

TDD/TTYs Become Part of WV Interstate System

By the end of January 2004 all interstate rest stops and welcome centers under West Virginia Department of (WV DOH) control will have telecommunications devices for the deaf/teletypewriters (TDD/TTYs) by judicial order of the WV Human Rights Commission.

In December 2002 West Virginia Advocates, representing the complainant Elizabeth Leisure, filed a complaint with the WV HRC alleging that the failure of the DOH to install and maintain TDD/TTYs at interstate rest stops and welcome centers under DOH control "constituted discrimination on the basis of her disability, deafness, in violation of the West Virginia Human Rights Act."

After a series of meetings, hearings and mediation sessions held throughout the year, a settlement was reached. On October 20, 2003, Robert Wilson, Administrative Law Judge with the HRC, and Ivin B. Lee, HRC Executive Director, signed the closing order for the agreement. The TDD/TTYs are to be installed within 90 days of the order being signed.

"Our client believes that she and other people who are hearing impaired received what they are entitled to with this settlement," said Tim Murphy, Legal Director of WVA. "If there should be a breach of this settlement, the client can seek remedies and sanctions provided by law. But I don't foresee that being necessary."

-From West Virginia Advocates Winter 2003

NAD Announces New Youth Leadership Camp Location

Silver Spring, MD - The National Association of the Deaf (NAD) is pleased to announce that the 35th annual session of the NAD Youth Leadership Camp (YLC) will take place at Sertoma Camp Endeavor amidst lush orange groves in Dundee, Florida, July 18 to August 15, 2004.

"NAD YLC will continue its tradition of excellence in providing affordable month-long summer camp experiences with emphasis on scholarship, citizenship, and leadership at Sertoma Camp Endeavor. The 2004 NAD YLC session will be carried out in collaboration with local, state, and national civic and community organizations," said Nancy J. Bloch, NAD Executive Director.

NAD YLC encourages outstanding young student leaders in grades 9 through 11 from diverse educational programs to develop a greater purpose in life through programs of active learning, social interaction, and leadership development.

Established in 1969, the NAD YLC has a rich history of teaching tomorrow's leaders. Thousands of deaf and hard of hearing advocates across the country can trace their roots of inspiration to their experiences at NAD YLC.

Sertoma Camp Endeavor, founded in 1976, is a tax-exempt IRC Section 501 (c)(3) nonprofit summer camp that provides a motivational, educational program and campground space for deaf and hard of hearing children. The campground has 30 acres of property in Dundee, Florida with a permanent facility that will grow

into a first class educational, and recreational center.

"The Sertoma Camp Endeavor mission is to promote social/personal growth, environment awareness, independence and citizenship for deaf and hard of hearing youth. Having the NAD YLC here ties nicely into that and we are excited about welcoming them here," said Loretta R. Mazzuco, Executive Director of Sertoma Camp Endeavor.

"Sertoma Camp Endeavor satisfies all of our needs, preferred camp session dates, and rental price. The NAD will be able to independently operate its YLC program while obtaining all of the necessary facilities for the operation of a successful camp session. I can't wait to visit the campers in Florida, enjoy the facilities, and work with the NAD YLC staff!" said Dan Brubaker, NAD Board Secretary and Youth Liaison.

Special fire alarms available to hearing impaired

TechLink helps provide tools for hearing impaired

Hearing impaired individuals in Wood and Wirt counties can now obtain a free specialized portable flashing strobe light fire alarm through the local TechLink.

TechLink, a joint venture with the Arc of Wood County, provides awareness and accessibility to assistive devices. Thirty-seven of the specialized fire alarms were purchased by TechLink with a \$5,000 Governor's Community Partnership Grant.

Rather than the typical smoke alarm sound warning signal, these
See Fire Alarms on page 3

Obituaries

Laressa Sue Bauer (Baker)

Laressa Sue Bauer, 50, Augusta, died Tuesday, Oct. 7, 2003 at Hampshire Memorial Hospital, Romney.

Born Jan. 4, 1953 in Fairmont, she was the daughter of the late Herbert W. and Josie Ellen Moran Baker.

She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her husband, Doug Bauer; two daughters, Laura anderson, Winchester, Va.; and Linda S. Bauer, Romney; one son, Donnie Bauer, Capon Bridge; four sisters, two brothers and five grandchildren.

