014, inviting anyone from WVAD to attend. WVAD sent Secretary Donna Williams and Education Advocate April Hottle.

- October 3, 2014, received an e-mail from PCRID about WVAD's membership status. It had expired June 30, 2014. The renewal fee for organizational membership is \$75. \$75 was sent on April 2, 2015.
 - October 13, 2014, Tami Deem gave a presentation about WVAD at Pierpont Community & Technical College as part of their Deaf Awareness Week.
 - October 29, 2014, Tami Deem asked her son (Andrew) to set up a Jr. NAD e-mail account on WVAD's website. The e-mail address is jrnad@wvad.net. Secretary Donna Williams will check this e-mail frequently.
 - April Hottle, Education Advocate, pushed for WVAD to help re-create Jr. NAD in WV. Tami Deem worked with Allie Rice, Youth Coordinator at NAD, to get the Jr. NAD logo and information and created the flyer for WV Jr. NAD. Donna sent this flyer to Annette Carey, WVDE, asking her to share with teachers and interpreters of the Deaf and hard of hearing in the mainstreamed schools. She received two responses and responded back. But, no further communication. Donna also sent the flyer to Principal Patsy Shank at WVSD and communicated with the Principal and one faculty who was willing to be a Jr. NAD sponsor at WVSD. However, when they met with the middle and high school
- (See WVAD Minutes on page 4)

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- students, the students were not interested in Jr. NAD. Since none of the officers live close to Romney to personally meet with the students, Donna tried to find someone who lives in the Romney area and had been involved in Jr. NAD to meet with the students. But, those contacted were not involved in Jr. NAD during their years at WVSD. We would like to try again at the beginning of the next school year.
- November 13, 2014, sent e-mail to Toni Vaughan, April Hottle, and Donna Williams about an Empowered Workshop on Thursday, November 20 at WV Division of Rehabilitation Service in Charleston, WV. However, no one was able to attend.
 - December 10, 2014, received an e-mail from Ronald Nomeland, Membership Coordinator at NAD, reminding WVAD to pay the State Association dues. Forwarded this to Treasurer Veronda Harrison. The \$200 was sent on February 27, 2015.
 - December 12, 2014, sent e-mail to Board about Disability Advocacy Day at WV State Capitol on January 21, 2015, asking who can attend and help with the WVAD table. Donna responded saying she can.
 - January 2, 2015, received an e-mail from Secretary Donna Williams about Monongalia General Hospital in Morgantown, WV needing an interpreter for a surgical procedure on January 6. Donna made a few contacts but was unable to find anyone who was available. Learned that everything went well with VRI on an iPad.
 - January 13, 2015, sent an e-mail to Toni Vaughan asking her if she could attend the Fair Shake Legislative Training on January 20. But, she was not able to attend due to work. WVAD sent Secretary Donna Williams.
 - January 16, 2015, received an e-mail from DeafTax asking if WVAD had newsletter or e-mail list that they can buy an advertisement spot to put their advertisement during the upcoming tax season. Also, asked about putting an advertisement on WVAD's FaceBook group and page. Tami Deem responded with the information they needed and she never heard back from them.
 - January 21, 2015, received an e-mail from Secretary Donna Williams asking the Board to vote if want WVAD to work with WVCDHH on the Deaf Awareness Day at the WV State Capitol to be held February 25. This is the same day students from WVSD will be at the Capitol to sing/sign songs for legislature. All voted "yes" by e-mail.
 - January 27, 2015, received an e-mail from Toni Vaughan with an attachment about a conference WVDE and Marshall University will host at the Charleston Marriott Town Center March 24-25. Karen Anderson, Ph.D., Director of Supporting School Success for Children with Hearing Loss, will be giving the presentation. Teachers of the deaf and hard of hearing, educational audiologist, and other interested people are invited to attend.
 - January 29, 2015, received an e-mail from Tami Deem regarding the Web Hosting bill. The web host was changed to another host that was cheaper. There is no change in the appearance of the website.
 - January 30, 2015, received an e-mail from April Hottle, WV Education Advocate, requesting financial assistance to attend the Early Hearing Detection Intervention (EHDI) Conference March 8-10 in Louisville, KY. Board voted by e-mail to send her \$100.
 - February 18, 2015, received an e-mail from Chris Balduc, Student Support/Outreach Specialist with DeafVibe about traveling on National Tour to schools, agencies, clubs, programs, etc. He wanted to visit WV. Learned later that DeafVibe visited WVSD in Romney enroute to Pittsburgh, PA for DeafNation.
 - February 19, 2015, received Facebook message from Ruby Losh asking if WVAD would like to put an ad in the WVDBA program book. Board voted by e-mail to send the "birthday cake" flyer.
 - February 24, 2015, received an e-mail from Jim McCauley, Parents and Friends of the Hearing Impaired, Inc., in Marietta, OH. They are supported by United Way and serve eight counties in the Mid-Ohio Valley of WV providing financial

Previous WVAD Quarter News



IS ONLINE



<http://www.wvad.net>

assistance for hearing aids and support to parents of deaf and hard of hearing children. They would like to be added to the WVAD website as a resource. Donna has the brochures. Gave Tami the brochure. She scanned and sent the PDF file to Andrew to put on [WVAD.net](http://www.wvad.net) website under Links tab.

- February 26, 2015, received an e-mail from Steve Lovi, Region 1 NAD Board member, sharing the updated SAAC Toolkit with additional Educational Advocate Handbook. Shared this with the other Board members.
- March 17, 2015, received an e-mail from Tawny Holmes, NAD's Education Advocate, sharing information about the Cogswell Act and the Sullivan Act that NAD is working with CEASD to amend IDEA to include children in education who are deaf-blind. Forwarded this to the other Board members.
- April 6, 2015, received an e-mail from Linda Perilstein, Executive Director of Cradle of Hope Adoption Center, asking WVAD to share their information on our listserv or Facebook that they are looking for a home for a three (3) year old deaf boy named Junius. Married couples and single women aged 30-55 are eligible to adopt Junius. This was posted on Facebook in the WVAD group and page.

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(WVAD Minutes from page 4)

- April 9, 2015, received an e-mail from April Hottle, WV Education Advocate, asking WVAD and WVCDHH to support using the National Early Childhood Assessment Project (NECAP) to test and evaluate deaf and hard of hearing children. Responded April 10 sharing again the telephone conversation with Allison Sedey, Coordinator of NECAP, that WVDE is not interested in this. Also, reiterated that WVCDHH cannot get involved with education. Suggested she ask WV Hands & Voices to support this. Asked Secretary Donna Williams to follow up on this with Annette Carey at WVDE and Tawny Holmes at NAD.
- National Leadership Training Conference is this fall in Birmingham, Alabama.

Vice-President Jimmy Harrison's Report: None.

Secretary Donna Williams' Report:

- In October after the last Board meeting, sent an e-mail to Ann Meadow at Statewide Independent Living Council asking about the SILC Summit for 2014. She responded saying they are not having one this year.
- Helped President John Burdette complete the Timeline for the Small Claims Court, summarized it, complete questions he received from the Kanawha County Court, etc.
- January 2, 2015, met with Tawny Holmes, deaf lawyer specializing in Education Advocacy for deaf and hard of hearing children, at the NAD Office regarding the duties of the Education Advocate and the Deaf Child Bill of Rights (DCBR). Tawny informed me that NAD is revising the model Deaf Child Bill of Rights and she suggested WV wait until that model is complete before presenting to WV Legislators. Had conversation with most of the Board members and all want to wait until NAD's model is finished and use that one. Board members feels using NAD's model would be stronger.
- November 21, 2014, attended the WVCDHH Board meeting in Clarksburg. The minutes are on the WVCDHH website now.

