



CID CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

Spring/Summer 2006

For alumni, faculty, staff,
students and friends of CID

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CID – Central Institute for the Deaf – is a financially independent affiliate of CID at Washington University School of Medicine, which operates CID-developed research, adult clinic and professional education programs to benefit children and adults with hearing loss.

The whole child.
Congratulations,
graduates.
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Simmons-Martin.
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**Bound
for success.**
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**A few of
our friends.**
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Photo by Tom Rollins



Robin Feder accepted a FOCUS St. Louis What's Right With the Region! award from Steve Maritz on behalf of CID.

Pre-literacy fun in Pre-K

Introducing the New Auditory-Oral Preschool

In the past, no matter their language level, deaf children learning to talk required a very structured approach to teaching language. Everything they were expected to learn was drilled over and over. Only through repetition were they able to acquire vocabulary and language.

Technological advances and hospital hearing screening laws mean that today's deaf children typically have more access to sound earlier. In response to this trend, CID teachers have re-examined the preschool learning experience and developed the New Auditory-Oral Preschool, an unpromising program emphasizing emerging literacy and natural language acquisition enabled by sophisticated hearing aids and cochlear implants.

When hearing-impaired children arrive at preschool, they often have already been prepared, through early intervention services and state-of-

the-art hearing devices, to benefit from being flooded with sound and language. A teacher must not only be familiar with a child's specific expressive and receptive language skills, but must determine how that child is best able to learn language. Class groupings can be based not only on language skills, but on the type of teaching that enables each child to experience the most success.

Teachers must identify which children require structure and which are more capable of learning language incidentally, in less structured situations. These children will learn more concepts through conversation as they prepare to participate in a mainstream classroom.

Even the most successful hearing-impaired children are likely to miss at least some of the language occurring in natural settings, so they will always need to be taught in

a way that compensates for what they miss.

Components of the New Auditory-Oral Preschool at CID include speech, language and auditory curricula, a strong focus on emerging literacy and pre-academics, an early childhood curriculum designed to foster the development of the whole child, integration of hearing children to encourage pragmatic language and theme-based learning.

CID preschool-kindergarten coordinating teacher Lynda Berkowitz, MS, CED and special projects associate/teacher Ellie Rice, MS, CED lead this initiative, developed a workshop and authored an article submitted for publication in *Volta Voices*, the magazine of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The program features emerging literacy practices incorporated from the mainstream with the help of the Dana Brown Charitable Trust.

CID — What's Right With the Region!

Diane Sullivan and Steve Maritz, co-chairs of the FOCUS St. Louis What's Right With the Region! 2006 awards event in May, presented CID executive director Robin Feder, MS, CFRE an award honoring CID for Creating Quality Educational Opportunities.

The award recognized CID as a leader in assessment- and ability-based oral education for children with hearing loss and as an innovator in fostering literacy in preschoolers with hearing loss. The presenters also noted CID's support for young families and history as a pioneer in the field of audiology.

FOCUS St. Louis' mission is to create a thriving, cooperative region by engaging citizens to participate in active leadership roles and to influence positive community change.

Diane Sullivan is the president of Brown Shoe Co. and Steve Maritz is the chief executive officer of Maritz, Inc.



Robin M. Feder, MS, CFRE
Executive Director

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The whole child and the community

Less than two decades ago, CID teachers focused each day on teaching their students every sound, every word, every phrase and sentence. With the revolution of cochlear implants, digital hearing aids and newborn hearing screening, the face of oral deaf education has changed dramatically. It takes less intensity and less time to teach our children to listen and talk. Instead of staying at CID 10–12 years, they often stay 3–5 years. And while they are here, windows of time are even available to enable us to focus not only on speech, language, listening and academics, but also on the development of the whole child.

To ensure CID students gain experiences similar to those of their peers who can hear, physical education, computers, art, music and special activities have long been part of our curriculum. During the

past few years, our increased focus on the whole child has meant additional attention earlier, particularly on developing skills in the areas of literacy and early literacy, cognition, gross and fine motor. It has also included helping our students develop pragmatic and social skills as well as expanding their experiences in sports and the arts. The goal is to provide a foundation from which they may integrate as smoothly as possible into their home town schools and communities.

