

# Deaf Rochester News

February  
1997

PREMIERE ISSUE



of the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community

# We're Back!





# Deaf Rochester News

February 1997

Vol. 1 No. 1

**Deaf Rochester News**

P. O. Box 22957, Rochester, NY 14692-2957  
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**Deaf Rochester Advisory Group**

Elissa M. Olsen, RRCD Liaison	Chuck DiVincenzo
Cliff Andrews	Deanna DiVincenzo
Bill Brown	T. Alan Hurwitz
Thomas L. Callaghan	Val Nelson-Metlay

**Deaf Rochester News** welcomes news, features, and photographs for possible publication. Articles should be typed single-spaced with generous margins. Black & White photos are preferred. Photos should include a caption identifying people in picture. Deaf Rochester News will not return or acknowledge unsolicited submissions unless accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. **Deadline** for April issue: March 10th.

**Deaf Rochester News** is free for this premiere publication, but will be available only through subscription or sales after this issue. To receive publication by mail, send in subscription form from page 15 with payment.

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ISSN: Pending

**Editorial****We're back!**

by Sally A. Taylor

Welcome to the new *Deaf Rochester News!*

Through the zealous efforts of the *Deaf Rochester's* former editor, Val Nelson-Metlay, and the generosity of Julius and Harriet Wiggins, the publishers of the *Silent News* which has relocated in New Jersey, the renamed *Deaf Rochester News* is now in print. The Wiggins gave the rights of the newsmagazine to the Rochester Recreation Club of the Deaf (RRCD), with the understanding that the deaf organizations of Rochester will be working together to publish the *Deaf Rochester News*. RRCD will oversee the management of the newsmagazine, but it will be self-supporting.

This is a complimentary issue. It was sent to you from an existing list to let you know we are back. This will be the only free issue you will receive, but we have extras in the office if you'd like to share with your friends.

After February, all issues will be by subscription only. *Deaf Rochester News* will publish six issues this year until it is firmly back on its feet, dependent on subscriptions and advertisements. We will need the strong support of the Rochester community and friends to help keep this publication running.

Many thanks go to the Deaf Rochester Advisory Group, consisting of thirteen concerned Deaf leaders from the Rochester deaf community. They have met for four months to make the *Deaf Rochester News* possible. They are Elissa Olsen, RRCD's Liaison; Cliff Andrews, Bill Brown, Tom Callaghan, Chuck DiVincenzo, Deanna DiVincenzo, Barbara Fuller, Robert Fuller, Alan T. Hurwitz, Edward B. Lord, Howard G. Mann, Val Nelson-Metlay and myself.

*Deaf Rochester News* cannot overlook the generosity of RRCD's President, Paul L. Taylor, who opened the clubhouse for our meetings, and who also made it possible for the office to locate there. I volunteered to be editor for this issue, with assistance from the advisory group.

The *Deaf Rochester News* office is located at the RRCD building on 1564 Lyell Avenue. We will be open on a part-time basis for the time being. Our address is *Deaf Rochester News*, P.O. Box 22957, Rochester, NY 14692-2957. The phone numbers are 254-6730 TTY and 254-6777 FAX.

Consider buying a subscription to the *Deaf Rochester News*; the subscription form can be found on page 15. Tell your friends about us, and encourage them to subscribe. We're excited to be serving you!

Welcome aboard!



**About our cover:** Deaf Rochester Advisory Group give "Thumbs Up" sign on the launching of Deaf Rochester News.

Photo by Paul Taylor





## Calendar of Events

### February 1997

- 1 - "Jackson Pollock: In The Painting," 8:00 PM, Panara Theatre, NTID Performing Arts
- 1 - RRCD Open House
- 2 - Cross Country Skiing & Sledding at Mendon Ponds Park, 1:30 PM, GRRAD. Contact: Ron Borne, 265-8252
- 2 - "Jackson Pollock: In The Painting," 2:30 PM, Panara Theatre, NTID Performing Arts
- 5 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD
- 7 - Happy Hour, 4:30 PM, Jack Astor's Bar
- 7 - Group Health Medical Centers Presentation, 7 PM, RRCD
- 7 - RIT Ice Hockey Game at RIT Ice Rink, GRRAD. Contact: Ted Lord, 475-6605
- 7 - "Golf with Alan Shepard", Sign-interpreted at GeVa, 8:00 PM. Tickets: 232-1366
- 7 - "Jackson Pollock: In The Painting," 8:00 PM, Panara Theatre, NTID Performing Arts
- 8 - Bowling Tournament, RRCD, 12 Noon & 3:00 PM
- 8 - Family Bowling at Fairview Lanes in Fairport, 2:00 PM, GRRAD. Contact: R. Fuller, 334-3761
- 8 - Captioned Film Showing, Little Theatre. Call TTY Movie Line 244-3450
- 8 - "Jackson Pollock: In The Painting," 8:00 PM, Panara Theatre, NTID Performing Arts
- 9 - Ice Skating at RIT Ice Rink, 2:00 PM, GRRAD. Contact: R. Fuller, 334-3761
- 9 - Captioned Film Showing, Little Theatre. Call TTY Movie Line 244-3450
- 12 - DEAR Gathering, 10:00 AM, RRCD
- 12 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD
- 14-21 - Winter Week Outing at Lake Placid, GRRAD. Contact: Art Zuber, 723-1442
- 15 - RRCD Open House
- 19 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD
- 22 - Niagara Falls, Canada Casino Trip, RRCD
- 23 - Cross Country Skiing and Sledding Mendon Ponds Park, 2:30 PM. Contact R. Borne 265-8252
- 26 - DEAR Gathering, 10:00 AM, RRCD
- 26 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD

### March 1997

- 1 - Open House, RRCD
- 2 - Happy Hour, Shannon's Pub, 4:30 PM
- 2 - Cross Country Skiing, Sledding, and Wine & Cheese Party, Mendon Ponds Park, 1:30 PM, GRRAD. Contact: R. Borne, 265-8252
- 5 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD
- 6-9 - Skiing Weekend at Killington, Vermont, GRRAD. Contact: Art Zuber, 723-1442
- 7 - Safeco Deaf & Hard of Hearing Sales & Service, 7 PM, RRCD
- 7 - Euchre and Scat Tournament, 8:00 PM, DWR
- 8 - Spaghetti Dinner/General Meeting/Bingo, 5:00 & 7:00 PM, RRCD
- 8 - Captioned Film Showing, Little Theatre. Call TTY Movie Line 244-3450
- 9 - Captioned Film Showing, Little Theatre. Call TTY Movie Line 244-3450
- 12 - DEAR Gathering, 10:00 AM, RRCD
- 12 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD
- 19 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD
- 26 - DEAR Gathering, 10:00 AM, RRCD
- 26 - Euchre League, 7:30 PM, RRCD
- 28 - "Antigone", Sign-interpreted at GeVa, 8:00 PM. Tickets: 232-1366

### Guide to the acronyms

- DEAR - Deaf Elders Around Rochester
- DWR - Deaf Women of Rochester
- GRRAD - Greater Rochester Recreation Association of the Deaf
- GVRRID - Genessee Valley Region Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf
- NACR - NTID Alumni Chapter of Rochester
- NTID - National Technical Institute of the Deaf
- RRCD - Rochester Recreation Club of the Deaf
- RSD - Rochester School of the Deaf
- RTCAD - Rochester Tel-Com Association of the Deaf, Inc.

More details on these events may be found under Organization News.



## Rochester Recreation Club of the Deaf

By Chuck & Deanna DiVincenzo

RRCD is pleased to announce presentations of interest and concern to the Rochester Deaf community. These presentations will be made by deaf speakers at 7 p.m. on Friday evening each month during the Spring. On February 7, Howard Mann will share information on Group Health Medical Centers and the kind of services and medical care provided for deaf and hard of hearing people. On March 7, Gary Meyer will explain what SAFECO Insurance Company's Deaf & Hard of Hearing Sales & Service has to offer. For April 11, information about VESID will be given through a questions and answers period by Kathy Dollinger-Meyer. Plan now to attend any of these presentations that can benefit you.

For casino lovers, an all-day casino trip to Niagara Falls, Canada is being planned for Saturday, February 22, with a 47-seat Blue Bird bus being provided by RRCD. A continental breakfast of donuts, bagels & cream cheese, coffee, tea and orange juice will be served before departure at the clubhouse at 8 a.m. The bus leaves the clubhouse at 9 a.m. sharp, and will return around 10 p.m. Cost will be \$25 per RRCD member, and after February 8, other people may join if seats are still available. Cost is \$26 per affiliate member, and \$28 per non-member. Deadline is February 17th. Make your check payable to "RRCD" and mail to RRCD, ATTN: DiVincenzo, 1564 Lyell Avenue, Rochester, NY 14606. Sorry, no refunds. Contact person: Chuck DiVincenzo at 247-4803.

RRCD's quarterly general membership meeting will be on Saturday, March 8, at the clubhouse. Before the meeting, there'll be a spaghetti dinner, consisting of spaghetti & meatballs, salad, rolls & butter, dessert, coffee and tea. Dinner will be served 5:00 - 6:30 PM, and costs \$5.00 per member, \$6.00 per affiliate member, or \$7.00 per non-member. Cost for children ages 6 through 12 years old will be \$3.00. The general meeting begins at 7:00 pm, and will be followed by bingo games which will cost \$2.00 per player. RSVP for dinner reservations by mailing check, payable to RRCD, to RRCD, ATTN: Dinner, by March 6. Contact person: Sam Sirianni at 458-2838.