A service was conducted Friday, Oct. 10 at 2 p.m. in McKee Funeral Home Chapel, Augusta, with the Rev. Lawrence Shillingburg officiating. Interment was private.

Memorial contribution may be made to Gideons, PO Box 240, Romney, WV 26757.

Editor's note: She graduated from WVSD in 1970.

Betty Jean Henson (Laycock)

Betty Jean Henson, age 59, Monday, October 20, 2003 at Riverside Methodist Hospital.

She was employed by ADP of Columbus. She was preceded in death by husband Clarence Henson and mother Mae Pauline Laycock. Survived by four daughters, 11 grandchildren; 3 great-grandchildren; other family and friends.

Funeral service was conducted Friday, October 24 at 11:30 a.m. at Schoedinger Hilltop Chapel. Burial was in Sunset Cemetery.

Wanda Mae McGee (Hensley)

Wanda Mae McGee, 75, Augusta, died Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2004, at the home of her daughter, Carolyn, in Culpeper, Va.

Born April 10, 1928, in Parkersburg, she was the daughter of the late John and Jane Hensley.

She was a homemaker.

Surviving are her husband, Donald McGee, Jr.; two daughters, Carolyn Payne, Culpeper, Va.; and Donna Keene, Smithsburg, Md.; two sons, Michael McGee, Frederick, Md.; and John McGee, St. Louis, Mo.; one brother; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A service was conducted Sunday, Jan. 18, at 3 p.m. in McKee Funeral Home Chapel, Birch Lane, Romney, with pastor Robert Jeffreys officiating. Interment was private.

Editor's note: Wanda graduated from West Virginia School for the Deaf, class of 1947.

Donald Ray McGee, Jr.

Donald Ray McGee, Jr., 77, Augusta, died Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2004, at Washington County Hospital, Hagerstown, MD.

Born Aug. 10, 1926, in Romney, he was the son of the late Donald R. McGee, Sr. and Freda Catherine Godlove McGee.

He was a lithographer for Washington Post. He was Lutheran by faith.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Wanda M. McGee, Jan. 14, 2004; and two brothers.

Surviving are two sons, John McGee, St. Louis, Mo.; and Michael McGee, Frederick, Md.; two daughters, Donna Keene, Smithsburg, Md.; and Carolyn Payne, Culpeper, Va.; four brothers; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was conducted Sunday, Feb. 8 at 1 p.m. in McKee Funeral Home Chapel, Birch Lane, Romney, with pastor Robert Jeffreys officiating. Interment was private.

Editor's note: Donald was enrolled at the West Virginia School for the Deaf in 1933 and graduated from the New York School for the Deaf in 1945.

Margaret M. Haines

Margaret M. Haines, 87, of Shanks, died Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2004, at her residence.

Born Sept. 13, 1916, in

Slanesville, she was the daughter of the late Joseph C. and Elizabeth Milleson.

She was preceded in death by her husband, John Wilbur Haines, Nov. 11, 1993.

She was retired from the West Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind where she was a cooking and baking instructor. She also worked at the Peterkin Conference Center, Romney. She was a member of the Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Romney, a graduate of Romney High School, and a member of Hampshire County Retired School Employees.

Surviving are three sons; three daughters; 10 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; three step great-grandchildren.

Service was conducted at the McKee Funeral Home Chapel, Saturday at 11 a.m. with Dr. Ken Smith officiating. Interment was in Ebenezer Cemetery, Romney.

Michelle Lane Vance

Michelle Lane Vance, 30, of Branchland passed away Feb. 2, 2004, of injuries she suffered in an automobile accident Jan. 24.

She was born Oct. 11, 1973, the beloved daughter of Nita Jean Manna Vance and the late Lawson Vance.

She was a member of Four Mile United Baptist Church, where she had a larger and loving church family whom she loved dearly. She was a 1991 graduate of Guyan Valley High School and attended Institute and Huntington Junior College. She also participated in an in-home program to help deaf children learn to read and sign. Even though Michelle was profoundly deaf, she could "hear" with her heart and showed love and compassion to her family and friends whom she cared deeply for. Her world revolved around her church, family and all her friends.

"Through may dangers, toils and snares I have already come.