- January 13, 2015, substituted for John on the Region 1 video conference. This was a wonderful experience learning what other states in Region 1 are doing.
- January 20, attended the FairShake Legislation Workshop—article about this was published in Spring 2015 newsletter.
- January 21, attended the FairShake Disability Advocacy Day at the Capitol—article about this was also published in Spring 2015 newsletter. Thanks to Larry Hubbard for attending and helping at the WVAD table.
- From January 21 until February 13, worked on the Deaf Awareness Day with Earnest Covington, Kari Preslar, John Burdette, and Paul See. Plans were almost finalized with 14 exhibitors when the Coordinator at the Capitol called Kari to apologize for scheduling conflict. They tried hard to find another space but at that late date, no other place was available. Learned that the Legislator from Romney is the person who schedules the children from WVSDDB to perform at the Capitol. We will start planning again for Legislative Session 2016 as soon as we know when the WVSDDB children will perform at the Capitol.
- March 20, attended the WVCDHH Board meeting in Bridgeport. Worked with Board chair, Paul See, to prepare a summary. This was sent to the WVAD Board members and other interested people.
- Was contacted by several school interpreters regarding a few deaf and hard of hearing children being placed in classes with mentally challenged children and not being taught. Heard about another child in Parkersburg and am trying to find out more about that situation. Will contact Tawny Holmes at NAD to ask for advice.
- March 17, received an e-mail from Tawny Holmes at NAD asking WVAD and others to send letter to Rep. David McKinley of West Virginia asking him to support the amendment to the Alice Cogswell Act to include deaf-blind. Toni (Hall) Vaughan, WVAD Legislative Advocate, drafted a letter and sent it to him. I will send this letter to all Board members to send to Rep. David McKinley.

- Liz Leisure and I represent WVAD on the Interpreter Task Force. This is a task force with the WVCDHH. After several cancellations, we finally had a meeting with the new Executive Director, Earnest Covington, on Friday, February 13, in Charleston. Earnest wants to create a handbook on 8 1/2" x 11" paper for agencies and deaf that could be used as a reference book. He also wants to amend the Interpreter Law to add consequence if someone interprets and is not on the Interpreter Registry. Other goals Earnest have are to get the WVRID Chapter established, provide a 'retreat' for interpreters, create an interpreter complaint form, change the process for applying to be on the Interpreter Registry to make it easier, train deaf people to teach ASL in K-12 grades, etc. The task force members agreed with these. Earnest also wants to establish another Interpreter Training Program in the Charleston area, perhaps at Bridge Valley Community & Technical College—formerly Kanawha Valley Community & Technical College. Another meeting was held Friday, April 3, but Liz and I were not able to attend. However, we learned that the task force members created six (6) districts and want one interpreter from each district to represent the other interpreters in that district and send the concerns to Earnest. Earnest will then share with the task force members. Other topics discussed were changes to the interpreter law to be proposed at the next legislative session; how the Commission will monitor those interpreters not on the Registry and listing the interpreters in the Registry by district. The Interpreter retreat has tentatively been set for July 31-August 2. The next meeting will be Monday, May 18th.
- On April 11, someone informed me the lawyer handling a lawsuit will not provide an interpreter for her at the mediation meeting in May. They did provide an interpreter for the disposition. She asked for WVAD's assistance. Will contact the lawyer's office informing him about the ADA and provide a list of

(See WVAD Minutes on page 6)

(WVAD Minutes from page 5)

interpreters listed on the WVCDHH Registry.

Editor Tami Deem's Report: Deadline for next newsletter is May 20-25, 2015.

Trustee Worthy Devericks' Report: Would like to have the number of raffles sold in the Treasurer's report.

Membership Chairperson Larry Hubbard's Report: Currently have 172 members. Need to find ways to encourage youth and young people to join.

Break for lunch was taken at 12:20 p.m. Meeting was resumed at 1:45 p.m.

Education Advocate April Hottle's Report:

- Attended the CAD New Year Celebration and met the new WVCDHH Commissioner, Earnest Covington.
- Continue to research the topic of language assessment for young deaf and hard of hearing children and share information on the National Early Childhood Assessment Project done by Colorado.
- Continue to review VL2 (Visual Language and Visual Learning) information from the Clerc Center at Gallaudet from a May 2014 Webinar by Dr. Laura-Ann Petitto. Dr. Petitto's research confirms that ASL does not interfere with oral language development.
- Attended the Early Hearing Detection Intervention (EHDI) Conference in Louisville, KY March 8-10, 2015. West Virginia Association of the Deaf and West Virginia Early Childhood Training Connections and Resources gave financial donations of \$100 and \$200, respectively, to support the trip. Also WV Hands & Voices gave support by inviting me to share their hotel room. These supports were greatly appreciated. Attended workshops on Supporting Families Without Bias: An H&V Panel Discussion by Janet DesGeorges; Effective Communication in Educational Settings for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children by Barbara Raimondo; Supporting Parents: Education Advocacy by Tawny Holmes; Benefits of a Deaf/Hearing Team On A Child's

Developmental Journey by Claire Miller, Nancy Vincent, etc.

The deaf attendees at the conference made it clear that they hope more deaf members will be present for the 2016 EHDI Conference in San Diego, CA. I hope WVAD will consider EHDI 2016 as an opportunity to gain insights, build partnerships, and support the deaf community.

- Continue to promote high expectations and excellence for deaf students at Capital High School as an educational interpreter for Kanawha County.
- Contacted the Office of Rep. David McKinley of WV per request from Tawny Holmes (NAD) and requested his sponsorship of the Alice Cogswell Act.

Legislative Advocate Antonia Vaughan's Report:

- Kept the Board informed about the bill regarding WVSDb.
- Is still waiting for the model Deaf Child Bill of Rights from NAD so to start approaching legislators.

Old Business:

- Small claims has been completed and waiting for a response.
- WVAD newsletters to libraries is being sent to all main libraries. Veronda asked Board members to check the main library when we live.
- Jr. NAD—John asked Secretary Donna Williams to follow-up with Allie Rice, Youth Director at NAD, for the result of her e-mail to Dr. Patsy Shank at WVSDb. Also, inquire about Jr. NAD in the mainstreamed programs at other states.

Donna moved to close old business. Passed.

New Business:

2015 WVAD Conference Chairperson Jimmy Harrison announced the following chairs:

- Doug Evans—Advertisement and sponsors with John Burdette.
- Robyn Evans—Exhibitors and entertainment.
- Awards—Liz Leisure.
- Program Book, Name Tag, etc.—Tami Deem.

- Souvenirs—Tami Deem and Veronda Harrison
- Slide Show—Tami Deem and John Burdette.
- Banquet—Board members.
- Polo Shirts for Board Members—Larry Hubbard.
- Cookbook—Tami Deem and Veronda Harrison (deadline July 1). Still need chairperson for:
- Workshops.
- Interpreter workshop.
- By-Laws.
- Interpreters.

