



Volume 39, No. 1

Winter 2018

6th Annual WVAD Christmas Party by John Burdette

WVAD held its Sixth Annual Christmas party at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Clarksburg, WV, on December 9, 2017. The party was a success and everyone had a good time, meeting old and new friends, catching up on news and reminiscing memories that brought joy to their faces.

Seventy-five (75) people came from far and near. The weather was great which was a blessing so that everyone could get home safe, without worrying about the snow.

The main dishes were provided by WVAD, which consisted of ham, chicken breast, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, green beans, corn, yams, rolls, etc., plus covered dishes and desserts that people brought to complete our meal. Veronda Harrison, being the chef, and several volunteers were a big help in the kitchen and they cooked a wonderful meal for us. We also want to thank those who brought covered dishes. It was very much appreciated. Thanks to those who pitched in, in the kitchen and helped with the clean up after the party.

We had a Ugly Sweater contest for the first time. Twenty (20) people

participated in the contest and showcased their sweaters/shirts. They were judged by the attendees who did not participate in the contest. Winners of the Ugly Sweaters contest

went to Luanne Bartens with third place receiving \$10, Sylvia Mick won second place receiving \$15, and Chris Mick won first place receiving \$25. Congratulations to 20 people for



L-R: Ugly Sweater Winners Luanne Bartens (3rd place), Chris Mick (1st place), and Sylvia Mick (2nd place). Congratulations!

(See 6th Annual WVAD... on page 3)

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From the President's Corner,

John Burdette



Welcome to our Winter newsletter!

I hope you had a fantastic holiday with your family and friends this past Thanksgiving and Christmas!

WVAD held its sixth Christmas party at the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) in Clarksburg, WV, on December 9, 2017. The party was a success with 75 people in attendance. We also want to thank everyone who helped with little chores and made the party a success! It was very much appreciated.

A friendly reminder, If you haven't registered to renew your Kroger's rewards card, you would need to go in the Kroger's website and choose West Virginia Association of the Deaf again and every year after that in the month of September. This is a program where our organization receives 0.5% donation from Kroger every time you purchase groceries in any of their stores using your rewards card at no additional cost to you! See page 8 for more information.

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

- LEAD-K team under WVAD has been busy trying to create WV's LEAD-K bill to have it submitted into 2018 WV Legislature Session. Stay tuned from the WV LEAD-K team.
- West Virginia Deaf Awareness Day at the Capitol, in partnership by WVCDHH and WVAD, will be held on Monday, March 5, 2018, from



10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. See page 14 for flyer and directions.

- Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliances, Inc., is hosting "Hedy & Heidi: The Lost Sister" movie on Friday, May 11, 2018, at the Holiday Inn in Martinsburg, WV. Please check out their Facebook page to buy tickets: <https://www.facebook.com/events/201501813733490/>. Heidi will be there to socialize with you! Seats are limited (400 seats), opens at 5:30 p.m. Movie starts at 7:00 p.m. and closes at 10:30 p.m. They will also have a 2nd annual Town Hall event on Saturday, May 12, 2018, located at the Holiday Inn. Please plan to come and enjoy the whole weekend in Martinsburg, WV.
- Save the date for WVAD's biennial picnic on August 11, 2018, at Summersville Lake at the dam site, picnic area shelter #3. Stay tuned for more information about the picnic in the spring issue.

On July 2-7, 2018, 54th Biennial National Association of the Deaf Conference will be held in Hartford, Connecticut. It's an excellent choice to celebrate 200 years of Deaf Education in America, whereas American School for the Deaf (ASD) in Hartford, Connecticut is known as the first deaf school in America.

A quick reminder for those who have not paid for expired membership (see page 19 for membership form),

PUBLICATION INFORMATION AND ADVERTISING RATES

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

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

please send the form and payment to our Membership Coordinator, Jimmy Harrison. WVAD accepts debit and credit cards for membership fees, etc. We are currently accepting Visa, Mastercard, and Discover. If you are not a member of WVAD, please join. If you have any questions about membership, please contact Jimmy Harrison, Membership Coordinator. Your support and dues help keep WVAD going. This would be a good way to give someone a membership as a gift.

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

On behalf of the WVAD Board, we wish you all a Happy New Year 2018!

Warmly,

John W. Burdette

WVAD President



Stay Warm!

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(6th Annual WVAD... from page 1)

participating in the contest. There were prizes that included \$1,000 in cash giveaways from Christmas raffle, \$800 in cash giveaways from admission, \$400 cash giveaways from the cash prize, a

50-inch Smart TV, Samsung tablet, electric grill, air fryer, tabletop heater, and I Love You stand with changeable colors.

We want to emphasize that the attendees are the ones who makes the party a success for us and want to thank

you for coming to our Christmas party. We look forward to seeing everyone again at our next Christmas party. The WVAD Board wants to wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year! 🍷





WVAD Board Minutes

WVAD Board Meeting Held at WVCDHH Building, Charleston, WV, November 4, 2017

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, Christopher Mick, Veronda Harrison, Gloria Hollen, and Jeffery Simmons.

Absent: Worthy Devericks.

Visitors Present: Earl Hollen and Larry Hubbard.

The regular board meeting of WVAD was held at WV Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH) Building in Charleston, WV. President John Burdette called the meeting to order at 10:28 a.m. with Veronda Harrison taking over as Secretary.

The minutes of the meeting held August 3, 2017, 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 Fall 2017 WVAD newsletter.