"Twas grace that brought me safe thus far and grace will lead me home."

Burial was followed in Franklin Cemetery, Branchland.

WVSD ready to host major tournament

For the first time since the 1996-97 season, the West Virginia School for the Deaf will host the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association Division II Girls Basketball Tournament.

The WVSD Lions have been members of the ESDAA since 1981 when they joined with nine other schools to bring the association's total membership to 20 members. WVSD is responsible for hosting the tournament once every seven years, bringing teams from all over the east coast to Romney.

Nine teams will invade Hampshire County on Wednesday night to prepare for the tournament, which will run from Thursday, Feb. 12 through Saturday, Feb. 14.

The first action on the tournament will be a play-in game between the eighth and ninth seeded teams for a position in the eight-team tournament. J47 A&E from New York will battle Scranton, Pa. in the opening contest, tonight (Wednesday) at 7:30 p.m.

The first full day of action will be Thursday, as four games highlight the afternoon's slate. First up, after an opening assembly at 1 p.m., is a 1:30 matchup between fifth seeded Rochester (NY) and fourth seed Rhode Island. That contest will be followed by a 3 p.m. matchup pitting top seed Delaware against the winner of Wednesday night's play-in. After a break for dinner, the action will heat back up at 6:15 as sixth seeded St. Mary's (NY) battles third seed Augustine (Vermont) in the fourth game of the tournament. Romney's own WVSD, the second seed in the 2004 tournament, will see its first action at 8, in a primetime battle with Mill Neck (NY), the tournament's seventh seed.

Friday's action gets under way early with a team 21 competition, three-point competition and a knock-out competition beginning at 9 a.m. Five tournament games

will be played on Friday, beginning at noon and ending with the final game at 8 p.m.

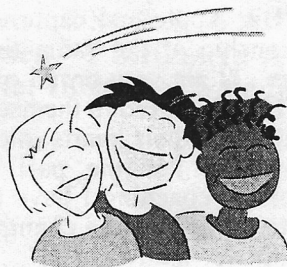
The final day of the competition begins even earlier, as an 8:30 a.m. free throw competition begins the championship day. The tournament action then heads full speed ahead with five more games beginning at 10 a.m. The bronze medal game at 6:15 will precede the championship at 8.

An awards ceremony will follow the game and include all-tournament selections and the presentation of the championship trophy.

"It should really be a fun event," said WVSD athletic director Joyce Barnes. "It has been a lot of work, but everything is coming together well. We are really looking forward to the weekend."

Anyone who enjoys basketball, or simply the spirit of competition, is encouraged to attend any of the weekend's games. The Lions' Cafe will operate throughout the tournament, where the junior class will sell a variety of foods to the tournament's patrons, and there will be plenty of seating for the public to come and watch the actions.

-From Hampshire Review



*Friendship
improves happiness
and abates misery
by the doubling of
our joy and the
dividing of our grief.*

-- Cicero

Fire Alarms

Continued from page 1

portable units, powered by electricity with battery backup, flash a strobe light so the hearing impaired can be warned of the danger. The devices retail for \$179 each. Weithbrecht Communications Inc. agreed to sell the units to TechLink at a reduced price to increase the number that could be obtained. The devices will be distributed as long as supplies last.

The first two units were presented to Bob and Loretta Church and Gene and Shirley Simmons, two hearing impaired couples, during a press conference Wednesday at the Volunteer Action Center/Arc headquarters. Sam Church, Arc board member, acted as sign language interpreter for the couples during the press conference.

"Because the flashing strobe alarms are plug-in, they do not need to be installed by an electrician. With a battery backup in place in the device, the program can now be endorsed by local fire departments," said Michael Simmons, Arc president.

"The benefits to the hearing impaired community are great. Most people don't realize hearing impaired couples and individuals have limited financial resources, yet being hearing impaired they require a lot of extra addition to their households that others don't have, special doorbell buttons, closed caption for the television, devices to alert them of the phone ringing, special devices to the able to use the phone. Fire alarm systems are available, but they are very expensive. A lot of the deaf people in this area rent and landlords are not required to provide these special alarms," Church said.

"When they travel, motels don't have lighted smoke alarms. But since these are portable, they can take them with them while traveling, visiting, and as they move from residence to residence. It's a great benefit," Church said.