Break was taken at 4:00 p.m. and resumed at 4:15 p.m.

New Business continued:

- Jimmy moved to have a silent basket auction at the WVAD conference. Passed.
- John moved to give a one-time free admission to youth and young adult to WVAD events, both at WVSD and mainstreamed. Passed.
- Jimmy moved WVAD order caps with WVAD logo. Larry amended to add bucket hats. Both motions passed.
- Tami moved to make CDs of pictures for souvenir. Passed.
- Larry moved to give pen, pad, lanyard, and tote bag at the conference. Passed.
- Jimmy moved to host WVAD Christmas party at VFW in Clarksburg first or second Saturday of December. Passed.
- Veronda moved WVAD charge for bad checks. (Tabled.)
- Larry moved WVAD pay mileage for today. Passed.

Next WVAD Board meeting will be at Snowshoe Thursday evening, August 6, after dinner.

Tami moved to close new business. Passed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. 🐼





"CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF
BRIDGING THE GAP
BETWEEN WVAD AND YOU"



West Virginia Association of the Deaf
40th Biennial Conference
August 6-9, 2015

SNOWSHOE RESORT
10 Snowshoe Drive, Snowshoe, WV 26209





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



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

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CONFERENCE:

Registration Rates:

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

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

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

Chairperson: Jimmy Harrison, JHarrison5@aol.com

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

Advertising Chairperson: Douglas Evans, douglasevans64@gmail.com

Exhibition Chairperson: Robyn Evans, robynevans727@gmail.com

Desktop Publishing Coordinator/Editor: Tamera Deem, extraordinary45@comcast.net

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

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Snowshoe Mountain Resort
10 Snowshoe Drive
Snowshoe, WV 26209

For Reservations:

Telephone No.: 877-441-4386

Group Code: **5124YH**

* (Group Code Only Applies to Allegheny Springs Lodge; Cut Off Date is 7/6/2015)

- Prices VARIES for different lodging unit types. All rooms are village lodges; some are townhouses where more people can room together and split costs.
- FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LODGING, see page 4 or see <http://www.snowshoemtn.com/plan-your-trip/lodging/lodging-landing.aspx>.

NOTE: Please be aware there is limited cell phone service in many areas surrounding the resort. Cellular service is AT&T. WiFi is available in all rooms, conference rooms, lobby, most restaurants, etc.

INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

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

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

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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

E mail: _____

Or complete the credit card information below:

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Card

Name on Credit Card: _____

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

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

AT DOOR RATES

MEMBER, NON-MEMBER, OR STUDENT	REGISTRATION (WORKSHOP, EXHIBIT, AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY)	FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIAL	SATURDAY NIGHT AWARDS, BANQUET, AND ENTERTAINMENT	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$45.00	\$105.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60.00	\$140.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	\$115.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student*	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE	—	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	\$40.00

MEMBER, NON-MEMBER, OR STUDENT	REGISTRATION ONLY	SATURDAY NIGHT — ENTERTAINMENT ONLY (DOES NOT INCLUDE BANQUET)	TOTAL
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student*	<input type="checkbox"/> FREE	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00

EARLY BIRD COMBO

MEMBER, NON-MEMBER, OR STUDENT	<input type="checkbox"/> 1ST COMBO (1/1/14 – 12/31/14)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2ND COMBO (1/1/15 – 4/30/15)	<input type="checkbox"/> 3RD COMBO (5/1/15 – 7/15/15)	<input type="checkbox"/> AT DOOR (7/16/15 – 8/6/15)
<input type="checkbox"/> Member	\$95.00	\$105.00	\$115.00	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$85.00	\$95.00	\$95.00	\$105.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member	\$100.00	\$110.00	\$130.00	\$140.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member (Senior Citizen Age 55+)	\$95.00	\$105.00	\$115.00	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student*	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$40.00

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

DIRECTIONS TO SNOWSHOE RESORT, WV

Martinsburg, WV (180 miles — 3 hours, 45 minutes)

Morgantown, WV (142 miles — 2 hours, 45 minutes)

Parkersburg, WV (185 miles — 3 hours, 30 minutes)

Huntington, WV (200 miles — 4 hours)

Baltimore, MD (260 miles — 5 hours)

Pittsburgh, PA (215 miles — 3 hours, 45 minutes)

Romney, WV (120 miles — 2 hours, 45 minutes)

Clarksburg, WV (110 miles — 2 hours, 30 minutes)

Charleston, WV (150 miles — 3 hours, 15 minutes)

Beckley, WV (120 miles — 2 hours, 30 minutes)

Youngstown, OH (275 miles — 4 hours, 45 minutes)

Altoona, PA (200 miles — 4 hours, 15 minutes)

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

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

Mountaintop Check-In: 38.4018 North - 79.9936 West

Village Center: 38.4119 North - 79.9963 West

Silver Creek: 38.4405 North - 79.9893 West

Inn at Snowshoe: 38.4159 North - 80.0366 West

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

Please always double check your directions with a reliable map.

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



LODGING INFORMATION FOR SNOWSHOE RESORT, WV

ALLEGHENY SPRINGS LODGING — CHECK IN: 5:00 P.M. / CHECK OUT: 11:00 A.M.

Standard Room (\$95.00/night): Sleeps 2-4. 2 queen beds, has coffee pot in unit.

Junior Studio (\$100.00/night): Sleeps 2-4. Standard room with a small sitting area, kitchenette, and gas fireplace. The bedding in these units will vary and includes at least 1 sleeper sofa. The kitchenette consists of a microwave, small sink, small refrigerator, and 2 burners on the countertop. Some units have a balcony, check with your reservation agent.

Studio Deluxe (\$109.00/night): Sleeps 2-4. Standard room with a full kitchen, gas fireplace, balcony, and a living area with a queen bed and sleeper sofa. Some units have balconies; you will need to check with your reservation agent.

1 Bedroom (\$127.00/night): Sleeps 2-4. Units have a full kitchen, living area with sleeper sofa, a separate bedroom, gas fireplace, and balcony.

1 Bedroom Plus (\$172.00/night): Sleeps 2-6. Units have a full kitchen, living area with a sleeper sofa, 1 separate bedroom with 2 queen beds or 1 queen bed and 1 sleeper sofa in it, dining area, gas fireplace, and balcony.

1 Bedroom Den Plus (\$172.00/night): Sleeps 2-8. Units have a full kitchen, living area with a sleeper sofa, 1 separate bedroom with 2 queen beds or 1 queen and 1 sleeper sofa in the bedroom, a den area with sleeper sofa, a dining area, gas fireplace, and balcony. (The den area may not be fully enclosed.)

2 Bedrooms (\$190.00/night): Sleeps 4-6. Units have a full kitchen, living area with a sleeper sofa, 2 separate bedrooms with a queen bed, dining area, 2 bathrooms, gas fireplace, and balcony.

2 Bedrooms Den (\$199.00/night): Sleeps 4-8. These units have a full kitchen, living area with a sleeper sofa, 2 separate bedrooms, a den area with sleeper sofa, dining area, 2 bathrooms, gas fireplace, and balcony.