Treasurer Veronda Harrison's Financial Report:

Financial Report from August 3, 2017 to November 2, 2017: Balance in checking account – \$1,549.94; balance in savings account – \$3,566.04; Mingo County Fund – \$14,549.69; WVAD Conference Fund – \$5,317.28; Deaf Youth Program – \$733.00; Education Fund – \$474.61; Certificate of Deposits (2) – \$12,003.63.

President John Burdette's Report:

- NAD Region 1 Monthly VP meeting:
 - August 16, 2017 – Mostly discussed plans for the next NAD conference in Summer 2018.

- September 20, 2017, was rescheduled.
- October 18, 2017 – Vice-President Chris Mick participated.

- New Program Coordinator at Marshall University, South Charleston, WV – Julie Turley was named as Program Coordinator in place of Molly Simonton.
- Received an e-mail from Jared Hunt, Communication Director, from the WV House of Delegates after he learned from Delegate Ruth Rowan that she received an award from WVAD at the conference at The Resort of Glade Springs. He asked me to provide information about the award and why she received it to share via a Press Release.
- Received an e-mail from Rachel Gill with WV DRS, inviting me to participate in a meeting to discuss developments of two projects: develop peer support for those who are Deaf/HH and have mental illness, as well as discuss development of a workshop/training for ADA compliance with hospitals. The meeting was set for September 26th at a conference room on the fourth floor of 405 Capitol Street building where the WVCDHH Office is.
- Received an e-mail from Libbe Cales, Accounts Receivable Manager at The Resort of Glade Springs, sending me an attachment as well as hard copy of a bill from the recent conference. Forwarded this e-mail to Veronda Harrison.

- Received an e-mail from Earnest Covington III, Executive Director of WVCDHH, informing me that WV Department of Transportation (WVDOT) asked him to share the WVDOT ADA Transition Plan link with me and to review the plan. He copied the WVDOT ADA Transition Plan link in the e-mail.
- Sent a Press Release letter about Delegate Ruth Rowan in an e-mail attachment to Romney, WV local newspaper, *Hampshire Review*. Sent a follow-up e-mail to *Hampshire Review* since I had not received a confirmation from them. They responded with yes they received the Press Release and the story along with one of the photos ran in August 23, 2017, newspaper.
- *Deaf WestVal* at the WV State Fair: Veronda Harrison, Tami Deem, and myself attended and set up a table for WVAD at the fair to promote our organization.
- Academy and Career Training (ACT): Received an e-mail from a mother of a deaf daughter who was enrolled in the LPN program at ACT in Beckley, WV. Her daughter is deaf in one ear and uses Bone-Anchored Hearing Aid (BAHA). Her daughter had been harassed by both the school and WVDRS that her plan of becoming a nurse was unrealistic and they felt that she needed to transfer into a different program there.
- Sent an e-mail to Rachel Gill, Rehabilitation Services Manager, with

(See Board Minutes on page 5)

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(Board Minutes from page 4)

WVDRS to see if she was aware of this situation with the client that was attending the LPN program at ACT in Beckley, WV.

- Received an e-mail from Antonia Vaughn about the parents of a deaf 11-year-old child and that the school would not provide a certified teacher of the deaf nor will they provide an interpreter for the child. They did provide a VRI, but it was bulky and embarrassing for the student to push it around to all of her classes.
- Gallaudet University Archives: Contacted Michael Olson, Senior Archivist, about storing and preserving WVAD's collection. He responded to my request and explained that if our organization decides to donate the collection to Gallaudet Archives, they will process the collection and place the documents in acid-free folders and boxes (they pay for the folders and boxes) and they will write an inventory of the collection. Keep in mind that the collection will become the property of the University.
- I attended the Peer Support/ADA Hospital Training at WVCDHH Building on Tuesday, September 26th. Received an e-mail from Regina Desmond, an advocate, with Disability Rights of WV the next day with the attachments of letter and resources.
- Chris Mick and I received an e-mail from April Hottle regarding Parent Advocate.
- Received an e-mail from Mary Earley, daughter of Charles Weiner, former President of WVAD association for many years. She asked if we, the organization, may have any films of his speeches. She would love to have copies and will pay for transferring them to DVDs. Anything our organization may have such as photos and especially film would be cherished and treasured to her and the family.

Vice-President Chris Mick's Report:

Talked about his experience participating in the NAD Region 1 monthly meeting via Zoom videoconferencing. They talked about Deaf Grassroots Movement (DGM) rally at Gallaudet University in March 2018, summary of NAD Leadership Training Conference (NLTC), and Language Equality Acquisition for the Deaf Kids-Kindergarten Ready (LEAD-K).

Secretary's Report:

Vacant.

Trustees' Report:

No report.

Editor's Report:

Deadline for the next newsletter mid-December.

Membership Coordinator Larry Hubbard's Report:

At the last board meeting, there were 200 members. Now there are 198 members. Shared information about Taylor James' newsletter being returned 3 times. President Burdette will take care of it.

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

No report.

Education Advocate April Hottle's Report:

- May 19 — Attended the WVCDHH Board meeting in Wheeling, WV. Spoke briefly about LEAD-K.
- June 11 — Attended a LEAD-K Training in Richmond, VA with four other WV LEAD-K Team members.
- June 24 — WV LEAD-K Team meeting in Ripley, WV.

Fundraising Veronda Harrison's Report:

Continue with football pool and Christmas raffles. Still continue with the Kroger Community rewards and AmazonSmile rewards. Continue with the WVAD\$Ball fundraising.

Old Business:

Remind Donna Williams to finish the Secretary duties. Revise By-Laws/GA motions and to do thank you letters.