## Greater Rochester Recreation Association of the Deaf

By Thomas Callaghan, Publication Director

Greater Rochester Recreation Association of the Deaf (GRRAD), a local World Recreation Association of the Deaf chapter, has announced its plans of winter and spring activities and welcome the general public to participate in one or more of its activities.

On the week of February 14-21, GRRAD will host its fifth Winter Week Outing at the Lake Placid, New York area. There will be skiing at Whiteface, which is free to "Access Pass" holders, and

other winter activities around Lake Placid. Accommodations can be made at the Saranac Lake Hotel in Saranac Lake at a reasonable price; the hotel is under the management of Paul Smith College, a local college. For more information, contact Arthur Zuber at (716) 723-1442 or E-mail ROSEART@juno.com.

On the weekend of March 6-9, another skiing event will be held in Killington, Vermont. This can provide RIT/NTID students an opportunity to make a good use of their spring break. Ski-and-hotel packages at very reasonable prices are provided. For more details, contact Arthur Zuber at (716) 723-1442 or E-mail ROSEART@juno.com.

For hockey fans, GRRAD is planning a trip to Buffalo for the Buffalo Sabers vs. New York Rangers game at the brand new Marine Midland Arena on Friday night, April 4. This is a great opportunity to visit the new arena, see superstars in action like Wayne Gretzky and Mark Messier and also see the new uniforms both teams are now wearing. Contact James Munro at (716) 475-0019 or E-mail JamesM@gsbc.com.

GRRAD plans to enter at least two teams in the Wildwater Derby in the twin cities of Manchester and Shortsville on Sunday, April 6. The Derby is sponsored by the Twin Cities Lions Club for the 22nd time; it is consisted of several categories of boat races on a three-mile section of Canandaigua Outlet between the cities. For the third time, GRRAD will be in the homemade raft category, which shows the creative and improvisational skills of participants in building all kinds of rafts. It is the the biggest highlight of the derby. GRRAD welcomes any deaf organization to participate in this fun-filled race. More information about this event can be obtained from Thomas Callaghan by phone (716) 475-2603 TTY or E-mail TLCNSC@rit.edu.

For experienced whitewater enthusiasts, GRRAD is planning a weekend at Old Forge, New York for a challenging class IV-V river rafting trip on Moose River. The trip will be on Saturday, April 26. Adirondack River Outfitters (ARO) will be the trip guide and has required that each interested person be experienced in whitewater rafting of at least class IV, be in excellent physical condition and be able to swim in turbulent waters. The approximate cost for the rafting trip, including wet suit rental and hot dinner, is \$115. Accommodations at a local motel are being planned. If interested and meet the ARO requirements, contact Thomas Callaghan at (716) 475-2603 or E-mail TLCNSC@rit.edu no later than February 15.

More information on other GRRAD activities can be obtained from Ron Borne, GRRAD Program Director, at (716) 425-8252 TTY or E-mail rborne1947@aol.com.

**Don't forget!**  
**Send in your subscription**  
**TODAY!**





## Deaf Women of Rochester

By Sally Taylor

DWR is hosting the 1997 Deaf Women United Conference to be held in Rochester July 30 - August 3, 1997 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel downtown. President Mary Mowl appointed Colleen Daviton as chairperson of the DWU Conference Committee that oversees the planning of this national conference, with the assistance of 13 women. The committee has been working since the beginning of 1995, and is now finalizing plans for this event. Projected attendance will be about 400 women from all over the United States.

Various fundraisers held during the past year have been successful. A future event, an Euchre & Scat Tournament, will be held at 8:00, Friday evening, March 7th, at RRCD, 1564 Lyell Avenue. It is open to all, men, women and students. Cost will be \$10.00 per person. Winners will receive dinner gift certificates. The big fundraising event this Spring will be a Brunch and Silent Auction on Sunday, April 27th, at the Dining Hall of the Rochester School for the Deaf. More details will be given in the April issue of DRN.

DWR has its own web page which can be found at <http://www.rit.edu/~vthdhd>.

## Deaf Elderly Around Rochester

By Marilyn Heffernan, Chairperson

Every two weeks, the DEAR group meets at RRCD on Wednesdays for a time of fellowship and fun. The clubhouse opens at 10:00 AM, where elderly citizens gather to play cards and other games. After a sack lunch, they stay until mid-afternoon.

On other Wednesdays, the group sometimes meets with other Deaf retirees for breakfast together at various restaurants around Rochester. Occassionally, special events such as day trips are planned. If you are interested in joining the group or would like to know of events coming up, contact Marilyn Heffernan at 334-2101, or Robert Hamilton at 464-0648.