2 Bedrooms Plus (\$199.00/night): Sleeps 4-8. These units have a full kitchen, living area with a sleeper sofa, 2 separate bedrooms with 2 queen beds in one of the bedrooms, dining area, 2 bathrooms, gas fireplace, balcony.

TO RESERVE:

Reservation Telephone No.: 877-441-4386

Times to Call to Reserve: Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Group Code: 5124YH (Only Applies to Allegheny Springs Lodge; Cut Off Date is 7/6/2015)

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- First night deposit is required at time of reservation.**
- The more people you share the room with, the cheaper it cost because you can all split the cost of the room.
- DO NOT reserve on line. Reservations must be called in so that you can get the group rate. If you have any other questions regarding the rooms, please ask the reservation agent when reserving your room. If you want balcony or queen-sized bed, must request. Snowshoe cannot guarantee all requests but can honor them based on availability.
- The conference and all WVAD events will be held in various rooms next door to the hotel (Mountain Lodge). There are very nice lobbies with a large TV in both Allegheny Springs Lodge and Mountain Lodge.
- WiFi is available in all rooms, conference rooms, lobby, most restaurants, etc. However, it's not available outside. Must set the cell phone for the local WiFi. iPhone seems to work better than Android. Cellular service is AT&T.
- There is a little store, Subway restaurant, and a hotel (Inn at Snowshoe) at the bottom of Snowshoe Resort (6 miles) where you can buy food for the kitchen, eat out, and/or get lodging there if you want. You can also bring food from home for the kitchen. There are restaurants at the resort if you want to eat out.
- FUN PASSES:** Individuals lodging through the Snowshoe Rental Program will receive fun passes during their stay at Snowshoe. Fun passes activities include the following: eurobungy and climbing wall, Split Rock pools (indoor and outdoor – handicapped accessible), lake activities (canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, and fishing poles), scenic lift ride, and free bag of range balls for the Raven golf club. A fun pass is awarded for each person staying in the room. The fun pass is good for your entire stay at Snowshoe Resort.



DELLA LEE CORNS

Mrs. Della Lee Corns, 79, of Charleston, went home to be with the Lord on March 14, 2015, at Hubbard Hospice House West.

Mrs. Corns was a homemaker and a Christian. She was a former employee of Charleston Newspapers and Deaf, Inc. She was preceded in death by her husband, William Corns, Jr.; parents, Virgil and Hazel McCormick; and grandson, Joshua Scott Corns.

Della is survived by her children, Lorna Corns-Workman, Molly and husband, Benjamin Summers, and William and wife, Angela Corns; three grandchildren, Matthew Summers, Andrew Corns, and Candace Corns; and nine great-grandchildren.

The family would like to say a special thank you to Pastor David Clark, Dr. Robie and staff, Dr. Harper, Christine with Amedysis, and the nursing staff of Hubbard Hospice House West.

A tribute to the life of Mrs. Della Lee Corns was at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 18, 2015, at Gatens-Harding Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor David Clark officiating. Burial followed at Tyler Mountain Memory Gardens.

The family received friends from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Hubbard Hospice House West, 4605 MacCorkle Ave. SW, South Charleston, WV 25309.

Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.hardingfamilygroup.com. Gatens-Harding Funeral Home, 147 Main St., Poca, served the Corns family. 🌿

"In Memory of Loved Ones"



ROY "DAVY" BOLEN, JR.

Heaven has called away another angel. Roy "Davy" Bolen, Jr., 45, passed away on Wednesday, April 22, 2015, surrounded by his family and friends.

Davy was a graduate of the West Virginia School for the Deaf, Class of 1989. Davy loved fishing and NASCAR racing, and spent his time swimming and building model cars. He will be deeply missed, but always in our hearts.

Davy was preceded in death by his grandmother, Betty Lou Cook, and his grandparents, Betty and Jack Bolen. He is survived by his mother and father, Roy and Joyce Bolen; sister, Staci Prater and her husband, Jeffrey; niece, Makinzie Prater; stepchildren, Shawn and Rebecca Gilbert; and his aunt and nephew, Carol and Jason Thompson.

Visitation was held at Blue Ridge Funeral Home on Saturday, April 25, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. with funeral services beginning at 2:00 p.m. Entombment services followed at Blue Ridge Memorial Gardens.

Online condolences and other information can be found by visiting www.blueridgefuneralhome.com.

Blue Ridge Funeral Home, 5251 Robert C. Byrd Drive, Beckley, assisted the family. 🌿



PAULINE FULTZ

Pauline Fultz, 87, of Romney, WV, passed away on Tuesday, May 19, 2015, at Hampshire Center, Romney, WV.

Born on December 19, 1927 in Hampshire Co., she was the daughter of the late Benjamin T. Fultz and Agnes G. King.

Along with her parents, she was preceded in death by a sister and 4 brothers.

She is survived by a sister, Helen C. Alexander of Los Angeles, CA, and two sister-in-laws: Vi Cupp of Romney, WV and Pearl Fultz of Martinsburg, WV.

She had been a child care worker for the WV School for the Deaf & Blind, Romney, WV, and was a member of Little Capon Baptist Church.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, May 23, 2015, at 11:00 a.m. at Little Capon Baptist Church with Pastor Tony Baker officiating. Interment was in Ebenezer Cemetery, Romney, WV.

The family received friends on Friday, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the McKee Funeral Home, Augusta, WV.

All arrangements were handled by McKee Funeral Home, Augusta, WV. 🌿
(See Obituaries on page 16)



In the News



Citing Larger Problems, Tomblin Vetoes Funds for Schools for Deaf and Blind

By Ryan Quinn, Staff Writer, *The Charleston Gazette* (<http://www.wvgazette.com/article/20150405/GZ01/150409653>), Posted: Sunday, April 5, 2015

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin vetoed a bill last week — passed nearly unanimously by both houses of the Legislature — that would have made the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind eligible for more money to fix extensive issues with its facilities.

The Governor's veto of House Bill 2160 follows his [line-item veto](#) of \$1.5 million in one-time funding for the schools from a widely supported appropriations bill. Architects have said the schools need more than \$82 million worth of work.

"Vetoing the line item out of the first one, it was a slap in the face," said Delegate Ruth Rowan, R-Hampshire and lead sponsor of [2160](#). "The second one was two slaps in the face . . . It's unbelievable."

Rowan, whose grandson attends the schools, said the appropriations money would have helped start a project to renovate a campus building for middle and high school deaf students to allow elementary deaf students to move into the same facility — allowing for shared utilities and technology.

HB2160 would have allowed the schools to apply for grants under the state School Building Authority's "needs" fund. Currently, the Romney schools are allowed to apply for funds only from the SBA's "major improvement program." SBA Executive Director David Sneed said the "needs" fund is about 10 times larger than the fund the schools are limited to.

The major improvement fund usually gives out about \$5 million a year to education agencies that serve multiple counties — like the schools, which Rowan said provide services for more than 700 students across the state, including more than 100 who live on the Romney campus. However, legislators recently reduced that amount to \$3 million, and Sneed said the SBA [might now wait until 2017](#) to give out major improvement grants again.

The needs fund provides money to the state's 55 county school districts, but

the Schools for the Deaf and the Blind aren't part of the district in Hampshire County, where they're located. Instead, they're overseen directly by the state school board.