-From Parkersburg News

WVSD brings home trophy

A trip to the Big Apple has to be a thrill for any high school student, but for the West Virginia School for the Deaf boys basketball team, sight-seeing was not the only thing on the agenda as they invaded "The City that Never Sleeps" for the ESDAA Division III Championships on Jan. 16 through 18.

Sure the trip included a great deal of tourist activities. The team traveled to Ground Zero, the Statue of Liberty and even the empire state building, which was lit up in green to celebrate Popeye the Sailor Man's 75th anniversary. But the Lions never lost sight of the fact that they were in New York to play basketball, and they played at the highest level.

WVSD earned the No. 2 seed in the three day tournament, but it was the top prize that caught their eyes. Every member of the squad had hopes of bringing the trophy back to Romney, and the team set out on a mission.

The first obstacle in the way was a battle with A&E 47. It did not take long for the Lions to realize that taking home top honors was not going to be a cakewalk. The game stayed neck and neck the entire way, as neither team wanted to give up the dream of being crowned tournament champions. The score was tied at 64 when junior forward Jonathan Edwards took the ball to the hole on a fast break to put the Lions ahead.

More than 10 seconds still remained, and A&E 47 was not about to give up. After A&E 47 lost the ball out of bounds with just eight seconds left on the clock, however, WVSD felt they had the game in hand. But in New York, things are never that easy.

A&E 47 tipped the inbound pass from junior forward Billy White, and the two squads made a mad dash for the basketball. A&E 47 finally came away with the bouncing cylinder, and fired one last shot to send the game to overtime. The high arching attempt fell short, and the Lions celebrated their first win of the tournament.

"A&E 47 played the game very well," admitted WVSD head coach Paul See. "They gave us the biggest challenge of the season."

White led the relentless Lion attack with 21 points and 11 rebounds, while junior guard Corey Grace contributed 18 to the winning effort.

The Championship matched New York State School for the Deaf (Rome) with Hampshire County's own WVSD Lions, but it did not provide near as much excitement as the opening round. Coach See's squad controlled the action from the start, and cruised to a 64-33 tournament clinching victory.

The game stayed close in the early going, but WVSD took control in the second quarter and never looked back. The Lions played in-your-face-defense, went after rebounds like a Tom chasing Jerry and tickled the nets with some excellent shooting. WVSD led 30-18 at the half, and went on to the 31 point win.

The championship was not the only hardware that the Lions brought home, White and Grace were both selected to the All-Star Team, and the Lions brought home their second straight 21 shooting title. "It was a very good experience for my team to travel to the Big Apple and capture the championship at the same time," said See. "I am very proud of my boys. They believed in themselves and put all of their hearts into the tournament. For the past four years of my coaching I have been trying to take them to a championship, and we finally did it."

The WVSD girls will have their shot at a title next week when they host the ESDAA tournament here in Romney. Coach See wishes the girls the best of luck in capturing a similar crown.

*-From Hampshire Review
Feb. 4, 2004*

Mary Maxwell, with the local TechLink met earlier with county volunteer firefighters and county commissioners regarding the project. At that time, the units proposed for use were electric. The Wood County Firefighter's Association recommended a battery backup be provided.

Firefighters Association President Kim Marshall presented the first two alarms on Wednesday.

"Lots of times the electricity may be one of the first things to fail, so we recommended they be battery operated, or have battery backup. What they have selected is the best of both worlds, it's portable and has battery backup. It's a great thing for people who are hearing impaired," Marshall said.

Sue Patalano, with TechLink said the group hopes to obtain additional funding to get more units that could be made available to the other counties served by TechLink.

Deaf individuals from Wood and Wirt counties can obtain the devices by contacting TechLink at 422-3151, extension 107, by TDD at that same number, or by fax at 422-1025.

-From The Parkersburg News

Help!!!

The editor recently received a fax from Debra (Powers) Persinger. Her husband, Gene, had a stroke December 22, 2002. He has been in several hospitals since. He is now in the Ohio State University Hospital in Columbus, OH. He is 46 years old, a husband for 23 years, and father of 3 children. He graduated from WV School for the Deaf in 1976.