New Business:

- Jeffery moved to have Veronda take care of the gifts for the Christmas party. Passed.
- Jeffery moved that we award the three winners for the Ugly Sweater contest at the Christmas party. Passed.
- Gloria moved the monetary award \$25 for first place, \$15 for second place, and \$10 for third place. Passed.
- Jeffery moved that we don't accept Tami Deem's resignation letter as Secretary because the company based in Ohio canceled Tami's job offer due to the company's business needs and would like to have her back on the Board. Passed.
- Jeffery moved that WVAD send President John Burdette and Vice-President Chris Mick as two delegates to 2018 NAD Conference in Hartford, CT, with the understanding if money permits. Passed.
- Jeffery moved that the biennial picnic be held at Summersville Lake either on August 4 or 11, 2018. Passed.
- Gloria moved to have board meetings four times a year. 1st – February 24th at Clarksburg; 2nd – May 11th or 12th at Martinsburg. Further meetings will be determined at next meeting. Passed.
- Chris moved that WVAD save money on mailing expenses on the newsletters. (Tabled.)
- Jeffery moved that WVAD withdraw one Certificate of Deposit in the amount of \$5,000 to help pay for our recent conference at The Resort of Glade Springs, Beckley, WV.

New business closed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m. 🍷



WVAD BIENNIAL PICNIC

SAVE THE DATE:

**Saturday,
August 11, 2018**

**SUMMERVILLE LAKE
AT THE DAM SITE
Picnic Area Shelter #3**

**Watch for announcement
coming in Spring newsletter issue!**



DEAF WESTIVAL 2018

Date: September 22, 2018

Tentative Time: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Please save the date for Deaf WestiVal!
It will be held at the Civic Center in
Charleston, WV to kick off Deaf Awareness
Week. We will have workshops, vendors,
exhibits, and more!

Mark your calendars
and join us for a great day!

SAVE THE DATE

West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

405 Capitol Street, Suite 800, Charleston, WV 25301 304-558-1675

WV LEAD-K by Donna M. Williams

What is LEAD-K? It is Language Equality Acquisition for Deaf Kids. This focuses on language from birth to five years old to be ready for kindergarten.

Each baby's brain grows three times its size during the first three years; at the age of five, the brain is 90% developed. After the age of five, language acquisition becomes much slower. However, many deaf and hard of hearing children miss receiving language between birth and entering kindergarten; therefore, they enter kindergarten with no language.

The LEAD-K bill failed last year. WVAD is trying to get this bill passed again this year. The LEAD-K Team submitted another bill to Delegate Ruth Rowan last fall. She is our main sponsor. She lives in the Romney, WV area and is on the WVSD Board of Trustees. She has a grandson who is deaf.

The new bill includes English, reading, and writing plus assistive technology. It focuses more on communication. Must have language before can communicate. We are working with Delegate Rowan, WV Department of Education,

and WV Department of Health and Human Resources to agree on the bill.

WV legislators are in session now until March 10th. If the changes we want are not made, what can we do? Here are a few things we can do: send letters and/or e-mails to the legislators, call the legislators, and we can also rally to show our support for the LEAD-K bill. I have drafted sample letter/e-mail/phone script.

If you are on Facebook and want to join the closed group called West Virginia LEAD-K Rally & Support Team, please contact me on Facebook through private message or e-mail me. Also, if you want a Town Hall in your area, please send me an e-mail and let me know.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your support. 🖐️

Contact Information:

Donna M. Williams, M.Ed.

WV LEAD-K Point of Contact

E-mail: dmwilliams49@yahoo.com

Text: 304-615-0094

Facebook name: Donna M. Williams



Interesting Facts About Snow

Snowflakes are fun to watch falling down from the sky, but how much do you know about them? Accuweather explains some fun facts about the most fun form of precipitation.

Snow forms when water vapor in the atmosphere freezes into ice crystals.

Snow isn't just made up of snowflakes. Snow is also made of sleet, which is created when snowflakes pass through the atmosphere and melt a little by the time they hit the ground.

Each snowflake is not unique.

It's a myth. Identical snowflakes have been found before and each snowflake has six sides because the molecules that make them up are hexagon shaped.

Snowflakes are not at all white. They are actually translucent, where light is reflected rather than passed through. Because of the snowflake's tiny surface, the light scatters in so many directions that it can't absorb or reflect consistently, and the color comes back as white.

At least 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 (1 septillion) ice crystals fall from the sky in the U.S. alone. Though appearances can be deceiving.

One inch of snow makes about 1/10 of an inch of water.

At least 80 percent of freshwater is frozen, made of either ice or snow.

Snow reflects a high level of ultraviolet radiation and can cause snow blindness (photokeratitis). Sunglasses, goggles, and other eye protection help absorb the ultraviolet rays.

The highest snowfall ever recorded in a one-year period was 31.1 meters (1,224 inches) in Mount Rainier, Washington state, between February 19, 1971 and February 18, 1972. 🌨️

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:	Chris Mick
Secretary:	Tamera Deem
Treasurer:	Veronda Harrison
Senior Trustee:	Gloria Hollen
Trustee:	Worthy Devericks
Trustee:	Jeffery Simmons

KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS & AMAZON SMILE

Free & Easy Ways You Can Help...

Check out our trusted partners and after a quick signup process or app download, they will donate to our WV Association of the Deaf organization every time you complete your shopping at the grocery store or on line. Thank you for your support!



*SUPPORT WVAD! IT'S AS EASY AS SWIPING
YOUR KROGER REWARDS CARD EACH TIME YOU SHOP!*

West Virginia Association of the Deaf has partnered with Kroger's Community Reward Program! This is a program where our organization receives 0.5% donations from Kroger EVERY TIME you purchase groceries in ANY of their stores using your rewards card at no additional cost! Sign up is easy! Re-register annually.

Simply register online at www.krogercommunityrewards.com and choose West Virginia Association of the Deaf! Please share this with your family and friends!

Directions on How to Sign WVAD Up on Your Kroger Rewards Card

1. You must renew the rewards program on your rewards card yearly every September. To renew, go to www.kroger.com. Make sure you are registered. If not, you need to register so you can have an account with them.
2. Click on **Community** tab.
3. Select **Kroger Community Rewards**.
4. Click on **Re-enroll Now**.
5. Click on 5th **Edit** under **Community Rewards**.
6. "Find your Organization" screen comes up. Type in **West Virginia Association of the Deaf** and select this organization. Click on **Enroll**. Now you are all set! Thank you for supporting our organization!

If you need help with this, please contact Veronda Harrison at (304) 964-6025 or Tami Deem at (304) 212-2291.



**SUPPORT
WVAD!**



*SUPPORT WVAD! AMAZON SMILE WILL GIVE
0.5% OF YOUR ELIGIBLE PURCHASES TO
WV ASSOCIATION OF THE DEAF.*

West Virginia Association of the Deaf has partnered with Amazon Smile Program! This is a program where our organization receives 0.5% donations from Amazon Smile EVERY TIME you shop on line at no additional cost! Sign up is easy! No need to re-register annually.

Here's how to donate:

- Log into Amazon Smile: <http://www.smile.amazon.com>. If you do not have an account with Amazon, set one up.
- When you are logged in, you will be prompted to select a charitable organization to give to.
- Scroll down to "pick your own charitable organization" and type in WV Association of the Deaf.
- Select WV Association of the Deaf. You only have to do this once and you are set to go!

Just login to Amazon Smile every time you shop on line. Enjoy shopping on Amazon Smile! Please share this with your family and friends!

Children Experience Christmas Magic Through Deaf Santa Event

By Bishop Nash, *The Herald-Dispatch*, http://www.herald-dispatch.com/news/children-experience-christmas-magic-through-deaf-santa-event/article_120f2e85-dcee-5b14-8301-c35f36e11a0b.html, Posted: December 3, 2017

HUNTINGTON, WV — Ernest Williams didn't say a word when the children rushed to his side as he and his wife, Vickie, entered the room Saturday morning, but his face and the faces of the children he hugged spoke beyond mere words.

In a language as intricate as any one spoken, his white gloves flurried into the simple but well-known sign of the pointer, pinky and thumb extended: "I love you."

It meant nothing short of the world to the children living in a world not built with them in mind. Santa Claus himself knew their language and understood them. They returned the sign, "I love you."

For more than a decade, the Williamses, a deaf couple from Hurricane, West Virginia, have appeared as Santa and Mrs. Claus at Mountwest Community & Technical College's annual Brunch with Deaf Santa at its campus in Huntington. About 250 children, parents, and interpreters from all over the region – as far as Wellston, Ohio, and Charleston – packed the facility for the only "real" Santa they know, said Leigh-Ann Brewer of Mountwest's American Sign Language program.

"What these kids tell me is that there are a lot of fake Santas at the mall and such, but we know where the real Santa is," she explained. "For them, this is the real Santa because he knows our language, too. So to be real, you have to be able to communicate with us, too."

The celebration began decades earlier after MCTC's ASL program members, many deaf themselves, decided to remedy a problem from their own childhoods: not being able to communicate with Santa Claus. What started as the Williamses greeting a dozen or so children with a sack of dollar store toys has spiraled into a full Christmas haul for each child, Brewer said.

Children begin writing letters to Deaf Santa in the summer, essentially signing orders for community volunteers to rush from store to store to fill. Each child receives around five to six gifts – this year including some of the most in-demand toys: Fingerling Monkeys and Hatchimals, or anything on which a child's heart may be set. For some, Brewer added, Saturday may be the only Christmas they have this year.

Eleven-year-old Ray Harvey, of Huntington, unwrapped a package

from his pile of gifts as his family handed them over. The deaf-blind Spring Hill Elementary School student needed no help in realizing Santa had brought just what he wanted.

"A fire truck!" he shouted as soon as his hands felt the toy's windshield.

"You can tell he's just overjoyed," said Callie Smith, Harvey's interpreter. "Starting right after Halloween, he's always saying, 'I'm going to see Deaf Santa soon.'"

Eri Toda has brought her two daughters, Makayla, 8, and Akari, 4, from Charleston each year since Makayla was just 6 months old. The two girls dug into gift bags stacked taller than themselves, comparing gifts, and trading laughs as siblings do.

"They're excited, but I think I'm more excited to watch them," Toda said. "It's a really great experience for them, and as a parent it's exciting to see them – that they can communicate with Santa Claus – that is so special."

More information on Mountwest's ASL program can be found at www.mctc.edu.

Follow reporter Bishop Nash on Twitter @BishopNash. 🐦



Families and friends attend the annual Brunch With Deaf Santa event held Saturday, December 2, 2017, at Mountwest Community and Technical College in Huntington, WV. Photo Credit: Lori Wolfe, *The Herald-Dispatch*.





"In Memory of Loved Ones"



ROSE MARY FIKE

Mrs. Rose Mary Fike, 65, of Poca, WV, passed away November 23, 2017, in the Hubbard Hospice House West.

She is preceded in death by her husband Ralph Fike Sr. and two sons Ralph Fike Jr. and Danny Fike Sr.

Mrs. Fike is survived by her son Paul and wife Belinda Fike, several brothers and sisters, and a host of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Fike graduated from the WV School for the Deaf, Romney, WV, in 1969.

A tribute to the life of Mrs. Rose Mary Fike was at noon Monday, November 27, 2017, at Gatens Harding Funeral Home Chapel. Burial was at Donel C. Kinnard State Veterans Memorial Cemetery. The family received friends one hour prior to the service on Monday, November 27, 2017, at the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent to the family by visiting www.hardingfamilygroup.com. Gatens Harding Funeral Home, 147 Main St., Poca, WV, served the Fike family. 🖤



DANNY LEE HARRIS

Danny Lee Harris was born on November 22, 1947, in Corliss, WV, to Charles Herman and Margarette Emmogene McKneely Harris.

He graduated in 1969 from WV School for the Deaf in Romney, WV. Danny married Sarah Weaver Harris in 1974 in Oneco, FL. He later attended Tennessee Temple School in Chattanooga, TN, where he received training in ministry.

Danny and Sarah were happily married for 43 years. Their daughters and grandchildren were his pride and joy.

He was very active in the Deaf community and a member of Florida Association of the Deaf. Over the years, he sponsored many deaf children to go to summer camp. He also volunteered as a Signing Santa to Deaf children for many years.

He loved classic cars, woodworking, traveling to the mountains in his home state of West Virginia, spending time with family/friends, laughing and joking, sharing his faith, and serving his family and community. His life included over 40 years of Christian ministry, including traveling evangelism, starting and leading Deaf ministries,

and serving as Pastor at Crosspointe Deaf Church, Clearwater, FL. After bravely and faithfully fighting a long illness, Danny passed away peacefully on January 1, 2018, at his home in Pinellas Park, Florida, surrounded by his family.

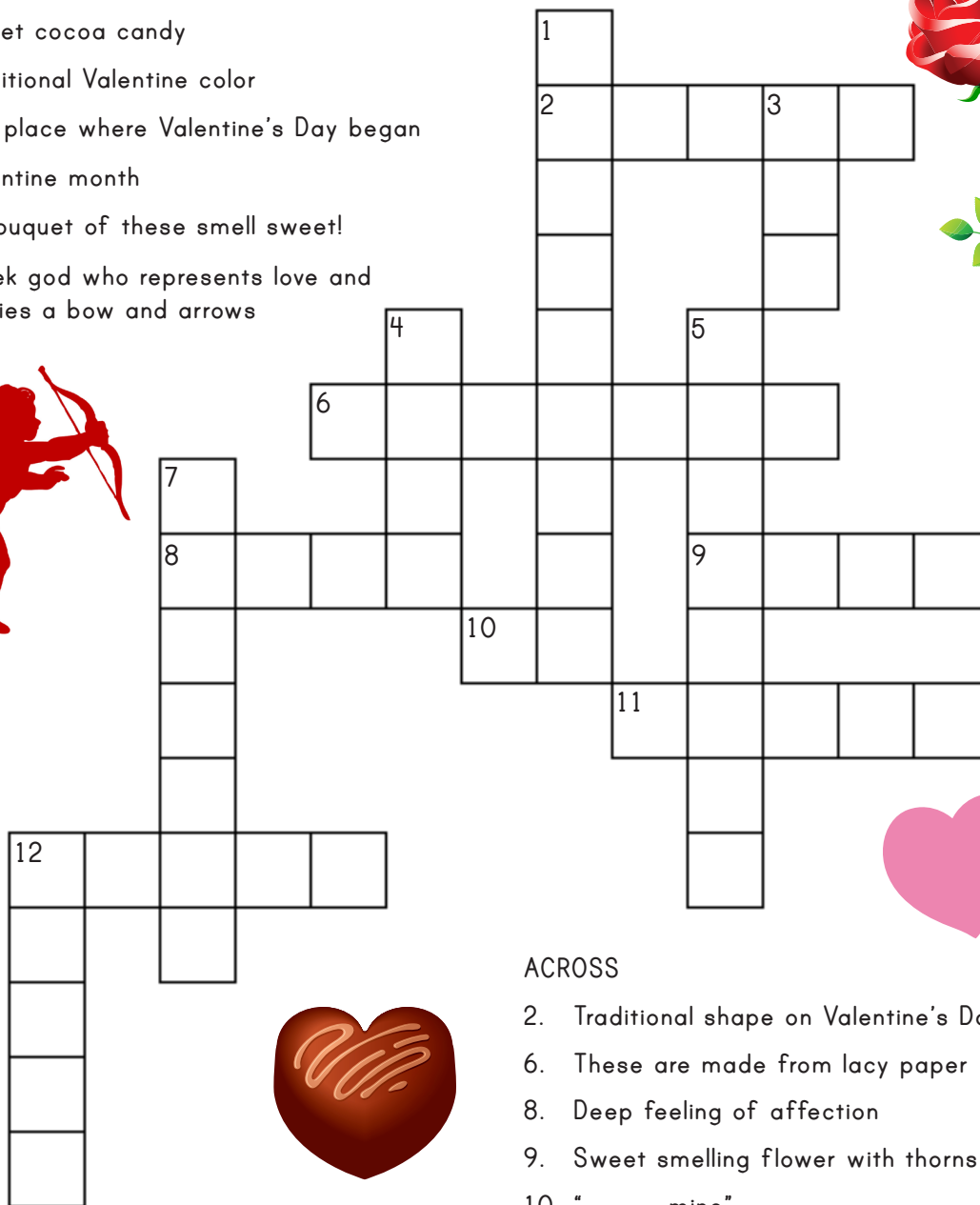
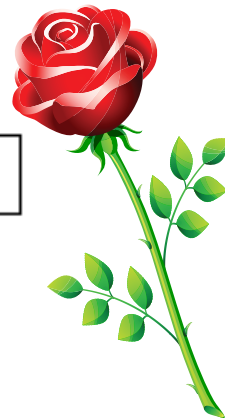
Danny is survived by his wife, Sarah Harris, of Pinellas Park, FL; his children, Carla Harris and Shelby Slocumb of Clearwater, FL, Beth and Greg Barnes of Clearwater, and Missy and Kim Truong of Seminole; his grandchildren, Mason Barnes, Maylee Barnes, Jennah Truong, Jaydan Truong, Judson Truong, and Jackson Truong; his brothers and their families, Wayne and Tweety Harris, Quinwood, WV, Keith and Lea Harris, Beckley, WV, Billy and Flinda Harris, Rupert, WV, Gary and Shelly Harris, Rainelle, WV, Larry Harris, Rainelle, WV, Steve Harris, Rainelle, WV, and Roger and Chrissy Harris, Alderson, WV; his sisters and their families, Barbara Midkiff, Rainelle, WV, and Betty and Jimmy Lemon, Springdale, WV; and many beloved family members in West Virginia, Michigan, Georgia, Oklahoma, and Florida. 🖤