Sneed has said counties request \$150 million to \$200 million in project funding each year from the SBA — well above the amount available even without cuts. Tomblin wrote in his veto message that HB2160 could further limit funds for the 55 school districts.

"This bill is also problematic because we do not yet have a firm understanding of what the Schools for the Deaf and Blind's needs are, to become financially viable well into the future," Tomblin wrote. "Accordingly, I have asked the State Board of Education — which controls, supervises, and manages the schools — to commission an independent, objective assessment of their needs, both facilities and curriculum-related.

"Outside experts should also analyze the Schools' continuing viability. Without such assessment, there is the potential the state could spend limited resources unwisely."

However, state school board member Bill White said the schools already have been "studied to death," pointing to "internal" reports.

"It's not like we were shooting in the dark," White said, "and I think those studies that have been made already weren't given a fair chance by the Governor's Office."

He said the veto "blindsided" him, adding that the treatment of the schools — where yellow tape prevents students from entering some unsafe campus buildings — amounts to an unconstitutionally unequal treatment of the students there, compared to other West Virginia children.

"The deaf and the blind, people don't see them, and so they are invisible," White said, "and the Governor has made them even more invisible, and that annoys me."

White said Tomblin would argue that past studies weren't independent. Tomblin spokesman Chris Stadelman said, to his understanding, they weren't.

"We appreciate their mission," Stadelman said, "but they have to have a long-term plan for sustainability."

Scott Raines, the SBA's architectural services director, echoed the Governor's wish for more information.

Raines said he'd like to see a comprehensive feasibility study that examines whether the schools are offering the best instruction for students before the SBA grants more money.

He said he doesn't want to put a "Band-Aid on a broken leg" by only addressing a piece of a much larger problem, or funding the repair of buildings that might later be emptied as plans change. He said the buildings are in "horrible shape," citing an abandoned structure where he's heard one can push a screwdriver, by hand, through the mortar on the outside of the wall into the building itself.

In a statement, state school board staff members said they've been aware of Tomblin's concerns about the schools. They said they recently were made aware of the "scope of his request and the method to carry it out via the veto language."

School board attorney Mary Catherine Funk said Friday that she'd only seen the veto message Thursday night and would analyze it in the next few days.

She said staff members will look at any historical studies, including one that concluded the schools should remain in Romney, where they've been since 1870. Board staff will meet with the representatives for the deaf and blind schools and the Governor, to see what steps should be taken next.

The state school board voted in October 2013 to keep the deaf and blind schools in Romney, following a report by ZMM Architects & Engineers ([See In the News on page 14](#))

(In the News from page 13)

that concluded it would cost nearly \$100 million to move the schools elsewhere. ZMM developed the master plan for the campus.

Last April, the schools requested more than \$7 million from the needs fund, but the SBA didn't award it. Funk said that, after that point, there was some kind of legal review that concluded the schools weren't even eligible for funding from the needs fund.

Raines also said at the time that the campus was in "deplorable, deplorable condition," but he argued that the

requested funding would solve only a "small portion of the overall needs of the facility."

In December 2014, the schools asked for about \$466,000 from the major improvement fund, to install a new roof and the heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning system in a 42-year-old building. The SBA staff recommended giving funds to other entities, and the SBA board agreed to give the schools nothing. The schools had received SBA major improvement funding in the past.

Raines noted that he's not part of the SBA board that ultimately decides

whether to give money or not, but he said staff members won't recommend funding until they can believe they're "doing something that furthers the needs that are there."

"It's really a difficult situation up there," he said. "You feel for the kids up there, and you feel that something has to be done at this facility, but there has to be something put together that says here's what needs to take place."

Reach Ryan Quinn at ryan.quinn@wvgazette.com, 304-348-1254, or follow @RyanEQuinn on Twitter. 🐦



EDITORIAL: WVSDB Vetoes Were Misguided

By Review Staff, The Hampshire Review (http://www.hampshirereview.com/news/article_bd44c938-dd60-11e4-b328-d3b5b0d14fc8.html), Posted Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 9:00 a.m.; Updated: Wednesday, May 20, 2015, 9:56 a.m.

Governor Tomblin, you're wrong.

The bills you killed that could help rebuild the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and the Blind aren't budget-busting, aren't fiscally irresponsible, and aren't premature, as your veto messages suggested.

The vetoes were, on the other hand, politically callous. Your spokesman told us in December that you didn't have any plans for a study that would delay funding for the schools, even though you weren't including any extra funds for the school in your budget. So what did you do after the Legislature overwhelmingly approved funds? After the session adjourned, at nearly the last possible moment, you ordered a study of the school's needs as part of your veto of a bill that would make WVSDB eligible for School Building Authority funds.

What are we supposed to make of that?

"Enough of the studies," State Senator Craig Blair said in December. We know what needs to be done."

He was right then and you are wrong now.

Your veto message calls for the State Board of Education to appoint an independent commission to study the school's curriculum and facilities needs.

You contend: "We do not yet have a firm understanding of what the Schools for the Deaf and Blind's needs are to become financially viable well into the future."

Mr. Governor, educating deaf and blind children is not a service this state provides with an expectation that it will someday pay for itself. What were you thinking?

The schools already have an independent advisory board to guide their efforts. WVSDB has been overhauling curriculum and its approach to educating deaf and blind children, requiring staff to learn Braille or American Sign Language and laying plans for round-the-clock life skills instruction for students living on campus.

The State Board has been working on improving the schools for a solid 5 years. Last year the board—comprised of your appointees—declared that the schools need to be in Romney, a community that has embraced and supported them throughout their 145 years of existence.

There's no doubt the state has a need for schools for the deaf and the blind unless you're looking to ignore a nationwide standard and the dearth of qualified teachers in the state. There is plenty of evidence that the major

impediment to improving the school lays in its outdated and neglected facilities.

The Legislature showed its willingness to acknowledge its responsibility. Otherwise the SBA bill and another directing \$1.5 million in surplus funds to WVSDB wouldn't have passed so overwhelmingly. In case you missed it Governor, the vote on the surplus funds was 98-1 in the House of Delegates and unanimous in the State Senate. The vote on SBA funding was 95-0 and 34-0.

Unfortunately, you can't undo what you just did, but you can move quickly to correct your error.

Come to Romney and visit these schools now that you're not in the heat of a campaign. Your only 2 stops here before were 2 weeks before the May 2011 special election primary and again 2 weeks before the November 2012 election.

Make sure you have the facts. As late as this February, your SBA Director Dave Sneed was citing renovation plans that were 2 years out of date. This isn't a \$100 million makeover. This is a well-grounded, financially prudent plan with widespread support and undeniable need.

Then, Governor Tomblin, please find a way to get money quickly to WVSDB to begin these overdue renovations.

More dawdling only ignores the deterioration, damages the schools, and, by extension, the special, fragile kids they serve. 🐦

(See In the News on page 15)



(In the News from page 14)

Schools for Deaf and Blind Struggling for Funding Solutions after Gubernatorial Vetoes

By Ashton Marra, WV Public Broadcasting (<http://wvpublic.org/post/schools-deaf-and-blind-struggling-funding-solutions-after-gubernatorial-vetoes>), May 11, 2015

Lawmakers from the Eastern Panhandle tried two separate times to aid the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind during the 2015 legislative session. The schools are struggling to maintain their buildings, some of which are more than 100 years, and looked to the Legislature this year to begin to help them meet their facilities goals.