## NTID performs at Panara Theatre

*Jackson Pollock: In the Painting* will be playing at the Robert F. Panara Theatre on the RIT campus January 29 through February 1 at 8 p.m., February 2 at 2:30 p.m., and February 7 and 8 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for full-time student or senior citizen, and \$7 for all others. Presented by the NTID Performing Arts, this performance art event was written and designed by director Michael Angelo Tortora.

To make reservations, call (716) 475-6254 voice/TTY or E-mail to [ntiditx@rit.edu](mailto:ntiditx@rit.edu).

## Two upcoming plays will be interpreted at GeVa Theatre

In the past, GeVa has designated one sign interpreted performance for each of its productions per season. This season, two upcoming sign interpreted performances are *Golf with Alan Shepard* on Friday, February 7 and *Antigone* on Friday, March 28. Curtain time is 8 p.m. for both plays. The dates for later productions to be interpreted will be announced in the next *Deaf Rochester News* issue.

Tickets for the plays range from \$7.50 to \$35. Call the GeVa Box Office at 232-GEVA voice or 325-1441 TTY for reservations.



PHOTO BY MEREDITH CULLEN

## They Missed Out!

Chuck DiVincenzo was in the hospital recovering from an emergency gall-bladder operation when the picture of the Deaf Rochester Advisory Group was made for the DRN magazine front cover. Both Chuck and his wife, Deanna, are valuable members of the group, so DRN wanted to have a photo of them in this issue. Thank you, Chuck and Deanna for being part of us!

**edg**

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## Want to help your boss work better with you?

Send him or her to these workshops.

Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the AT&T Foundation to the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID), NTID's Center on Employment (NCE) will present *Working Together: Deaf and Hearing People*—as well as another employer program called *Train the Trainer*—in Rochester May 21 and 22. The workshops will provide opportunities for employers to learn how to work better with their deaf employees and students.

*Working Together*, which is designed for human resource professionals, supervisors, and coworkers of deaf employees, addresses workplace issues that surround the hiring and supervising of employees who are deaf and offers strategies for integrating deaf employees in the workplace. *Train the Trainer* prepares in-house trainers and other appropriate personnel to present the *Working Together* program.

Attendance at the AT&T-sponsored training programs is free to interested participants who register in advance. To register, contact Lorie Fidoruko, (716) 475-6834 (voice/TTY), (716) 475-5623 (FAX) or E-mail: ESF3106@rit.edu.

AT&T has supported NTID's employment efforts for many years.

The Foundation is committed to improving the communities where the company's employees live and work, and supports programs in education, health and human services, and arts and culture.

## Deaf Parents to be offered by DWR in March

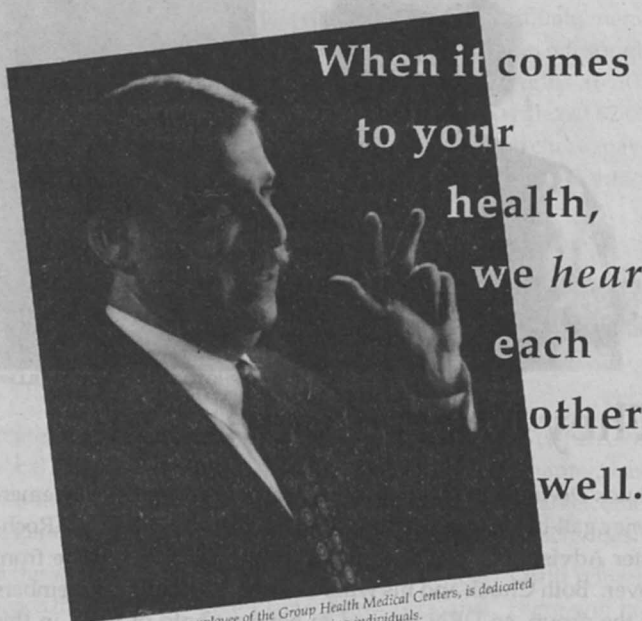
Looking for information on deaf and hearing cultures for your child rearing? Any deaf parent of hearing children who want to become more aware and gain appreciation of the two worlds may attend a *Deaf Parents* program. This program is designed as a group discussion/class sharing information.

Deaf Women of Rochester is offering *Deaf Parents* class starting in early March. Classes will run eight weeks. The location, day, and time will be announced after parents are registered.

At this time, tentative registration fee is \$75 per couple or \$60 per one of the couple, and \$35 for a single parent. Advance registration is required, and class enrollment will be limited to 15 people. Fees may be reduced if no child care is provided.

Registration deadline is February 28. To register, or to get more information, contact Sharon Staehle at 385-6357 TTY, or Beth Carney at 436-1325 TTY.

**A special invitation**  
to the deaf and hard of hearing community of Greater Rochester.



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Group Health Medical Centers welcome members with coverage through Blue Choice, Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Medicare, Medicaid and other insurance carriers, as well as members who pay for services themselves.





## A chat with Cindy Rohlin

By Val Nelson-Metlay

Cindy (Davidson) Rohlin was born and raised in Rochester, NY. When it was discovered that she had a hearing loss, she was placed at the old School #31's Remedial Hearing-Impaired Program. The school was closed and the program was moved to School #1. In seventh grade, Rohlin was mainstreamed into regular classes in that school and did well. Then she transferred to her district's school where she almost failed. After borrowing notes from friends and studying very hard at long hours at home, Rohlin eventually caught up and ended up being on the National Honor Society roll in high school.

**What motivated you to try so hard to get good grades?** Really don't know why, I just wanted to do well in school.

**Did you want to go to college?** Oh yes, very much. I applied at RIT in 1966. The new RIT was not yet built on Jefferson Road and there was no NTID. After taking an aptitude test, I was encouraged to take accounting. For two years, I depended on my classmates for notes and often went up to my teachers for clarifications, just as I had done in high school. There were no interpreters or notetakers at that time. There just were no support system for the deaf. I did well with the college courses except in Literature and English. RIT's learning center helped me with my English. I retook Literature and passed with a B. I got my AA degree in accounting.

**What made you go back to school in NTID?** NTID offered me financial support to attend RIT and get my BS degree there. NTID was recruiting students for their new college and wanted an older role model for these deaf freshmen to look up to. I took the offer since it was a good deal. I was surprised and pleased to have Alice Beardsley, one of the first interpreters at NTID, as well as notetakers for my classes.

**With this support system for deaf students, was college then easy for you?** Well, the courses were very difficult, but to attend and understand the classes and to maintain my high grade average was made much easier. With the help of interpreters and notetakers, I made the dean's list. One thing though, I was the only deaf junior at RIT and I had no deaf classmates. Other deaf students were freshmen. But I lived in the NTID dormitory and met many deaf friends.

**What did you do after graduation with your BS in accounting in 1970?** I won a full scholarship and went on to Bowling Green State University in Ohio to work on a Master's degree in accounting. But I dropped out after six months in school due to health problems.

**What was your first job?** I started working for Xerox Corporation in Webster in the accounting department, but was laid off



Cindy Rohlin

with 2,000 other employees. I was able to find work as accounting supervisor at National Ambulance in Rochester. I supervised 12 women and enjoyed the work. During my first pregnancy, I had severe morning sickness and I could not continue working 12 hours plus Saturdays. Later, I was able to find an accounting job with flexible hours that worked well with my husband's work schedule. After 17 years, I'm still with that company, Nick's Dry Cleaners. In 1978, I started working with Erb Income Tax Service at

nights and Saturdays for 10 years. Then in 1988, I start my ed my own tax services for deaf clients. I have been doing this for nine years now. In 1994, I passed the CPA written test. I already have one and a half years of CPA work in a firm, but I need six more months, two years total, before I can be licensed as CPA.

**Why did you go into the CPA field?** My goal is to have my own business. Possibly bookkeeping services. I still continue to do tax services for my deaf clients. My future goal is to take computer science courses as many firms are requiring accountants to have some computer experience. And I hope to eventually earn an MS degree in accounting.

**When will you go back to college?** Right now, I have two teenagers, Shawn and Tracy, who need a lot of driving around to various events and parties. Being a single mother, I'm taking as much time as I can to be with them before they are old enough to leave home. Then I will be able to seriously pursue college.

**Deaf people demand privacy, especially with their personal finances. Is it hard to keep their personal finances confidential?** It is not hard at all to keep them confidential. A code of ethics for tax preparers is that they must not divulge financial information with anyone. If a tax preparer talk about his client's financial affairs to someone, he or she can be in trouble with the tax service board and can also be sued by the client for breach of confidentiality. It takes time for deaf clients to trust me; they have watched me for several years, and I have developed their trust. I enjoy working with the deaf people and would not do anything to hurt them.

**Is there any advice you want to give to Deaf Rochester News readers?** Please, please, don't do your own tax filings. There are so many rules and deductions that deaf taxpayers may not know. Obtain real professional advice; you might find that they can help get your money back, or at least reduce taxes for you.



## The 1997 Deaf Women United National Conference is coming soon to Rochester

By Beth Oliver

Already 1997 is here and there is only six more months until the exciting Deaf Women United (DWU) National Conference opens right here in Rochester. This sixth conference will be hosted by Deaf Women of Rochester (DWR) from July 30 to August 3 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Rochester. Yes, it's right here and Rochestarians from the deaf and hard-of-hearing community do not have to make such expensive travel plans to attend this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for themselves in Rochester!