Because Gene has been in several hospitals for almost one year, they have many medical bills to pay. Before, they owed \$167,000. After fighting hard to pay some and get some bills reduced, they now owe \$50,000. They need help paying these bills. Please send donation by check or money order to Debra Persinger at Rt. 1, Box 53A, Linn, WV 26384. If you have any questions or want to support Debra, you can also send a fax to her at (304) 462-4795

Charleston Association of the Deaf 24th Annual Mixed King & Queen of the Hill Bowling Handicap Saturday, June 5, 2004

Dunbar Lanes
1212 Ohio Avenue
Dunbar, WV 25064
(304) 768-2191

Out of State Welcome
ABC-WIBC Regular Sanction
3 Games Across 6 Lanes

ENTRY FEE	
Prize Fee	\$25.00
Bowling Fee	\$ 8.00
Expense Fee	\$ 2.00
TOTAL	\$35.00
Re-Entry	\$35.00

Top Bowlers will bowl one game matches in the following manner:
#5 Winner Bowl
#4 Winner Bowl
#3 Winner Bowl
#2 Winner Bowl #1
Match play qualifiers will move lanes each Round

TIME SQUAD
10:00 AM
NOON
2:00 PM

FIRST PLACE

\$1,000

BASED ON 60 ENTRIES
Prize To Be Returned 100% - 1/4 Ratio
PBA/LPBA members are not permitted

MEN
75% HANDICAP
FROM 210
105 PINS LIMIT

WOMEN
80% HANDICAP
FROM 210
132 PINS LIMIT

USE HIGHEST
LEAGUE AVERAGE
AS OF 2002-2003

**For More Information,
Contact:**
Jimmy Harrison,
Chairman
(304) 757-7863 TTY/ FAX
E-mail:
JHarrison5@aol.com

☆☆☆ **EARLY BIRD** ☆☆☆
\$200.00 Jackpot - 10:00 AM
(First Game Only Winner Takes All)
Men - 8 Strikes In A Row
Women - 7 Strikes In A Row
Note: In case of a tie 50/50

✂-----

NAME _____ Highest 2002-03 Average _____

ADDRESS _____ Highest 2003-04 Average _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____ ABC or WIBC No: _____

League Secretary's Signature _____

Champion within 12 months Yes No \$300 over any event Yes No

Circle time you want to bowl: 10:00 AM NOON 2:00 PM

***NOTE TO BOWLER: This form must be signed by local or league secretary prior to bowling. Failure to have this form signed may result in having a 210 average assigned. ABC Rule 304 also be in effort.

19th ANNUAL
WEST VIRGINIA DEAF BOWLING ASSOCIATION
MARCH 26 – 28, 2004

MEN

PRIZES
\$10,000

MEN

2004

CHARLESTON ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

2004

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 e-mail: www.hiexpress.com

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Gerald W Musick, Sec'y/Treas.
 151 Lincova Ave.
 Morgantown, WV 26505-6347
 Phone TTY: 1-304-296-2217
 FAX: 1-304-296-2368
 E-mail: WVDBA@WEBTV.NET

BOWLING CENTER

VENTURE LANES
 6300 MACCORKLE AVE., SW
 ST. ALBANS, WV 25177
 Phone: 1-304-768-7507
 voice

MEN'S DIVISION

\$2,000

FOUR-MEN TEAM EVENT
BASED ON 50 TEAM ENTRIES

MARCH 27, 2004 9:00 AM

FANS COMBO

Registration (required) \$11.00
 with program book

Friday thru Sunday
 at Venture Lanes \$ 5.00

Friday Night Social
 at Holiday Inn Express..... \$ 5.00

Saturday Night Ballroom
 at Holiday Inn Express \$20.00

Total \$36.00

NO DEADLINE

HOTEL RATE
 \$69.00 per night

FIRST PLACE HANDICAP
GERALD W MUSICK MASTER

\$1,000

BASED ON 80 MASTER ENTRIES
MARCH 27, 2004
 1:00 P.M.

FIRST PLACE HANDICAP
DOUBLE EVENT

\$1,200

BASED ON 100 DOUBLE ENTRIES
MARCH 28, 2004
 11:30 A.M.