Those goals, contained in the schools' 10 year Comprehensive Education Facilities Plan, including closing and demolishing some buildings on campus to create a "stronger sense of community," according to Superintendent Dr. Lynn Boyer.

The plan includes updated housing for residential students, increased building security, and the installation of fire and sprinkler systems suitable for deaf and hearing impaired and blind and visually impaired students and teachers. The plan, however, comes with a \$42 million price tag.

Boyer and lawmakers attempted to jump start the process of obtaining

funds with two pieces of legislation. The first, a supplemental appropriation, would have granted the schools one time dollars totaling \$1.5 million.

"We had suggested that that amount of money would be useful to begin the consolidation of the secondary and elementary buildings for the deaf," Boyer said.

The second bill would have made the schools eligible for West Virginia School Building Authority dollars. That does not guarantee any funds, Boyer said, but would at least gives the schools access to the possibility.

Both bill passed both chambers with overwhelming support, but Governor Tomblin refused to sign them.

"It was not expected that the Governor would veto them," Boyer said. "So, that came as a surprise to all of us because support had been so universal."

In his veto message for both bills, Tomblin wrote he did not feel the schools had a real plan to become financially viable in the future. Instead,

Tomblin called on the West Virginia Board of Education to get an outside assessment of the schools.

Since, the Governor's office, state Department of Education, state Board of Education, and Dr. Boyer have begun meeting, working to answer the Governor's questions about viability and looking for answers to their financial needs.

The group is still in the exploratory phases, Boyer said, but she called each meeting a step forward.

"There are not any obvious answers yet, but I think certainly in our conversations we keep getting clarity from each other," she said.

Possible funding sources include adding the schools to the state school aid formula, a calculation of state dollars granted to each school system on a per pupil basis. Boyer said those funds may also include special lottery revenues.

Boyer said the school also intends to hire a grant writer and is in the process of looking for private donations. 🗺️



The West Virginia School for the Blind is housed on the Romney campus. Built in the 1970s, the building holds students in grades pre-K through 12.



Across from the Schools for the Blind sits Seaton Hall, the dormitory for students at both the deaf and blind schools.



School funds were recently invested to update the School for the Blind's library and media center.



JAMES B. NELSON, SR.

James Burleigh Nelson, Sr, 78, of Alderson, went home to be with the Lord on May 27, 2015. Born on June 10, 1936, at Squire, WV; he was a son of the late Doaka Henry Nelson and the late Gracie Sparks Nelson. James was a 1955 graduate of the WV School for the Deaf and Blind in Romney, WV; he loved talking to his friends, being around his family, especially his grandchildren, keeping in touch with his school buddies, and going to the WV State Fair.

James attended the Johnson Memorial United Methodist Church in Alderson. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Chuck and Fred Nelson; two sisters, Ruby Hankins and Minnie Moore; and a brother-in-law, David Moore.

Those left to cherish his memory include his loving wife of 47 years, Susan Pennington Nelson of Alderson; two sons, James B. Nelson, Jr. and Ricky Henry Nelson both of Alderson; daughter, Tracy Sue Nelson of GA; grandchildren, Nathaniel Nelson, Christian Lee Phillips, Jeremiah Michael Nelson, and Jon Jon Brookman Nelson; a sister, Barbara J. Moore; extended family; and a host of friends.

Services to celebrate the life of James Burleigh Nelson, Sr. was held at 12:00 p.m. Monday, June 1, 2015, at Roselawn Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Rick Duncan officiating. Following the services James was laid to rest at Roselawn Cemetery, Princeton. Family and friends served as pallbearers. Friends gathered with the family from 11:00 a.m. until time of the service Monday at the funeral home. Roselawn Funeral Home and Cemetery, 450 Courthouse Road, Princeton was honored to serve the family. 🍀

From the Kitchen of
The 100th Anniversary Committee

RECIPES WANTED!

The 100th Anniversary Committee is looking for recipes to create a cookbook as a fundraiser to raise money for the 100th Anniversary that is coming up Summer 2015!

Please send your recipes to the WVAD Editor (extraordinary45@comcast.net) or Veronda Harrison (verapple@aol.com). Your help will make this anniversary a success! Deadline date is **July 1, 2015**.

Thank you!



(Kevin L. Myers, Jr.... from page 1)

Kevin plans to attend the WVAD Conference at Snowshoe, WV, this August and wants to get involved with the WV Association of the Deaf and WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing organizations.

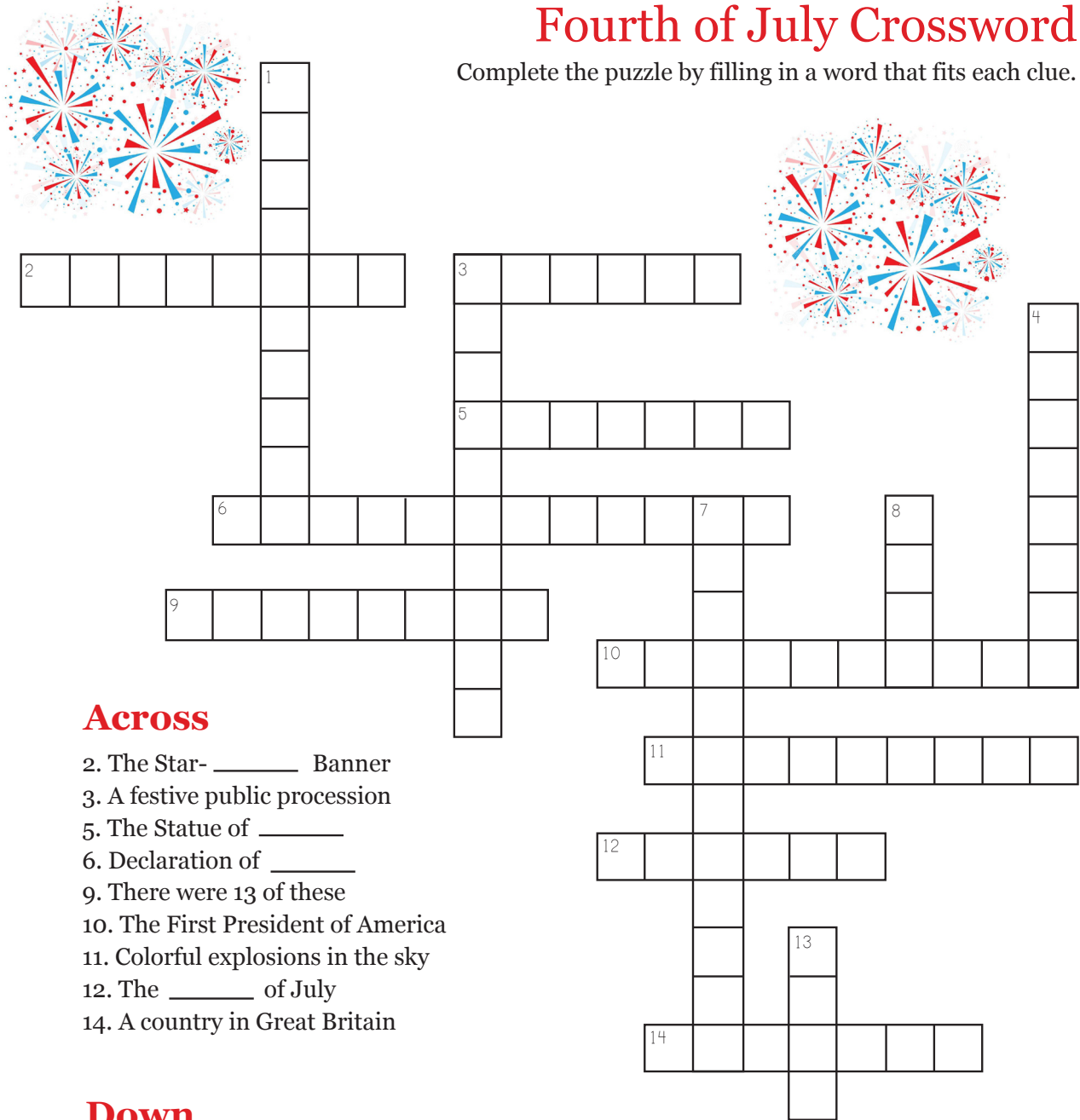
Congratulations Kevin for graduating from Gallaudet University and welcome back to WV. We are very proud of you! Best wishes in your job search. We are anxious to see you at the WVAD Conference! 🍀