Women from all over the country will attend the national conference and it will be an opportunity to meet new people, interact among themselves, learn from one another, and make friendships. To name just a few, the conference highlights include a keynote presentation by Laurene Gallimore from the Northwest, a tour in Seneca Falls of the National Women's Rights Museum Park and the Hall of Fame, and a DWU Trivia Bowl.

DWR's first brochures were sent out last summer and fall. Many compliments were made on the brochure. The DWR conference committee wishes to thank Val Nelson-Metlay for creating the unique logo and Kris Gray for her hard work designing the brochure. Flying hands!

It is still not too late to request this brochure for those who have not received it or seen it. The DWR conference committee has several left. To ask for one, contact the 1997 DWU National Conference, c/o Deaf Women of Rochester, P.O. Box 92455, Rochester, NY 14692-0455. Or call (716) 426-3352 TTY or Edaviton@ling.rochester.edu.

However, be on the lookout for a new brochure in Spring. The committee is currently working on a second informational brochure which it hopes to distribute to all deaf women by March. This brochure will have more details about the conference and will list presenters and workshop titles. Workshop coordinator Vicki Hurwitz and her committee are currently reviewing calls for presentations for final selection. It is not an easy task for them, but they do appreciate those people who have submitted proposals.

DWR have received many conference registrations already and are pleased with the enthusiasm and support from the community. For those who would like to register, there is a special fee deal: \$180 for DWU members and \$230 for non-members. This special deal is good until March 31, 1997. Registration fees cover reception, three breakfasts, two lunches, the Saturday night quiet, Tour of Seneca Falls, Sunday Brunch, presentations and workshops.

The committee is aware that the registration fees may seem a bit too steep for some people to pay all at once. So they devised a layaway plan where monthly payments can be made until February 20, 1997. For more details on this plan, contact Elissa Olson, Finance Committee member, at E-mail emondp@rit.edu or 426-3352 TTY.

Chairpersons involved in the 1997 DWU National Conference are Colleen Daviton, Chair; Mary Mowl, President of DWR; Elissa Olson, Finance/Budget; Beth Oliver, Publicity/Graphics; Sherry Staehle, Logistics/Access; Kathy Holzworth, Entertainment; Vicki Taylor, Fundraising; Paul Wollenhaupt, Registration; Vicki Hurwitz, Workshops; Thelma Bohli, Tours and Cindy M... Food Functions.

"Women have come a long way since that day in 1848 when the women's rights movement was born in Seneca Falls, New York. Together, deaf women, can accomplish more."

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## SAFECO launches program to market products to the deaf and hard of hearing

Rochester, NY — (January 15, 1997)—SAFECO Insurance Company has become the first major insurance company to focus on issues in the deaf and hard of hearing communities and make insurance buying easier for those who are deaf and hard of hearing.

SAFECO is the first company to look in-depth of the Deaf culture and create a customized marketing strategy to reach the Deaf community," said Gary Meyer, a deaf employee and senior marketing representative at SAFECO's New York Sales and Service Center. "Throughout the next several months, we'll be making presentations to various groups of deaf and hard of hearing individuals. We've designed the program to make buying auto, home and boat insurance comfortable and easy for people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services program is part of SAFECO's New York Sales and Service Center which markets a full line of SAFECO products in the New York area.

SAFECO's program is unique in several ways. First, the company is setting up its own state of the art TTY service. When deaf customers call the company, they will get a phone menu with options to reach each department. Second, there will be a network of people within the company. Everyone in the customer service unit, plus key people in claims, sales and marketing, will be part of the network. Finally, several people in the company are taking American Sign Language classes to learn more about the Deaf culture and to be able to communicate with deaf or hard of hearing individuals in person.

"SAFECO will launch its program in upstate New York in 1997," said Will Phelps, branch manager. "Later, it will branch out into Maryland, Virginia and Minnesota. Eventually, SAFECO hopes to implement the program in as many as 41 states."

The company's Deaf and Hard of Hearing Sales and Service Center can be reached at 1-800-603-4769 (TTY). Or people may call the New York Sales and Service Center at 1-800-841-5914.

## Who did that logo?



The DRN logo designers are Bob and Sally Green. Long time residents of Rochester and graduates of RIT, the Greens have a small free-lance business, Green Graphics. Bob has worked as designer for Graphics Communications at Kodak for nearly 18 years, and Sally is a full-time housewife and mother. They have a twelve-year-old daughter, Samantha, and a golden retriever, Monet. Thanks for a beautiful job, Bob and Sally!