So, in addition to our teachers, who better to help prepare our children to participate in the community at large than individuals from the community?

This year, we have been fortunate to have the involvement of extraordinary volunteers who have brought the community into CID. Many of these individuals are fea-

tured in this issue of *sound effects*. They include Scott Monette, who coached the students to become basketball champions, and Betty and Paul Mendelson, who created an after school tennis program with the involvement of the U.S. Tennis Association. Virginia and Jim Meyer brought the gift of music to our children's ears with the participation of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra, and photojournalist Tom Rollins taught them the joy of photographing the world around them. Kim Miller continued her tradition of hosting fun parties, at a skate rink, the zoo and her home.

Thanks to our wonderful teachers and volunteers, our education of CID children indeed focuses on the whole child. And when they graduate, they are more fully prepared to participate in the broader community.—RF

Congratulations, graduates!

In May, a joint ceremony was held to honor eight hearing-impaired students from CID and 18 students graduating from the CID-affiliated Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences (PACS) at Washington University School of Medicine. The CID graduates are (front row, left to right): Zak Miles, Austin Spears, Akash Soorkun, Brittany Brunetta, Michelle Beehner, Ryan Roberts and Danielle Burcham. (Forest Shipp is not shown.) The PACS graduates are: Anne Murray, Andrea Golfin, Abby Baden, Gina Martino, Aimie Marlow and Jill Hardesty (second row), Jordan King, Jamie Cadieux, Lauren Pfaender, Erika Knox, Jeanne Flowers, Tara Beck and Michelle Grempe (third row), and Andrea Osman, Erin Lanfer, Kristine Voytas, Marlene Lopez and Amanda Stever (back row). In keeping with longstanding tradition, the CID graduates gave a speech or recited a poem.

Five join board of managers

At its winter meeting, the CID board of managers welcomed new members Timothy Koehl, David Ripes and Arthur Scharff as well as new staff and parent representatives, Nancy Barklage and Lesa Thomas, respectively.

Timothy Koehl is responsible for sales training globally for Edward Jones. David Ripes is an assistant vice president at Enterprise Rent-A-Car. Arthur Scharff is the founder and CEO of Presidents' Council, dedicated to helping corporate leaders become more effective, and a retired CEO

of Smith-Scharff. Nancy Barklage is a second-year teacher at CID. Lesa Thomas is the mother of CID student Trent Thomas.

Board officers for 2006 are: Thomas Jayne, president; Robert Clark, Richard Jensen, Ralph Kalish, Jr., Joanne Knight, Hugh Scott, III, William Sheldon, James Snowden, Jr., Bruce Springer and John Weil, vice presidents; Barbara Morris, secretary; Amy Tighe, assistant secretary; Theodore Armstrong, treasurer, and Baker Cunningham, assistant treasurer.

A fresh start: The Language Center at CID



Madelyn Holroyd, 5, and Rheanna Mulvaney, 4, were among children who recently graduated from The Language Center at CID.

Speech and language clinics were part of CID as early as 1914 and have been so throughout our history. The spring 2006 semester saw a revival of this work as CID teachers applied their expertise to help four hearing children with speech and language delays catch up on their skills in time for kindergarten. This summer, two classes of four children each are scheduled at The Language Center at CID.



Ultimate Picnic Committee members Laurie Miller, Cheryl Warren and Mayra Assi with CID students Brittany Brunetta and Akash Sookun (back row) and Armani Moore, Zak Miles and Michelle Beehner (front).

CID hosts the Ultimate Napa Valley Picnic

The CID gym was transformed into a lush California vineyard in May for the CID Ultimate Napa Valley Picnic, which raised \$234,000 for CID. Guests enjoyed cocktails and dinner featuring a variety of fine wines, a spirited children's performance of "I Heard It Through the Grapevine," fabulous auctions, music and dancing. Auction items included a weekend in Napa Valley with personal winery tours, stays in Paris, Colorado, Ontario and England, adorable Pug and Sheltie puppies and a walk-on part at The Muny. Thank you to our donors, including generous table sponsors and members of the Top Hat Scholarship Club, and to our volunteers, including a phenomenal steering committee: Ellen Clark, Linda Goldstein, Sarah Green, Carolyn Lussier, Laura Lyon, Betty Mendelson, Kim Miller, Karen Monette, Deanne Parnas, Cheryl Warren and Anabeth Weil.

Thank you, COC!

In February, the CID Corporate Outreach Committee's fourth annual Trivia Night netted \$10,584 to bring the group's overall fundraising total to \$147,000 to benefit the CID school children.

The Corporate Outreach Committee (COC) is composed of young professionals who serve as CID ambassadors in the St. Louis community, raising awareness and

support from St. Louis businesses. The members are: Mariquita Barbieri, Phil Donato, Morgan Jensen, Valerie Kotys, Shuang Li, Danielle Mangogna, Chris Nitzsche, Tadd Simmons, Caroline Springer, Eric Stisser, Jeff Tucker, Todd Weaver, Steve Williamson and Jeff Wolfe.

Contact Christy Maxfield, 314.977.0225, to learn how you can be part of this group.



Olivette Parks and Recreation
2005-2006

2006 CID Bulldogs:
Brittany Brunetta, Danielle Burcham, coach Scott Monette, Akash Sookun and Molly Parker (back row), Darryl Pointer, Matthew Monette, Zak Miles and Trent Thomas (middle row) and Austin Spears, Kimberly Greenwald and Armani Moore (front).

CID Bulldogs complete extraordinary season in Olivette boys' basketball league

Competing against hearing teams of all boys, CID students came from behind in the final game in their City of Olivette Boys' League 8-12 age division, ultimately winning with a score of 17-16 and finishing tied for number of wins with the team from Old Bonhomme.

The CID team, dubbed by the children the "Bulldogs," was composed of five girls and six boys ages 7-12 and led by CID parents Scott Monette and Ann Brewer. The Bulldogs' record for 2006 was 6 wins, 2 losses. Each loss was by only 2 points: 20-18 and 22-20, respectively. The Old Bonhomme team's

record was 6 wins, one loss and one tie.

"Our main goals were to have fun and work together as a team and we accomplished that above all else," said coach Monette, who is also a member of the CID board. "Our team also taught a lot of people about what hearing-impaired kids can do. In the future, everyone they played against and all of their fans will know more about hearing impairment. They won't be as quick to judge what kids are capable of. In some small way, our team made a statement for all hearing-impaired kids."

"I'm so proud of everybody for their hard work,"



he added. "Everybody played and everybody contributed to our success."

Last year, Scott Monette coached a mixed hearing and hearing-impaired team with five CID students and five hearing children in the Olivette league. Four of this year's players competed on his team last year. For the rest, it was the first-time for league play.

St. Louis Symphony members bring music to deaf preschoolers

In January, members of the St. Louis Symphony treated young CID students to a world premiere performance of "Tuffy the Silly Tuba," likely the first piece of music created specifically for the enjoyment of deaf children 2 to 5 years old.

Symphony clarinetist Jim Meyer composed the music and performed it at CID along with his fellow Symphony members, David Kim (cello), Tod Bowermaster (French horn), Dana Myers (violin) and Michael Sanders (tuba). To go with his music, Meyer wrote a story about Tuffy, a mischievous tuba

who does not at first understand the value of hard work and practice in the creative process. Jim's wife, Virginia, also the CID school nurse, narrated Tuffy's story.

In composing the 25-minute piece, Meyer took advantage of notes in the lower register, which are well-suited for the tuba and cello and which can be perceived by many deaf children using today's sophisticated digital hearing aids and cochlear implants. To the very first notes of the music, the children responded with smiles of astonishment. Some pointed to their ears and giggled.



Children from the CID Joanne Parrish Knight Family Center and preschool-kindergarten attended with family members and teachers. The performance was part of the St. Louis Symphony's Community Partnerships Program.

Professional photographer helps students see the world in new ways



Thirty-five years ago, a U.S. Marine in Vietnam was inspired by famous *Life Magazine* photographer Larry Burles. Meeting Burles while riding on an attack helicopter began a lifelong career for the Marine, who took up a camera right away as a way to communicate what he saw. Now professional photographer Tom Rollins says the pictures he took at the time were not technically very good, but they met his need to express what he could not put into words.

Rollins went on to develop his talents, specializing in nature and travel photography. He has been the staff photographer for the World Bird Sanctuary for the past 15 years and his work has been featured extensively in travel and nature publications such as *Audubon* magazine. His photographs of rivers in the West, the Midwest and China are featured in books of photography. He also loves teaching others, including, this past fall, the primary-middle school children at CID.

Rollins entered the classroom to share his deep conviction for photography as a potent form of expression. He introduced the subject in weekly classes, shared his experiences and helped the students learn basic principles and have fun. He procured cameras and film developing and coached the students to take their own pictures for a contest at the end of the class. He made prints of all of the photographs and enlargements of the winners.

Rollins' largess has not ended at introducing photography to the students.

CID primary-middle school students became enthusiastic shutterbugs last fall during a class with professional photographer Tom Rollins. One of the students' subjects was a Great Horned Owl from the World Bird Sanctuary (see photo upper right).



He has also arranged for representatives from the World Bird Sanctuary to visit CID with live birds of prey and for the children to visit the Sanctuary next fall. In addition, he treated the students to a day at the circus.

Despite his busy schedule, including recent photography excursions to Italy and Alaska, Rollins has donated additional time and talent to CID by taking photographs for use in display and publication. The walls of the Joanne Parrish Knight Family Center are now adorned with beautiful enlargements of Rollins' photos of young deaf children with their parents and teachers helping them begin to learn to talk. Some of his photographs also appear in CID's 2005 annual report to the community, in ads, in newspaper articles and on a conference display.

A good friend to CID, Tom Rollins is both helping to enrich the lives of our students and helping CID more graphically communicate our mission and stories to the world.



Photo by Tom Rollins

Steve Korb and fellow representatives of the World Bird Sanctuary (WBS) brought live birds of prey to visit the CID students in November. Korb, who is deaf, gave an educational presentation and answered many questions from the students. His visit was facilitated by CID volunteer Tom Rollins.



Paul Mendelson (left), a longtime friend of CID and member of the Sponsors' Program, and his wife, Betty, rallied fellow members of the Missouri Valley Section of the U.S. Tennis Association to start a weekly after school tennis program for the students. The Mendelsons also procured nets, racquets, tennis balls and other equipment for the CID physical education program.



CID board member Kim Miller continued her tradition of hosting fun outings with the children, this year treating them to a pool party, an ice skating party and a behind-the-scenes tour of the zoo.



CID Alumni Association (CIDAA) president Bob Crowell joined members Susan Reekers, Trudy Miller and Susan Prail in December to present \$10,000 to help children learning to listen and talk at CID. The CIDAA held golf tournaments to amass a record sum for its generous annual gift. School principal JoEllen Epstein, accepted the gift on behalf of the students.



Sam Evers and Kevin Ahrens were among CID alumni who visited the students in their classes this year. Speakers at parent meetings included Fred Hawes, Amy Varble, Marlene Lopez, Kathy Allen, CID parents Kathy Ahrens, J.J. Bu and Melissa Guerra, deaf adults Byron Key, Cathy Sarli, Dennis Selznick, Paige Thompson, Bob Tweedie and Pat Wasserman and ENTs Anthony Mikulec, MD and Stanton Jones, AuD.



CID has a long history of providing volunteer opportunities for local students doing service projects. This year's volunteers include Jason Rusch and Brandon Veerhoff (shown above with some CID preschool-kindergarten children) and Michael Guilfooy from St. Louis University High School as well as students from St. Louis University, Washington University, Westminster Christian Academy and Whitfield School.



Gloria Freund treated Flat Zak to a cruise to Hawaii and the Panama Canal. Upon her return, she shared souvenirs and stories with three-dimensional Zak Miles.



Board members help expand students' horizons

From snow-capped mountains to more tropical terrain, this year CID board members helped expand the world of primary-middle school students by participating in the Flat Stanley Literacy Project.

First the students read the book, *Flat Stanley*, following the main character's adventures after he was accidentally squashed and flattened, able to travel the world by mail as a result of his new shape and size. The students made cut-out Flat Stanley figures and asked board members to take them along in their travels.

The students had fun receiving postcards, letters and photographs from the board — and from Stanley — from as near as Springfield, Illinois and as far away as Antarctica.

Ralph Kalish took Stanley to the Negro League Baseball Museum in Kansas City. Richard Jensen took him skiing in Colorado. Judy Alexander and Stanley visited Arizona, and Las Vegas and her family

farm. Doris Blanchard introduced Stanley to Antarctica and the Falkland Islands and made a presentation about her adventures to a CID class upon her return. Linda Woodruff took Stanley to the Lincoln Museum and Scott Monette and his family showed him the sights of San Antonio, Texas.

During an art excursion to Chicago with Bruce Springer, Stanley got lost in a stack of travel brochures and then blew a whole block down Michigan Avenue before he was saved!

For a more vicarious experience, some of the children self-named their cut-outs. Flat Chanda joined Ted Armstrong on a train ride to Chicago and fishing on Sanibel Island. Flat Zak hung out with Hawaiian cliff divers and cruised the Panama Canal with Gloria Freund, who brought back souvenirs. Flat Austin went on a Bahamian cruise and attended Bud Meissner's 65th college reunion.



Ted Armstrong (top) and Richard Jensen were among CID board members who took time from their travels for the kids.



Pam Lowery gave CID student and fellow "Olympic medalist" Danielle Burcham a big hug on Nike Go Day in February. Lowery was among 20 volunteers from Nike IHM, Inc. St. Charles who teamed with the children to participate in competitive activities in honor of the 2006 Winter Olympics. It was the Nike event's sixth year at CID.



Marjorie McCarthy
Robins

Marjorie McCarthy Robins, a life member of the CID board of managers, died in November 2005. She was 91.

Mrs. Robins was active on many committees since she joined the board in 1971 and served as the board's first and only female president from 1977 to 1978. As a member of the CID Legacy Society, she left a generous \$350,000 bequest to help deaf children learn to talk.

Since 1930, CID has been affiliated with the Roblee family — first through Mrs. Joseph H. Roblee, a patient of CID founder Max Goldstein, and later with her granddaughter, Mrs. Robins. Mrs. Robins was a generous member of the CID Sponsors Program and in addition facilitated an annual grant from the Roblee Foundation. We are honored to have the Joseph A. and Florence A. Roblee Endowed Scholarship Fund at CID, which helps students attend regardless of their family's ability to pay.

We fondly remember Mrs. Robins for her dedicated service and continuous, remarkable friendship.

Sara Polito Castro Denham, an alumni of the formerly CID-based Washington University deaf education program, died in November of 2005 at age 78.

Mrs. Denham and her sister, Julia, attended CID from 1954 to 1955 and also spent

time studying at other U.S. schools for the deaf. In 1956, the sisters helped found the Instituto Oral Modelo in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

In 1961, Mrs. Denham started the first university teacher training course at Salvador University Medical School, and the Instituto Oral Modelo became an observation and teaching practice site for schools throughout Latin America.

1952 CID school alumnus **Douglas Bullard**, a geologist and author of the *Islay* fantasy novel trilogy, died in January of 2005 in Tampa Bay, Florida.

As a young man, Mr. Bullard studied geology at the University of Alaska before majoring in English at Gallaudet University. His profession was conducting preconstruction studies of Alaskan highway and airport sites.

Later, as president of the Florida Association of the Deaf, he helped save the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind from closure. He also worked to assist deaf alcoholics in Tampa Bay.

Jean Hayden died in December of 2005 in Virginia at age 78. Mrs. Hayden received her teacher training at CID in the 1950s and taught deaf children at CID and then privately, in Kansas and in Europe. Her daughter, Melinda, graduated from the CID school in 1963.



A tribute to Dr. Audrey Simmons-Martin

Audrey Simmons-Martin, EdD, an educator at CID from 1942 to 1981 who was an innovator in the field of early intervention for childhood deafness, died in April of 2006 in Webster Groves, Missouri. She was 87.

In 1941, Audrey Simmons earned a bachelor's degree from the Washington University program in education of the hearing impaired, then run by CID, in the last class to receive instruction from CID founder Max Goldstein.

In 1942, she joined the CID school as a teacher. In 1949 she became director of the adult aural rehabilitation program, where she would meet her future husband, James Martin, a client. In 1968, she became director of early education at CID.

In 1958, Simmons began the first formal parent-infant program for deaf children too young for school. The program became a model for programs throughout the world and has evolved into today's Joanne Parrish Knight Family Center, serving children with hearing loss birth–3. The program takes place in a home-like environment similar to the one Simmons developed, where teachers helped parents “use daily household activities to encourage their children to talk, to label the world and to respond to the speech of others.”

In 1962, Simmons focused on accelerating the learning

of a class of partially deaf children by making maximum use of their residual hearing, thus becoming one of the pioneers working with the auditory-oral method, a method still used at CID and at oral schools for the deaf throughout the world.

Simmons earned masters and doctoral degrees from Washington University in 1945 and 1963, respectively. She became a faculty member in 1949 and later a professor in the CID-based Department of Speech and Hearing.*

In 1963, she received an Outstanding Working Women award for her achievements in the field of deaf education and in 1964 the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association named her a Fellow. In 1970, the *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* recognized her innovative parent-infant education program with a Woman of Achievement in Education award.

In 1972, Simmons married. Later that decade, she joined an organizing committee that helped establish and promote the Parents As Teachers program in St. Louis, a program eventually adopted nationwide. Later, she helped Parents As Teachers obtain support and information about hearing screening — information now a part of the training every parent educator receives.

Simmons-Martin published papers, edited a book,

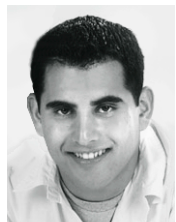
taught at universities and presented workshops on her methods from coast to coast and abroad. She served as project director for many programs and was active on the boards of national and local civic and professional organizations including Zonta International, St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf, the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Business and Professional Women's Club, YWCA, Delta Kappa Gamma, Group Action Council and the Speech and Hearing Association of Greater St. Louis.

In the late 1970s, the American Organization for the Education of the Hearing Impaired, now the professional section of the Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, named Simmons-Martin Teacher of the Year and she was honored by American Men and Women of Science.

After she retired in 1981, Simmons-Martin continued to work as a writer and consultant for oral deaf education programs. With Karen Glover Rossi, a fellow CID professional alumna who heads the Omaha Speech School, she co-authored *Parents and Teachers: Partners in Language Development*, published in 1990.

* Program in Audiology and Communication Sciences, Washington University School of Medicine, since 2003

Alumni news



Mark Leekoff



Jeff Tucker

Leekoff gets Graeme Clark Award

In February, 20-year-old CID alumnus Mark Leekoff, a second-year pre-med student at Tufts University in Boston, received a 2006 Graeme Clark Scholarship from Cochlear Americas.

Deaf since birth, Leekoff received a cochlear implant in 1989 and graduated from CID in 1993 at age 7. As a child, he received a Yes I Can! award and a STARS award, the latter from fellow CID alum Heather Whitestone during her term as Miss America 1995. Leekoff has

decided on a medical specialty — otolaryngology — and will work as an intern in the Georgetown University Medical School Department of Otolaryngology this summer.

The Graeme Clark award was presented by Heather Whitestone McCallum with Graeme Clark, a pioneer in cochlear implant technology. The presentation took place at an event at Walt Disney World celebrating 20 years since Cochlear Americas launched the first cochlear implant system.

Tucker to join Bryan Cave

In May, 25-year-old 1987 CID alumnus Jeff Tucker graduated from the JD program at the University of Michigan.

Tucker will take the bar exam this summer and in September will join St. Louis law firm Bryan Cave as an associate. When he does, he will join fewer than 100 deaf attorneys nationwide.

Tucker has been profoundly hearing-impaired since he was born. He began

in the CID parent-infant program at the age of 8 months and graduated when he was 6 years old.

In high school, he was a champion debater, competing at the regional and state levels and qualifying for the nationals. He earned his bachelor's degree in history and political science at Northwestern University.

Founded in 1873, Bryan Cave is Missouri's largest law firm.



Optimist Club West St. Louis recently named CID students Akash Sookun and Brittany Brunetta 2006 Students of the Year. Teacher Peg Merlie (right) and coordinating teacher Barb Lanfer were among those who attended a ceremony in their honor.

Preparing for the mainstream: Zak's story



Photo by Tom Rollins

Zak Miles received a cochlear implant when he was 3, but spent five years struggling with services provided by his school district in Dothan, Alabama. In 2002, at age 8, his mother moved to the St. Louis area so he could attend the CID primary-middle school.

"When Zak first visited CID four years ago, he was quiet and nervous, with reports suggesting possible behavioral issues," said Barb Lanfer, coordinator of the primary-middle school. "But the day he walked into our classroom, he was fine. You could tell he felt comfortable. He just fit in."

Now, teachers describe the 12-year-old as outgoing, cheerful, positive, cooperative and hardworking — a super kid with a wonderful personality and a great sense of humor. Zak has at least one girlfriend, loves sports and social studies and was a star on the CID basketball team. He has learned to read at CID and, in April of 2005, was named an Optimist Club Student of the Year.

The fall 2005 semester presented special challenges for Zak, since he spent much of it preparing to mainstream part-time at a local school in January. This meant spending additional time on school work, including practicing organizational skills and study skills, doing daily reading assignments and

homework and completing longer-term independent projects. It also meant concentrating on pragmatic skills such as asking for help and speaking in a louder voice in a bigger classroom. In a special unit during Health and Growth class at CID, Zak and the other students acted out social situations and practiced skills such as breaking gracefully into conversations.

In January, Zak found himself a newcomer again, attending fifth grade at McKelvey Elementary in the afternoons for science and social studies while still at CID in the mornings. The experience helped him

get used to attending classes with hearing kids.

Zak was among CID graduates in May. This fall, he will attend sixth grade at Ozark City School in Alabama.

"People think I'm funny and they like hearing me talk," Zak said during his commencement speech. "Maybe I learned to talk too well!"

Zak is among hearing-impaired children coming to CID after struggling in mainstream classrooms as academic subjects increase in difficulty beyond first grade. In the 2005–2006 school year, seven CID children fit that description.

CID CENTRAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

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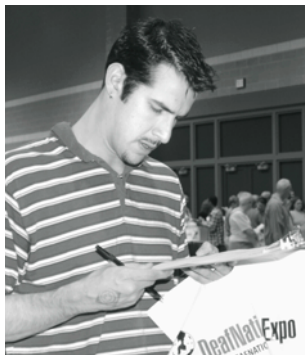
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sound effects and annual report (2005 now available!).

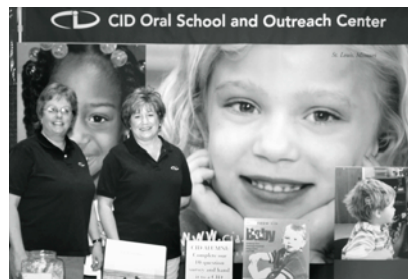
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Familiar faces



In April, CID hosted an exhibit at the DEAFNATION EXPO in St. Charles, Missouri. Many CID alumni were in the crowd, including, from left: Jimmy Rushing (1995), Carrie Lyn St. Cyr and Madison Travers, CIDAA vice president David Ritchey (1971) and Kathryn Sheldon (1959). Below: Coordinating teachers Barb Lanfer and Chris Clark were among staff who tended the booth.



In November, six CID staff members presented at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) conference in San Diego, from back left: Barb Lanfer, Abby Zoia, Jennifer Johnson, JoEllen Epstein, Christy Borders and Saneta Thurmon.



Molly Parker and Trent Thomas were among CID students treated to lunch with the conductor, Scott Parkman, after attending a St. Louis Symphony children's performance in February. Symphony clarinetist Jim Meyer arranged the visit.



In April, CID middle school students were among more than 1,000 local children who earned medals for reading 26 books, doing 26 good deeds and running 26.2 miles in the Spirit of St. Louis Read, Right and Run marathon.

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