L-R: Proud brother and friends Luke Hottle, Kyle Myers (Kevin's younger brother), Kevin, and Mitchell Miller at Kevin's Graduation.

Fourth of July Crossword

Complete the puzzle by filling in a word that fits each clue.



Across

2. The Star- _____ Banner
3. A festive public procession
5. The Statue of _____
6. Declaration of _____
9. There were 13 of these
10. The First President of America
11. Colorful explosions in the sky
12. The _____ of July
14. A country in Great Britain

Down

1. The war against the British was called the American _____ .
3. Made the famous Midnight Ride
4. A Citizen of the USA
7. Document that begins with "We the People"
8. Historic item sewn by Betsy Ross
13. America's birth month

(See Answers on page 21)

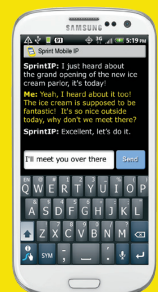
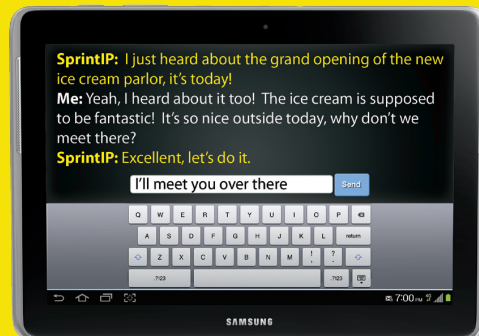
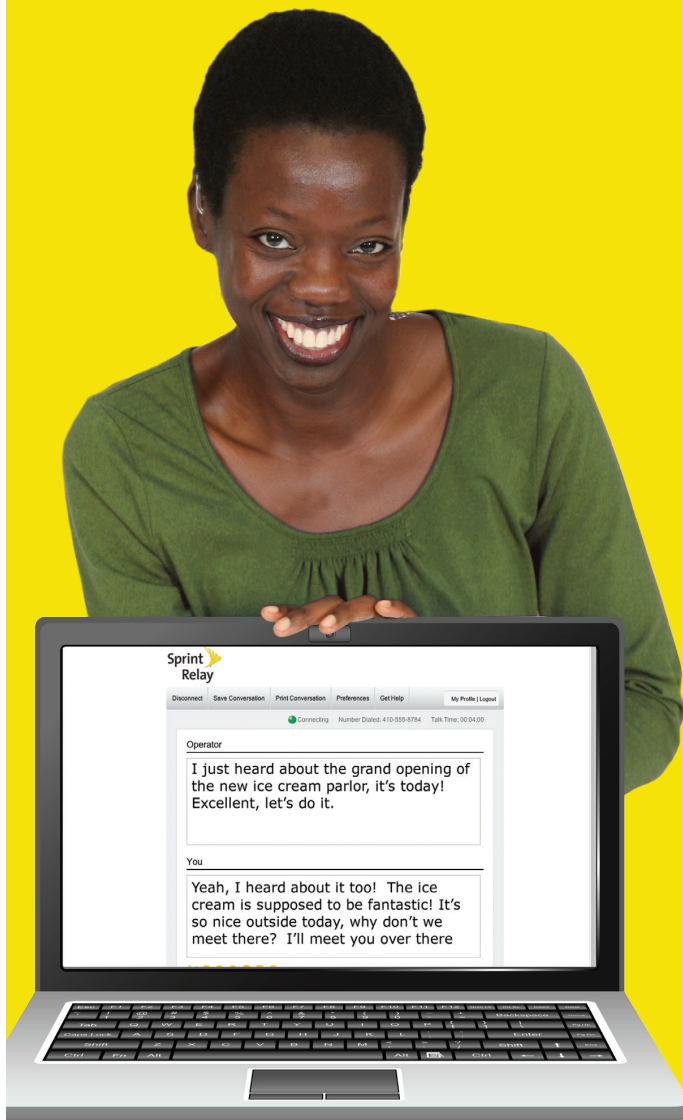


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Relay videos

Chief of West Virginia Schools for Deaf and Blind to Retire

By Associated Press (<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2015/apr/27/superintendent-of-wva-schools-for-deaf-and-blind-t/>), Monday, April 27, 2015

ROMNEY, W.Va. (AP) — The Superintendent of the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind plans to step down this summer after serving for four years.

Superintendent Lynn Boyer notified the West Virginia Board of Education last week that she will retire on June 30.

The board appointed Boyer to lead the school in 2011, a year after the institution was cited by the Office of Education Performance Audits for deficiencies in leadership, curriculum, safety, and technology.

During Boyer's tenure, the school implemented a policy requiring all staff to be able to communicate with deaf students through sign language. Another policy requires child care worker to obtain an Associate's degree, a change that drew protests from workers and parents.

Boyer also has pushed for state funding to renovate aging buildings on the campus in Romney.

"These last four years have certainly, by any measure, been years of change and innovation – and, in many cases, struggle. I am confident that the schools are stronger now because of the efforts we have all made to build our instructional and residential programs, to upgrade and renovate our facilities, to solidify the administrative infrastructure, and to stand tall as the light of scrutiny has tested us," Boyer wrote in a letter to staff posted on the school's website (http://wvsdb2.state.k12.wv.us/pages/WestVirginiaSchools_Deaf_Blind/News/4331907626253285124).

Governor Earl Ray Tomblin vetoed a bill earlier this month that would have allowed the Schools for the Deaf and Blind to receive money from the School Building Authority, which provides funding to county school systems for construction and maintenance projects.

Boyer said in a letter to staff that her decision to retire was not related to actions by Tomblin and the Legislature.

She said she wants to spend time with her family, including two grandsons who will be high school seniors in the next academic year.

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Dr. Lynn Boyer, Superintendent of WV Schools for the Deaf and Blind, Romney, WV



What is Deaf Child Bill of Rights (DCBR)?