## Thank you so much.....

Miguel Macia is seen here painting the new Deaf Rochester News office at RRCD. The DRN office is now located in the upper meeting room, and has its own computer, telephones, and other necessary equipment. DRN will be paying rent for the use of office space. Miguel, who recently moved to Rochester last November from Hawaii with his wife and family, has volunteered his skills around the clubhouse, much to the appreciation of RRCD's members. Thank you, Miguel!



BOTH PHOTOS BY SALLY TAYLOR



## Deaf retirement home in the works in Rochester

Dave Staehle, chairperson of the Empire State Association of the Deaf (ESAD) Deaf Retirement Home Committee since 1995, announces that the ESAD Board has approved the location of a retirement facility for the deaf in Rochester. ESAD has also agreed to name the home in honor of the late Peter Wollenhaupt because of his support for improved services to deaf citizens of New York.

Since 1991, Staehle has been investigating deaf retirement projects in the United States and visited homes in Columbus, Ohio and Los Angeles, California. He has attended numerous meetings on this subject and started making contacts locally in Rochester with key individuals. He will be meeting with Kevin Burke, administrator of Highland Retirement Apartments of Rochester (HRA), and Dr. Jim DeCaro, NTID Dean and member of HRA's Advisory Board, to learn more of the services being offered. Staehle will continue to collect more information and will set up a local advisory committee to work with him on this effort beginning in the Spring.

If concerned members of the deaf community are interested, contact Staehle at 385-6375 TTY, 475-6500 FAX with attention to Dave Staehle or E-mail: DWSALUM@rit.edu.

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## A new deaf travel services is based in Rochester

A new deaf travel department has been set up at Airport Systems Travel in Rochester. Joyce Brubaker, with part-time assistance of Reed Gershwind and Kathy McHugh, is the deaf travel agent for the company.

Brubaker has five years of experience in providing travel service to deaf people and groups nationwide and international. She has worked at American Express Travel in Washington, DC and Deaf Star Travel in New York City. Gershwind, who has traveled to many countries in all continents except Antarctica, will give consultations for overseas travel. McHugh will assist with local travel arrangements.

For the 1997 year, they have set up travel packages with special rates and information on events such as USDSA Deaf Ski Week in Telluride, Colorado on March 15 - 22; Senior Citizen Convention in Phoenix, Arizona on April 23 - 27; World Recreation Association of the Deaf camp week in Boltenhagen, Germany on July 5 - 12; World Games for the Deaf in Copenhagen, Denmark on July 13 - 26, and Deaf Women United National Conference in Rochester July 30 - August 3.

For more information, contact Joyce Brubaker at Airport Systems Travel, One Airport Systems Way, Rochester International Airport, Rochester, NY 14624, (800) 233-8958 TTY (for outside Rochester), (716) 527-6835 TTY, (716) 328-0210 FAX, or E-mail: travel@eznet.net, and WWW: <http://airsysttravel.com>.

## First Deaf Rochester Expo

A consumer trade show, Deaf Rochester Expo, will be held at the New York State Armory, located on Culver Road in Rochester on October 18, 1997. This show is to promote an all-inclusive communication environment for deaf and hard of hearing patrons. Deaf and hard of hearing businesses will be encouraged to participate in the exposition which expects to draw a large crowd from around the nation.

The event will be chaired by three Deaf Rochesterians, David Staehle, Anthony DiGiovanni, and Gary Meyer. SAFECO Insurance Company and LS Systems will underwrite expenses for this show.

For more information, contact (716) 234-7028 TTY or (716) 235-7882 FAX. Hearing persons may call through the New York Relay Service at 1-800-421-1220.

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# Open-captioned films continue to be shown for the Rochester deaf community at Little Theatre

By Tom Willard

It all started on April Fool's Day with a hero named Forrest Gump.

Deaf and hard-of-hearing movie lovers came by the hundreds when Little Theatre showed the film *Forrest Gump* April 1-2, 1995.

The reason? The film was shown with open captions, marking the start of a new program that has brought new and popular captioned films to Rochester every month for almost two years.

The films are supplied by TRIPOD Captioned Films, a non-profit organization in Burbank, California that works with studios to promote captioning of new films. The program is supported in Rochester by Bill Coppard, owner of the Little Theatre, who rents space to the sponsor at a low cost.

Before last summer, the program was co-sponsored by Silent News and Deaf Artists of America. When Silent News moved out of Rochester, DAA was able to maintain the program with no lapse in service. DAA also started a monthly newsletter about the captioned films program to make up for the absence of Deaf Rochester.

The films are always shown the second weekend of each month at the Little Theatre, 240 East Avenue, just off the Inner Loop. There is usually a matinee both days around 1 p.m. and a late-night show on Sunday, about 9 p.m. Specific showtimes are determined a few days in advance by Little Theatre and can be obtained through the newspaper movie listings or by calling the TTY Movie Line, 244-3450.