FIRST PLACE HANDICAP
SINGLE EVENT

\$600 EACH

BASED ON 200 SINGLE ENTRIES

MARCH 28, 2004 9:00 AM

FIRST PLACE HANDICAP
ALL-EVENT

\$600

BASED ON
200 INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES
MARCH 27 & 28, 2004

INFORMATION and
ORDER FAN COMBO
CHAIRMAN

Jeffery Simmons
 5327 Edgebrook Drive
 Charleston, WV 25313
 Phone TTY & FAX:
 1-304-776-8566

Hosted by:

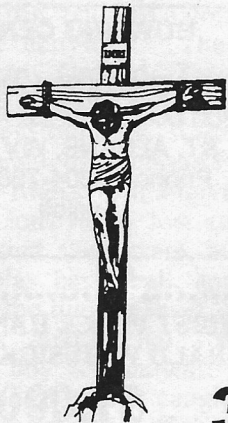
CHARLESTON ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF

Praise the Lord

Glory to God

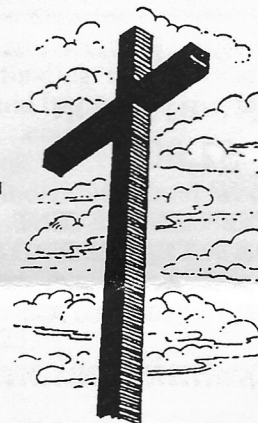
Hallelujah

THE HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR THE DEAF



at the
Crichton House
200 Echols Lane
Lewisburg, West Virginia

Every 4th Saturday
3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



LEADERS

"Doc" Bob/Robert Lee James
Judith Crichton James
Deaf Missionaries to America

Phone/T.T.Y.: 304-647-4598 via Relay 711 for the hearing
Email: gallaudet70@hotmail.com or pinky3h@aol.com

2004

JANUARY 31ST
FEBRUARY 28TH
MARCH 27TH
APRIL 24TH

MAY 22ND
JUNE 26TH
JULY 24TH
AUGUST 28TH

SEPTEMBER 25TH
OCTOBER 23RD
NOVEMBER 27TH
DECEMBER 18TH

Bring your covered dish/casserole - Eat at 5:00 p.m.

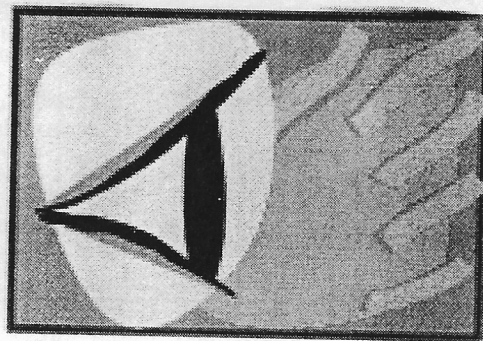
We serve pops, snacks, tea/coffee and desserts

Dpreachers, Speakers, or Evangelists - 7:00 p.m.

(map on backside)

NO COME IF BAD WEATHER!

**47th Biennial
National Association of the Deaf
Conference**



**Kansas City, Missouri
July 6-10, 2004**

More information, website at <http://nad.org/conf>

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The WVAD Newsletter is a publication of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc., published four times a year. Free subscription with paid membership dues. All advertisements must be paid for in advance. The WVAD Newsletter reserves the right to reject any advertising. Make checks payable to the WVAD. Send ads with payment and any news to Veronda Harrison.

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Full Page (7 5/8"X10").....\$100
Half Page (7 5/8"X5").....\$60
1/4 Page (3 5/8"X5").....\$30
1/8 Page (3 5/8"X2 3/8').....\$20

Announcement From Editor

Issue for Date.....Apr.-June
Editor's Deadline.....May 10
Date You Receive Your Copy.....June

WVAD Membership - Join Now!

Name _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15 for one year Regular
Address _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25 for two years Regular
City/State/Zip _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20 for two years Senior Citizen (55+)
TTY _____ FAX _____	<input type="checkbox"/> \$10 for two years Student (Age 12 to 18)
Email _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes! Here is my donation \$ _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes! I want to donate to WVAD Deaf Pageant \$ _____
Total Membership & Donation \$ _____	

Make money order or personal check payable to: **WVAD** and mail with membership form to: West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc., Veronda Harrison, Membership Coordinator, 5 Cordoba Drive, Hurricane, WV 25526

West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED