

deafweekly

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Editor: Tom Willard

Deafweekly is an independent news report for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. It is mailed to subscribers every Wednesday morning and available to read at www.deafweekly.com. For information, contact mail@deafweekly.com.

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NATIONAL
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SUSPECT ARRESTED IN 1989 WASHINGTON, D.C. MURDER

A 15-year-old murder mystery is closer to being solved following the arrest of deaf suspect Ricky Andre Haywood of West Goshen, Pa. Ronnie Johnson, 33, died July 29, 1989 of a single stab wound in southeast Washington, D.C. A criminal complaint charging Haywood with second-degree murder indicates that witnesses, all of whom are hearing impaired, came forward recently. They say Haywood suspected Johnson of having an affair with his girlfriend, who supplied him with the knife. Haywood, 39, was taken into custody at his home Dec. 9 by Washington authorities and West Goshen police. He waived extradition and was expected to be transported to Washington by the end of the month.

PARENTS SUE SOUTH DAKOTA SCHOOL OVER ALLEGED ABUSE

The Associated Press reported yesterday on a lawsuit that has been filed against the South Dakota School for the Deaf by the parents of two SDSD students. The lawsuit alleges that the school failed to protect the students from sexual and physical assault by a 17-year-old student. The students were 12 and 13 at the time of the alleged abuse, which occurred during the 2002-03 school year. The complaint also names former superintendent Jon Green; the state Board of Regents; and Jack Rabbit Lines Inc., which transported students home from the school. The parents are asking for an unspecified amount of money, partly to cover medical costs and counseling for the alleged victims. SDSD is "one of the safest schools in the nation," Board of Regents attorney James Shekleton told the AP.

FIRE NEWS ANCHOR SETTLES SUIT AGAINST TV STATION

A TV station in Greensboro, N.C. has settled a lawsuit filed by a former news anchor who claimed he was fired because he is deaf in one ear. Frank Fraboni said WFMY (CBS, Channel 2) violated the Americans with Disabilities Act when he was dismissed in 2002. Station executives, however, say he was fired due to poor performance on viewership surveys and awkward relationships with co-workers, reported the News & Record in yesterday's edition. The lawsuit "has been amicably resolved," Fraboni's attorney said. Terms of the settlement were not revealed. Fraboni, whose hearing was damaged in a 2002 surgical procedure, now works for WUPN in Kernersville, N.C., where he earns \$80,000 a year.

NEW MACHINES IN ALABAMA OFFER DRIVER LICENSE TEST IN ASL

Machines have been installed in 16 locations around Alabama that will let deaf people take their driver license test in American Sign Language. The machines, which cost \$200,000 to install, aren't just for deaf people, the Birmingham News reported Dec. 23. All driver license applicants will use them, and they offer the test in 12 languages and an audio version for people who can't read. Applicants respond to 30 multiple-choice questions called up randomly from a database of 800 questions. The new system is "really helpful in tearing down the barriers that we've been facing for years," said Judith Gilliam, president of the Alabama Association of the Deaf.

DEAF FILIPINO IMMIGRANT FIGHTS DEPORTATION

Gerardo Dulalia, a deaf Filipino immigrant, is asking the federal government to drop deportation proceedings against him on humanitarian grounds, the San Jose (Calif.) Mercury News reported Dec. 23. Dulalia, an interpreter at Ohlone College in Fremont, has a deportation hearing scheduled for Jan. 11 in San Francisco. His father fought with American troops in World War II and was promised U.S. citizenship, but the government didn't honor its promise until 1990, some 44 years later. By that time, Dulalia was an adult, and since he was born in the Philippines, he did not automatically become an American citizen. "Had the U.S. government kept its promise," said his attorney, "Gerry would have been born a U.S. citizen and would not be facing removal from the U.S."

WOMAN FOUND GUILTY OF FILING A FALSE POLICE REPORT

The deaf woman who told police she was raped at MacArthur Center mall in Norfolk, Va. was found guilty last week of filing a false police report. According to the Virginian-Pilot, Pernita Jackson claimed to be the victim of a sexual attack on Nov. 5. After an investigation that included a review of the mall's security videotapes, police concluded that she actually left the mall and went out of the city to have consensual sex. Jackson was sentenced to 200 hours of community service at an infant home. If she does not comply, she'll have to pay a \$1,000 fine and could serve 60 days in jail.

DEAF WOMAN'S BLIND MOM ESCAPES INJURY

An unidentified 65-year-old deaf woman spent the holidays in a hotel room with her blind mom, 88-year-old Miriam Michael, after an SUV crashed into the mother's home in Santa Clara, Calif., trapping the elderly woman beneath a pile of rubble. Michael told the Associated Press that she was very lucky to be alive after the accident early in the morning on Christmas Eve. The front wheel of the Ford Explorer stopped just a foot from her head after slamming through her bedroom wall. The driver was not hurt and was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence.

GRINCH STEALS CHRISTMAS LIGHTS FROM ILL MAN'S HOME

The Bulletin of Bend, Ore. reported Dec. 23 that Christmas lights were stolen from outside the retirement home of a deaf senior who is battling terminal cancer. It took almost two weeks for Leon Ziebarth, 71, to string up seven strands of light around the home he shares with Carole, his wife of 48 years. When the

couple returned from an outing with friends, they discovered the lights were missing. "The thing that was so upsetting is my husband is sick and he did this for the grandchildren," said Carole Ziebarth.

VAN STOLEN WITH CHILDREN'S HEARING AIDS INSIDE

A thief who made off with a 2000 Plymouth Grand Voyager in Henderson, Nev. last week stole more than the family's minivan – also missing are the state-of-the-art hearing aids two children in the family need to use their cochlear implants. Susan Misso "just wants to get their ears back," reported KESO News 3. Her six-year-old son and four-year-old daughter need the devices to hear. The daughter's old hearing aid was also in the van, meaning she can't hear anything at all – not even a jet landing, her mom said. News reports about the theft brought offers of help, including one from a deaf Las Vegas woman offering her own cochlear hearing aid – but it was a model incompatible with the children's devices.

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Sidekick and HipTop wireless device users access Sprint Relay by clicking on the bright TTY icon directly from the chooser screen. To download and install Sprint Relay Wireless, access the device's "Catalog" download feature. In the catalog, simply select "Sprint Relay Wireless" from the Applications list, and select "Purchase" to download and install the service for free. For more information on Sprint Relay Wireless, visit <http://www.sprintrelay.com/> or email srw@goamerica.com.

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INTERNATIONAL

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FOUR FROM MAINE HONORED FOR HELPING RUSSIAN ORPHANAGE

Four Maine residents were honored by the Russian Embassy last week for their support of a Russian orphanage for hearing- and speech-impaired children. U.S. Senator Susan Collins presented the embassy's awards to Mary Dinan of Cumberland and Jim and Maureen Gorman of Falmouth. The fourth honoree, Greg Foltz, was unable to attend the Dec. 21 ceremony because he is being treated for cancer. According to the Portland Press Herald, the group's charitable efforts were inspired by a 1999 Associated Press photo of a deaf 8-year-old girl with a shaved head. Foltz managed to track down the girl, named Sophia, in Novozybkov and organized the Sophia Fund, which has raised thousands of dollars for the orphanage where she lives with about 75 other children. This year the group has raised nearly \$30,000 to buy computers for the orphanage.

KATHMANDU DEAF ASSOCIATION OPENS 15TH ANNUAL MEETING

Deepak Kumar Shakya, president of the Kathmandu Association of the Deaf, wants the government to open a college for the deaf, provide licenses to deaf drivers, and provide land for his organization to build an office. Shakya spoke last Saturday at the opening of the association's 15th annual general meeting and eighth general convention. Keynote speaker Ashtalaxmi Shakya, Nepal's Minister for Women, Children and Social Welfare, told attendees the government is committed to protecting the rights and interests of the disabled. But the government can't do it alone, she added; cooperation from all sectors are needed.

U.K. WOMAN REGAINS HEARING AFTER NINE MONTHS OF SILENCE

News outlets in the United Kingdom were flooded last week with the story of a 21-year-old woman who regained her hearing after going deaf suddenly nine months ago. Emma Hassell said she was taking a shower last April when her ears “popped” and her world went silent. Doctors could not explain why Hassell went deaf, but said her hearing loss might be psychological. She had a miscarriage in 2002 and was told she might not be able to conceive again. She underwent about eight treatments of Emotional Freedom Techniques (EFT), a form of acupuncture using fingertips instead of needles to stimulate energy points around the body. Afterwards, her hearing suddenly returned – just in time to hear the news that she is pregnant.

MAN FROM INDIA TO ATTEND DUBBING AND SUBTITLING CONFERENCE

Sameer Bhardwaj, a self-proclaimed “dubbing consultant” from Bombay, India, said in a recent news release that he will be the first Indian to attend a biennial dubbing and subtitling conference in Germany. The dubbing industry in India lags behind the rest of the world, Bhardwaj said, with no professional organization or government body to oversee the profession. “There is no subtitling or captioning on Indian satellite channels for the deaf community,” he said, whereas “elsewhere there are strict laws for this and the deaf community too enjoys a variety of programming.” He added that once there is a degree and professional preparation in dubbing, “this whole scenario will change.”

MORE THEATERS OFFER CAPTIONED FILMS IN THE U.K.

Last year, only 22 movie theaters in the United Kingdom offered subtitled screenings of Hollywood blockbusters. This year, more than 130 theaters offered captioned film showings, said the Royal National Institute for the Deaf last week. The RNID has spent five years working to improve deaf access to movie theaters through its Access to the Arts Campaign. Said campaign head Mark Morris: “It is great news as deaf and hard-of-hearing people have been excluded from the enjoyment of cinema since the end of silent movies in the 1920s.”

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Last Minute Savings from Harris Communications

We hope you had a great Holiday weekend with your family and friends. As this year comes to a close, we want to thank you for your patronage and wish you a Happy New Year! Remember that the Harris Communications Holiday specials will expire on December 31, 2004. Take advantage of last minute savings on ttys, clocks and signalers. For more information, visit us at <http://www.harriscomm.com/link/?www.harriscomm.com?sr=deafweeklynews> or contact us at <mailto:info@harriscomm.com> .

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LIFE & LEISURE

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PUPIL ASSISTANCE FUND HELPS DEAF STUDENT GET GLASSES

Fatima Uribe of Denver has a new pair of glasses, thanks to the Denver Public Schools’ Pupil Assistance Fund. Uribe, a deaf 19-year-old high school junior, was profiled in yesterday’s Rocky Mountain News. “I

realized last year I couldn't see," she said. "This year I still couldn't see. Everything was really blurry." She was hesitant to ask her parents for help – "They don't really have any money," she said – so she went to Dottie Wanberg, a school nurse, who was able to arrange through the pupil assistance fund to get Uribe an eye exam and new glasses. Last year, more than 2,000 students from low-income families received \$81,795 in assistance from the fund. "I can see, I can read," said Uribe. "It's a lot better now."

CLASSMATES RAISE MONEY TO HELP GIRL REGAIN HEARING

Amber Hudson, 18, had been saying "huh?" for a long time, her mom Dorothy Hudson told the Record-Courier of Gardnerville, Nev. Sunday, but "we've really been paying attention for about a year and a half." Finally, Amber was taken to see an audiologist, who found that fluid in her ears was blocking most of her hearing, leaving her almost completely deaf. She needed surgery, but didn't have insurance. Amber's classmates at Douglas High School learned of her predicament and came forward to raise \$400 toward the medical procedure. Family members chipped in the rest, and Amber had surgery just before Thanksgiving.

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WORKING WORLD

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INTERPRETERS GET FINGERPRINTED AT HOLIDAY PARTY

More than 100 freelance and staff interpreters at Deaf Access Inc. had the chance to "eat, drink and be fingerprinted," reported the Dec. 22 News Observer of Raleigh, N.C. Deaf Access president Marie Guernsey invited retired special agent Dennis Morgan to the interpreting agency's annual holiday bash so that the interpreters could get their fingerprint cards and license photos taken before a new licensing law goes into effect soon.

STUDY TO FOCUS ON INTERPRETER QUALIFICATION

What does "qualified interpreter" mean? Deaf consumers are invited to participate in a Azusa (Calif.) Pacific University study that will help to answer this question. The results will be used to improve interpreter training programs, said assistant professor Victoria Stuard. If you'd like to participate, send an email to VStuard@apu.edu.

NTID ANNOUNCES AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf in Rochester, N.Y. made several announcements Dec. 21. Gary Behm, an IBM engineer and 1981 graduate, was named this year's winner of the Rochester Institute of Technology Distinguished Alumni Award for the NTID. Patrick Graybill, Karen Hopkins and Karey Tompkins Pine were recognized with the 2004 Outstanding Service Award. And five new members have been appointed to NTID's National Advisory Group: Andrew Brenneman, John Wyvill, Rodney Danco Jr., Kevin Todd Houston and Jon Levy.

DEAF/TEK OFFERS RESOURCE FOR JOB HUNTERS

If you're looking for a job, or trying to fill one, you should check out www.deaftek.org. This is the website of the nonprofit International Deaf/Tek, Inc., and it includes job openings for deaf people and those who work with them. Jobs are posted at no cost and listed by category. According to Deaf/Tek's Brenda Morene, the site even accepts listings from outside the country – as long as they're in English.

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SIGN LANGUAGE FOR THE FAMILY VIDEO SERIES and COMPANION BOOK

English and Spanish Versions both in video or DVD format.

The NEW 2005 SIGN LANGUAGE CALENDAR ASL, English and Spanish

It is also available as a **FUNDRAISER** for your organization.

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Visit our website at <http://www.coloroflanguage.com/>

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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'DEAF STAGE' FEATURED AT FIRST NIGHT BEVERLY

Deaf storyteller Peter Cook will be the featured performer on the Deaf Stage at First Night Beverly, an annual event that rings in the New Year in Beverly, Mass. First Night Beverly has had a Deaf Stage since 1994, when KR Glickman approached the organizing committee with the idea of having ASL performances as part of the activities. "I thought, First Night is boring, it's all hearing things," she told the Beverly Citizen. "Why not have something for deaf people?" This year, unlike in the past, there will be no interpreter on hand to voice the ASL performances. "Hearing people have to remember not to get mad," said Glickman. "I have one deaf stage, you can go to many different musical events."

DEAF DOCENT OFFERS ASL TOURS AT ROCHESTER GALLERY

Deaf visitors to the Memorial Art Gallery in Rochester, N.Y. now have the opportunity to enjoy tours in American Sign Language, thanks to newly trained docent Jackie Schertz. According to the Democrat and Chronicle, Schertz prepared for the job by undergoing an intensive training program that met every week for nine months, with an interpreter provided by the museum. In return, she is expected to lead a tour at least once a month for the next three years. "I plan to do this for much longer than that," she said.

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Upcoming DIIT Workshops

<http://www.rit.edu/diit>

or 585-475-2225 V/TTY

Deaf Initiative in Information Technology (DIIT) would like to inform and invite you to attend their upcoming workshops held at NTID. DIIT sponsors computer and information technology workshops designed especially for deaf and hard-of-hearing professionals.

The workshops provide a *unique* opportunity:

- * An All Sign Environment
- * Learn New Technical Skills
- * Network with Other Deaf IT Professionals

Introduction to Macromedia Dreamweaver

Instructor: Karen Beiter

Date: January 24-28, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

Creating Web Pages with HTML

Instructor: Elissa Olsen

Date: February 21-25, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

Introduction to Microsoft Access Database

Instructor: Ari Ogoke

Date: February 21-25, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

Introduction to Macromedia Flash MX 2004

Instructor: Karen Beiter

Date: February 28-March 4, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

PC Hardware Maintenance and Repair

Instructor: Tony Spiecker

Date: February 28-March 4, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$400

For more information visit: <http://www.rit.edu/diit>. If you are interested in attending, click "Registration" on the left side of that web page, or call 585-475-2225 V/TTY.

DIIT is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

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CORRECTION

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Last week's Deafweekly mentioned deaf college football player Martel Van Zant as being with Ohio State University. Oops ... he's with Oklahoma State. Thanks to the sharp-eyed reader who brought it to our attention.

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COMING EVENTS

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CODA PLANS 2005 CONFERENCE IN LAS VEGAS

Children of Deaf Adults (CODA) International has announced plans for its 2005 conference in Las Vegas, Nev. from July 31 to Aug. 4. Hearing children over 18 who have deaf parents are invited to participate. Jerry Bass of Preston Bass Interpreting Services, LLC is the chairman. For information, visit www.coda-international.org.

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EMPLOYMENT

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Employment Opportunity:

The Deaf Resource Center (DRC) a non-profit organization located in Toledo, Ohio is actively seeking an Executive Director for a center that provides community support services for individuals who are Deaf, Deaf-Blind, Hard of Hearing, Late-Deafened, or Hearing. DRC, established by a majority of Deaf and Hard of Hearing Incorporators, operated by a Board of Trustees serves clients in 17 counties of Northwest Ohio and is supported by public and private funds. The Director must possess proven skills in leadership and organization, administrative and financial management, fund raising, political savvy, personal and public communication. The Executive Director is responsible to and works closely with the Board of Trustees; leads in creating long range strategy, monitors progress, and assures appropriate funds and resources to achieve long and short term goals.

Fluency in ASL, knowledge of Deaf culture, experience in financial management and minimum of B.A. required.

Salary commensurate with experience and qualifications; salary range \$35,000 -- \$45,000.

Submit cover letter and resume to: The Deaf Resource Center, 1801 Adams St., Toledo, OH 43624
e-mail: drctoledo@buckeye-express.com

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National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Rochester Institute of Technology
Artist in Residence: Part-Time (60%) Set Designer
Administrative/Professional
Performing Arts Program
Department of Cultural and Creative Studies

Description:

Nature of Position: Part-time (60%) 10 month renewable position beginning September 1, 2005

Responsibilities: Teach one scenic-technology or related class and one section of Theater Practicum per quarter. Serve as primary scenic designer for three theater productions. Serve as scenic artist and prop master (with assistance from over-hire scenic artists and craftspeople) and supervise student workers for 12-15 hours per week. Work with resident artistic director, production manager/technical director and scene shop foreman.

Requirements:

Required: MFA or equivalent professional experience. Successful experience as a theater artist. Must enjoy working with undergraduates majoring in non-theater programs. Ability to work in a collaborative environment. Commitment to study Deaf culture and learn sign language.

Preferred: American Sign Language and knowledge of Deaf culture strongly preferred. Successful teaching experience, strong scenic painting skills and knowledge of CADD. Opportunities for lighting/costume design exist for qualified candidate.

Ability to contribute in meaningful ways to the college's commitment to cultural diversity, pluralism, and individual differences strongly preferred. People who are deaf or hard of hearing, with a disability, women and/or members of a minority group are encouraged to apply.

Deadline: March 1, 2005

Send letter of application, resume and three letters of reference to:

Joseph H. Bochner, Chair
Department of Cultural and Creative Studies
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Rochester Institute of Technology
52 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5604
Fax: (716) 475-6787
Please reference position # 4602 when applying

Additional Information:

Salary: Commensurate with experience

Date opened: NOV 08 2004

RIT AA/EOE

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National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Rochester Institute of Technology
Part-Time (80%)Visiting Faculty
Faculty, Non-Tenure Track
Department of Cultural and Creative Studies

Description

Nature of Position: Part-time (80%) visiting faculty position beginning September 1, 2005

Responsibilities: Teach and develop curricula/materials for courses in literature, performing arts and Deaf studies for deaf and hard-of-hearing postsecondary students enrolled in programs of study at the National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Responsible for teaching general literature and acting courses, Deaf studies courses such as Creative Translation for Stage and Deaf Theatre History, and directing one theatre production per year in the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies. Additional responsibilities include engaging in professional activities and Institute service that contribute in meaningful ways to the mission of the college (i.e., research/scholarship and committee service)

Qualifications

Required: Masters degree or equivalent experience in literature, performing arts or a related field. Experience in directing and/or theater production. Strong knowledge of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture.

Preferred: Experience teaching deaf students at the postsecondary level highly desirable. Ability to contribute in meaningful ways to the college's commitment to cultural diversity, pluralism, and individual differences strongly preferred.

Deadline: March 1, 2005

Please send letter of application including your interest in the position and how you will contribute to our mission regarding the educational benefits of and commitment to cultural diversity and pluralism, resume, and three references to:

Joseph H. Bochner, Chair
Attn: D.W.
Department of Cultural and Creative Studies
National Technical Institute for the Deaf
Rochester Institute of Technology
52 Lomb Memorial Drive
Rochester, NY 14623-5604
Fax: (716) 475-6787
Please reference position # 0215 when applying

Additional Information:

Salary: Commensurate with experience

Date opened: NOV 08 2004

AA/EOE Employer. People who are deaf or hard of hearing, with disability, women and/or minority groups and members of other protected classes are encouraged to apply.

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Employment Opportunities (4 positions)

TDI Community Emergency Preparedness Information Network Project (CEPIN)

Regional Emergency Preparedness Specialist (2 positions)

– Mid-Atlantic and Southeast region (NVRC, Fairfax, VA, closes 1/14/05)

– New England and Great Lakes region (D.E.A.F., Inc., Allston, MA, closes 1/14/05)

National Coordinator - TDI/CEPIN, Silver Spring, MD, closes 1/7/05

Public Relations Specialist - TDI/CEPIN, Silver Spring, MD, closes 1/14/05

All positions full-time, contingent on project funding.

For more information about these positions, visit the TDI website <http://www.tdi-online.org/> and click on "Our Resources" then "Emergency Preparedness" and "Job Announcements".

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