By Donna M. Williams

The DCBR is a specific state law that recognizes the unique communication and language needs of deaf and hard of hearing children. The first state to pass a DCBR was South Dakota. Now there are 17 states with DCBR. West Virginia has a Resolution.

Yes, the DCBR is an important step in having the state formerly recognize the unique needs of deaf and hard of hearing children, but it does not automatically resolve all problems or change program options. However, it does recognize the important needs and should be used in Individual Education Plans (IEP) and other discussions in the state and school districts. In a few situations, the DCBR has been used successfully in due process hearings.

Why is it important to have a DCBR?

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law to ensure that all children with special needs have access to everything

that is needed to educate the child. However, the unique communication and language needs of the deaf and hard of hearing child is often omitted from the IEP discussions. The DCBR is a mechanism to compel that discussion. It is important that the schools provide the child's right to receive communication and language that is best fitted for the individual child and what the child prefers.

What is WVAD doing about a DCBR?

As mentioned above, West Virginia has a Resolution DCBR. A Resolution is not a law and cannot be enforced. WVAD's Education Advocate, April Hottle; Legislative Advocate, Antonia (Hall) Vaughan; and WVAD Secretary Donna Williams are working with the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) to revise this Resolution and get it approved as a bill and passed by legislators during 2016 Legislative

session. However, the WVAD Board agreed to wait until NAD drafts their sample DCBR. This sample should be finished this summer.

In the meantime, April, Toni, and Donna are in the process of creating an Education Committee to work on this, study the needs in WV, meet with parents and legislators to make this bill a success and get it passed in law, etc. When the time comes, we will need your help to advocate for this bill.

All of this will require a lot of work but we are committed and need your support. The deaf and hard of hearing children are our future and WVAD need to help these children become knowledgeable and productive adults and leaders in WVAD.

For more information about NAD's Bill of Rights for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children, please see <http://nad.org/issues/education/k-12/bill-of-rights>. 🐦

(Fun Page Answers from page 17)

Across

2. Spangled
3. Parade
5. Liberty
6. Independence
9. Colonies
10. Washington
11. Fireworks
12. Fourth
14. England

Down

1. Revolution
3. Paul Revere
4. American
7. Constitution
8. Flag
13. July



21 Awesome Facebook Facts and Statistics You Need to Check Out (<http://www.jeffbullas.com/2015/04/17/21-awesome-facebook-facts-and-statistics-you-need-to-check-out/>)

Here are some fascinating numbers on a range of Facebook facts and metrics from mobile, revenue, and a host of other facts to share in your presentations and wow your next dinner party guests.

1. Every second there are 20,000 people on Facebook. This means in just 18 minutes there are 11 million users on Facebook.
2. On average there are 486,183 users a minute accessing Facebook from their mobile.
3. 79% of all users are accessing Facebook from their mobile.
4. There are 745 million daily mobile users.
5. Facebook is adding 7,246 people every 15 minutes or 8 per second.
6. Every minute there are 150,000 messages sent.
7. Every 15 minutes there are over 49 million posts. To be precise 49,433,000 or 3 million posts per minute.
8. There are 100,000 friend requests every 10 minutes.
9. There are 500,000 Facebook "likes" every minute.
10. Facebook generates \$1.4 million in revenue every hour.

11. Nearly 73% of Facebook's ad revenue comes from mobile advertising.
12. Facebook earns \$2.5 billion a quarter from mobile advertising.
13. People share 1.3 million pieces of content on Facebook every minute of every day.
14. In November of 2014 the number of video uploads to Facebook exceeded YouTube video uploads according to Social Bakers.
15. Facebook generated \$12.47 billion in sales in 2014 (a rise of 58% year on year).
16. Photo uploads are 350 million per day.
17. Users spend 21 minutes per day on average on Facebook.
18. 31% of U.S. senior citizens are on Facebook.
19. 66% of all millennials (15-34 year olds) use Facebook.
20. People spend 927 million hours a month playing Facebook games.
21. There are 1 billion mobile app links enabled on Facebook.

Sources: Buddyloans.com, Fortune.com, Socialbakers.com, Techcrunch.com, [Expanded Ramblings](http://ExpandedRamblings.com), Zephoria.com.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS?

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

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



HOME SWEET HOME



PATRIOTIC TACO SALAD

(Prep Time: 10 minutes; Cook Time: 20 minutes)
(<http://www.tasteofhome.com/recipes/patriotic-taco-salad>)

1 lb ground beef
1 medium onion, chopped
1-1/2 cups water
1 can (6 oz) tomato paste
1 envelope taco seasoning
6 cups tortilla or corn chips

4 to 5 cups shredded lettuce
9 to 10 pitted large olives, sliced lengthwise
2 cups (8 oz) shredded cheddar cheese
Cherry tomatoes



1. In a large skillet, cook beef and onion over medium heat until meat is no longer pink; drain. Stir in the water, tomato paste, and taco seasoning. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 20 minutes.
2. Place chips in an ungreased 13-inch x 9-inch dish. Spread beef mixture evenly over the top. Cover with lettuce. For each star, arrange 5 olive slices together in the upper left corner. To form stripes, add cheese and tomatoes in alternating rows. Serve immediately. Yield: 8 servings.



PATRIOTIC FRUIT SKEWERS

(<http://dinnerdishesanddesserts.com/patriotic-fruit-skewers/>)

Watermelon
Blueberries
Strawberries

Large marshmallows
Wood skewers
Small star cookie cutter

NOTE: I will not give you quantities because you can make as many or as few as you like.

1. Slice 1/2-inch thick slices of watermelon and take a star-shaped cookie cutter to cut out stars.
2. Then skewer in order with the blue (blueberries), white (marshmallow), red (strawberry). Use the watermelon stars to separate the red, white, and blue pattern and finish off the top of the skewer. Chill or serve immediately. Enjoy. NOTE: You can cut the strawberries in half if you like and also you can use bananas instead of marshmallows. Have fun!



LAYERED PATRIOTIC DRINKS

(<http://www.madefrompinterest.net/layered-patriotic-drink/>)

The trick to this drink is the sugar content in the beverages. You can make this drink in any color just as long as the drink with the heaviest sugar content goes in first and then have your drinks get lighter and lighter in their sugar content. This drink was made from Cran-Apple juice, a Sobe white Pina Colada drink, and a Gatorade G2 Blueberry Pomegranate drink.

1. First, fill your glass full with crushed ice. Next pour the Cran-Apple juice until you reach your desired level. Pour close to the glass so that all of the ice doesn't turn red.
2. The next lightest weight in grams of sugar is the Sobe. Because the Cran-Apple juice has the heaviest sugar content, it will stay at the bottom of your glass. Go ahead and pour the Sobe drink in! And the drink that has the lightest sugar content is the Gatorade so pour that in to top off your drink and your drinks should look like this! Add drink umbrellas for decorations if desired.



Take some time during the July 4th holiday to think about and appreciate the freedoms that we enjoy each and every day while you are drinking this special drink!

WVAD MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

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: \$ _____

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

☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Card

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

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

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mail with membership application to:
 West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc.
 Larry Hubbard, WVAD Membership Coordinator
 572 Thompson Road
 Culloden, WV 25510
 Video Phone No.: 304-397-5729

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

JOIN WVAD TODAY!