VALENTINE'S DAY FUN PAGE

Cupid Flowers Heart Candy February Chocolate
Love Be Rome Red Cards Doilies Rose

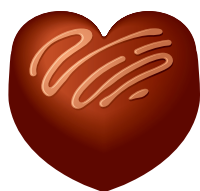
DOWN

1. Sweet cocoa candy
3. Traditional Valentine color
4. The place where Valentine's Day began
5. Valentine month
7. A bouquet of these smell sweet!
12. Greek god who represents love and carries a bow and arrows



ACROSS

2. Traditional shape on Valentine's Day
6. These are made from lacy paper
8. Deep feeling of affection
9. Sweet smelling flower with thorns
10. "_____ mine"
11. Sweet treat given on Valentine's Day
12. Given to friends of February 14



(See Fun Page Answers on page 15)



In the News



Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliance (EPDA) Sets Out to Help Deaf Population

By Jim McConville, Staff Writer, jmconville@journal-news.net, *The Journal*, <http://www.journal-news.net/news/local-news/2017/10/epda-sets-out-to-help-deaf-population/>, Posted: October 20, 2017.

MARTINSBURG — Deaf residents in the Eastern Panhandle now have a voice.

Launched June 1, 2017, the Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliances, Inc., is a non-profit group whose charter is to provide guidance and support services to area residents with hearing disabilities.

"We are trying to build relationships with the deaf, deaf-hard of hearing, and deaf-blind population and the general public — the community," said Christina Vorreyer-Davis, Executive Director of the Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliances, Inc.

The idea for EPDA was the brainchild of Mary Ann Jividen, a member of the EPDA Board of Directors.

"We noticed that the deaf and the hard of hearing, the deaf-blind, and people who have hearing loss in the Eastern Panhandle have no access to anything that they need — medical service, transportation," Vorreyer-Davis said. "So we decided that EPDA had to become a reality."

Kaye Peacock, Treasurer of the Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliances, Inc., said West Virginia is late to the party for providing services to the state's deaf residents.

"In many other states — Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Ohio — they already have deaf community services," Peacock said. "But here in West Virginia, I'm sorry to say we're behind."

It took the group roughly 18 months to take EPDA from concept to reality, Vorreyer-Davis said.

"The purpose of EPDA is to provide top quality services to those people in need," Vorreyer-Davis said. "And not only to those individual people, but to businesses and to schools in the area who just don't know how to work this population."

Services set to be offered by EPDA will include case managers.

"They focus on helping people in the deaf population get their needs met," Vorreyer-Davis said. "We will



Sitting from left: Mary Ann Jividen, President, and Christina Vorreyer-Davis, Executive Director. Standing from left: Kaye Peacock, Treasurer, and Kristopher Davis, Secretary. To learn more about the Eastern Panhandle Deaf Alliance, go to <https://www.facebook.com/WVDEP> and/or email EPDeafAlliances@gmail.com. (Journal Photo by Ron Agnir)

have an advocacy service that will encourage deaf people to be aware of their human rights."

Another EPDA goal is to provide deaf awareness education in the community through workshops and training to people in businesses.

"It will be working with a variety of services, like EMT, fire department, ambulance, hospitals, police, etc.," Vorreyer-Davis said. "It's so they know how to work with deaf people, making sure they have proper communication access and communicate with them in the same depth that they would do with anyone else."

The EPDA also plans to set up what it will call "early family services" to help parents who find that their baby is deaf or deaf-blind.

"Often what happens is that doctors will give parents information and they feel overwhelmed," Vorreyer-Davis said. "The parents don't necessarily get the correct resources. West Virginia is really quite behind."

"We want to support them with whatever choice they make on how to raise their child," Vorreyer-Davis said. "We want to be able to give those resources and referrals and references
(See In the News on page 15)

Thomas and Mary Ann Jividen Celebrates 50th Wedding Anniversary

Thomas had traveled as Journeyman ITU printer since he became a member of ITU before he graduated from the West Virginia School for the Deaf in 1963. He planned to travel to California, he stopped by Cleveland, Ohio, to temporarily work as a printer for the newspaper company in the late fall of 1965. In February 1966 he met Mary Ann Grim, a deaf lady from strong deaf family and relatives in Cleveland, Ohio. In the early summer, he told her to wait for him while he traveled to California and he would be back to meet her later. But she decided to tell him not to expect to see her again after he left for California. For a few days, she had been feeling so sad until she answered the flash-lighted front door "bell." She was stunned to see Thomas standing by the door and he told her he canceled his plans to California.

He did not want to lose her. He continued working at the newspaper company.

After their only 10 months of courtship, Thomas and Mary Ann got married at Cleveland Courthouse on December 17, 1966. They surprised everyone including families and friends. They did not have a honeymoon because they had only \$40 in their pockets and no savings. Thomas had to work the next day and so did Mary Ann on the next 2 days.

Being soulmates together, they had been through what the vows always said as they went through "up and down." Their love still continue to grow strong as they age. They expanded their own family with their two daughters, born in 1972 then in 1979. The family continued to grow, with two son-in-laws and four grandsons.

Their daughters were the only ones to remind them that their 50th anniversary would be on the next year that stunned them. They did not realize how far they continued staying together.

Due to their concern about the weather during their 50th Anniversary Day, they preferred to celebrate in the spring instead of winter. So their daughters gave them a beautiful and wonderful 50th Anniversary party with close to 50 guests in attendance on May 20, 2017. Their daughters had posted many old photos, an original old Mary Ann's and Thomas' wedding suits, and their 50-year-old wedding cake top was used on their anniversary cake again. They shared their memories with all the guests there. Happy 50th Anniversary Mary Ann and Thomas! 🍷



L-R: Molly, Mary Ann, Thomas, and Tina





Please join the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
and the West Virginia Association of the Deaf in celebrating

West Virginia Deaf Awareness Day

**On March 5, 2018 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the
State Capitol — Upper Rotunda
1900 Kanawha Blvd East, Charleston, WV 25305**

West Virginia Deaf Awareness Day has been created to promote awareness of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community. Join us for networking opportunities with exhibitors from various agencies, Deaf associations and other community resources focusing on services for people who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Late Deafened and Deafblind.

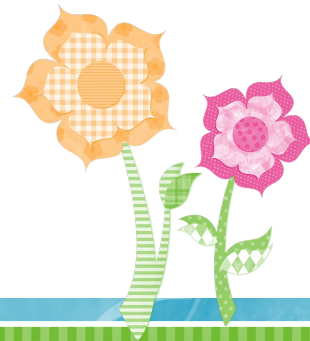
We hope to see you there!



West Virginia Commission for the
Deaf and Hard of Hearing



West Virginia Association
of the Deaf



**If you are interested in exhibiting or have any questions,
please contact Sarah Lowther at Sarah.B.Lowther@wv.gov**

Directions:

If you are coming from the north (I-79 and I-77), take I-64 East (toward Beckley) at the I-64 junction. If you are coming from the east or southeast (turnpike area), stay on I-64 West.

From locations west of Charleston, stay on I-64 East.

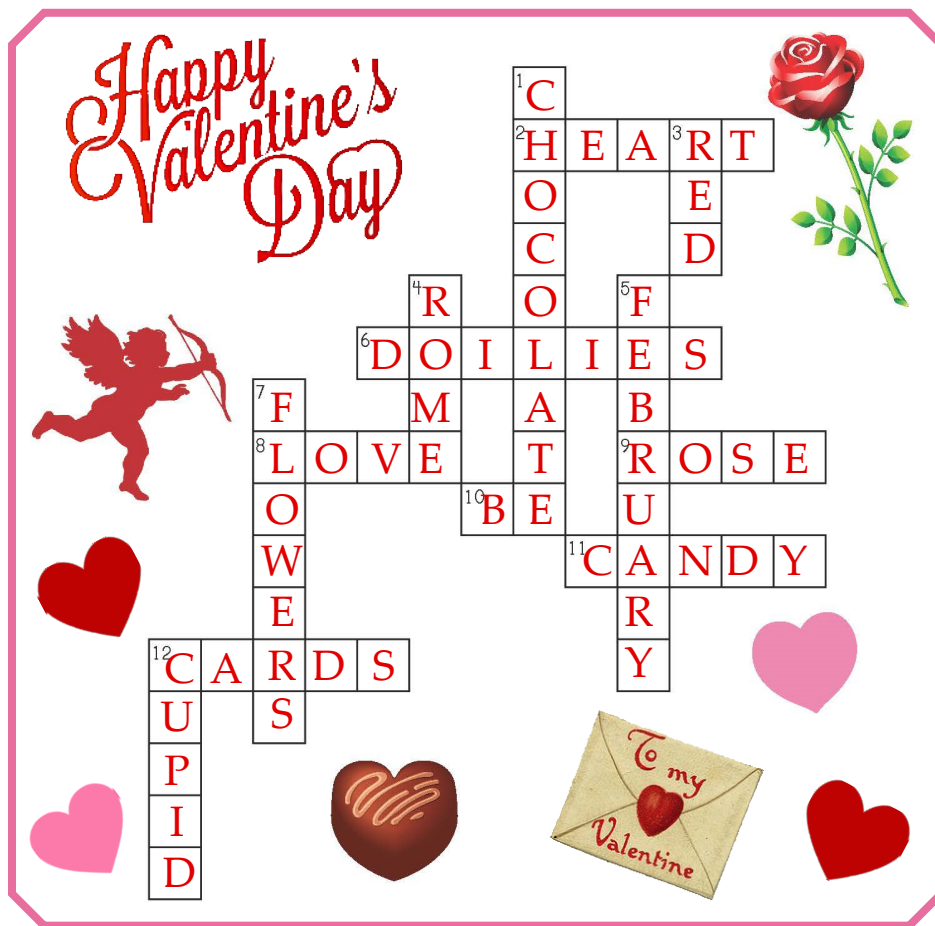
In Charleston, take the State Capitol – Greenbrier Street exit (Exit 99). The gold dome can be seen from the exit. Turn onto Greenbrier Street (Route 114), in the direction of the Capitol Building.

You may park in the 4-hour meter lots near the employee parking garage.

Shuttle During Legislative Session:

The shuttle will operate every 10-15 minutes, departing Laidley Field at 7:00 a.m. through 5:30 p.m., when the shuttle leaves Building 5 for its final daily run.

Visitors are urged to use the Laidley Field visitor parking area or the metered parking spaces in lot at the Piedmont Road entrance when doing business at the State Capitol Complex. The shuttle service is provided free of charge.



where they feel safe, well informed, and empowered to be able to do something for their children."

The EPDA will also offer assistance to senior citizens who find themselves now hearing impaired.

"Deaf people can get to feel really isolated – they have no one to communicate with," Vorreyer-Davis said.

Vorreyer-Davis said EPDA hopes to break that cycle by providing social events and education workshops about their right to life and right to communication.

"We want to make sure they have confidence in themselves, regardless of their older age, that they're still people," she said.

EPDA currently operates a Facebook page and plans to eventually launch its own website.

"Our goal is to invite people to the Facebook page and if they have any hearing friends through church or through work, we're trying to expand the reach that way," Vorreyer-Davis said. "We have about 50 people or so who follow our page."

EPDA is also looking to partner with the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind in Romney, and the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Charleston.

"So we have some ways of reaching out to the West Virginia deaf population," Vorreyer-Davis said.

The EPDA will hold its first fund-raising and community awareness event on Saturday at Camp Frame 4-H site in Hedgesville, WV.

The event runs from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will feature activities for children, as well as a pumpkin carving contest, a silent auction, and raffles.

All funds raised there will support EPDA programs.

And we also want the opportunity to meet people," Vorreyer-Davis said. 🍀



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WINTER CHICKEN BAKE

This is an easy recipe that is warm, hearty, healthy, and colorful. The tartness of the cranberries compliments the sweetness of the barbecue sauce and the mellow sweet potatoes. Homemade barbecue sauce may also be used, but your favorite barbecue sauce will work too. (Prep time: 25 minutes, cook time: 55 minutes, ready in 1 hour and 20 minutes)

1 sweet potato
1/2 medium sweet onion (chopped)
1 medium apple (peeled, cored, and chopped)
3 carrots (peeled and chopped)

2 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
2 Tablespoons barbecue sauce
1 cup cranberries



1. Preheat oven to 375 °F (190 °C). Lightly grease a baking dish.
2. Pierce the sweet potato several times with a fork and cut in half. Place in a microwave-safe dish; pour water to about 1/2-inch deep. Cook in microwave for 10 minutes.
3. Arrange the onion, apple, and carrots into the bottom of the prepared baking dish. Brush the barbecue sauce on both sides of the chicken breasts and lay atop the vegetables. Peel the sweet potato and cut into large chunks; scatter into the baking dish. Sprinkle the cranberries over the dish.
4. Bake in the preheated oven until the chicken is tender and no longer pink in the center, 45 to 55 minutes. Allow to cool 5 minutes before serving.



ROQUEFORT PEAR SALAD

This salad is tangy from the blue cheese, fruity from the pears, and crunchy from the caramelized pecans. The mustard vinaigrette pulls it all together to make an excellent healthy salad! (Prep time: 20 minutes, cook time: 10 minutes, ready in 30 minutes)

1 head leaf lettuce (torn into bite-size pieces)
3 pears (peeled, cored, and chopped)
5 ounces Roquefort cheese (crumbled)
1 avocado (peeled, pitted, and diced)
1/2 cup thinly sliced green onions
1/4 cup white sugar
1/2 cups pecans

1/3 cup olive oil
3 Tablespoons red wine vinegar
1-1/2 teaspoons white sugar
1-1/2 teaspoons prepared mustard
1 clove garlic (chopped)
1/2 teaspoon salt
Fresh ground black pepper to taste



1. In a skillet over medium heat, stir 1/4 cup of sugar together with the pecans. Continue stirring gently until sugar has melted and caramelized the pecans. Carefully transfer nuts onto waxed paper. Allow to cool and break into pieces.
2. For the dressing, blend oil, vinegar, 1-1/2 teaspoons sugar, mustard, chopped garlic, salt, and pepper.
3. In a large serving bowl, layer lettuce, pears, Roquefort cheese, avocado, and green onions. Pour dressing over salad, sprinkle with pecans, and serve.



STRAWBERRY ANGEL FOOD DESSERT

Angel food pieces are topped with sweetened cream cheese, whipped topping, and strawberries in glaze in this chilled, layered dessert. (Prep time: 15 minutes, ready in 15 minutes)

1 (10-inch) angel food cake
2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened
1 cup white sugar
1 (18 ounce) jar strawberry glaze

1 (8 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
1 quart fresh strawberries, sliced
Blueberries (option)



1. Crumble the cake into a 9x13 inch dish.
2. Beat the cream cheese and sugar in a medium bowl until light and fluffy. Fold in whipped topping. Mash the cake down with your hands and spread the cream cheese mixture over the cake.
3. In a bowl, combine strawberries and glaze until strawberries are evenly coated. Spread over cream cheese layer. Top with blueberries if desired. Chill until serving.

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- ☐ 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: \$ _____
☐ **Yes!** I want to donate to Education Fund: \$ _____
☐ I want to be a WVAD volunteer.
☐ Spouse wants to be a WVAD volunteer.

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION: \$ _____

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

JOIN WVAD TODAY!