As sponsor of the program, DAA selects from a short list of captioned movies provided by TRIPOD Captioned Films, selecting the films that will appeal to the largest audience. DAA pays to rent the film and the movie theatre. DAA also pays the ushers and covers the costs associated with the TTY Movie Line, the monthly newsletter and posters to promote the films.

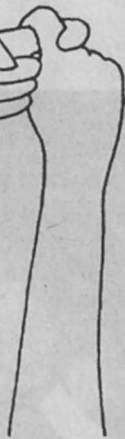
Any profits left over are used to help with general expenses of DAA, a national non-profit arts service organization. Conversely, when a movie fails to attract a large audience, DAA takes the risk. (A recent example: *Tin Cup* lost about \$300.)

If you would like to be on the mailing list for the captioned films newsletter, please contact Deaf Artists of America, 302 N. Goodman St., Suite 205, Rochester, NY 14607, 244-3460 TTY, 244-3690 FAX, e-mail: DeafArtist@aol.com.

*About the author: Tom Willard founded DAA in 1985 and continues to serve as part-time executive director. He is also editor of Newswaves for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing People.*

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## Deaf Rochester Trivia

Who are three sets of deaf brothers in higher education of the deaf, where one brother works here in Rochester, and the other brother in another state?



- Answer to Deaf Rochester Trivia:
- 1) Harold Mowl, Superintendent of Rochester School for the Deaf, and Gary Mowl, Superintendent of North Carolina School for the Deaf at Morganton.
  - 2) Ted Supalla, Linguistics Researcher at University of Rochester, and Sam Supalla, also Linguistics Researcher at University of Arizona.
  - 3) Sam Holcomb, Sign Language Instructor at NTID, and Tom Holcomb, Associate Professor of ASL and Deaf Studies at Ohlone College in Fremont, California.



*Crazy Party in action at RRCD, hosted by DWR on Saturday, January 18, 1997. Over 60 people attended in various costumes, enjoying the craziness in spite of minus 5 degree snowy weather outside!*



*Weird couple Millie Debaker and Bob Marcus win the Crazy Party best costume awards.*



*The National Fraternal Society of the Deaf Rochester chapter is the latest group to join with other affiliated organizations of RRCD. Seen here are NFSD members, Ellen Hamilton, left, Robert Hamilton, right, and Paula Wollenhaupt who presented a check to RRCD President, Paul L. Taylor.*





1997-98 GRRAD Board of officers and directors proudly displayed its new green banner with white GRRAD logo at its fifth anniversary party at Avon Inn on November 17, 1996. (Left to right top) Bill Brown, Past President; Scott Wolff, First Vice-President; (Left to right bottom) Kathleen Long, Secretary; Kevin Moran, Treasurer; Bob Fuller, At-large; Mark Harrison, Membership; James Munro, President; Tom Callaghan, Publication; Dan Donolli, At-large; and Ron Borne, Program. Not pictured: Ricky Feldman, Second Vice-President.



ALL PHOTOS BY SALLY TAYLOR



A surprise 80th birthday party for Mrs. Angeline Mastrangeli was held at the RRCD on July 29, 1996 by her two sons and their families. She was touched by seeing almost 100 of her friends and family members. Her late husband, Luigi, was very active for RRCD.

A very active DEAR group gathered for their annual Christmas Dinner at RRCD in December. A hot catered dinner made this affair extra special!





## Editor position open for Deaf Rochester News

*Deaf Rochester News* is looking for a part-time editor for its publication. The position could become full-time if the venture becomes successful. The editor will be working with many people from the deaf and hard of hearing community. The editor will need to report to the Deaf Rochester News Advisory Group on regular basis. Here are the duties that this position entails:

- Collect news
- Collect dates/events for DR's calendar section

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- Contact sources for information and verification (with deaf organizations' reps and individual contributors)
- Contact vendor sources (printer, office supplies)
- Assign articles, artwork, photography to freelancers
- Write editor's corner
- Edit articles and prepare for proofreaders
- Layout the pages and ad pieces, or assign layout artist
- Prepare mechanicals and deliver or assign someone to deliver to printer in Canandaigua
- Keep record of expenses and incomes; work closely with bookkeeper and ad manager
- Meet with advisory board on regular basis for followups, clarifications, and idea/projects for upcoming issues
- Must know Mac computer. Knowledge of Pagemaker essential. MSWord or Nissus word processing helpful
- Knowledge of e-mail
- Knowledge of journalistic practices and English grammar
- Teamwork attitude
- Many duties can be assigned to people other than the editor, such as getting office supplies, help with proofreading, typesetting, maintaining e-mails, collecting mail from post office and answering inquiries.

Resumes and contact numbers are to be mailed or faxed to *Deaf Rochester News*, c/o RRCD, 1564 Lyell Ave., Rochester, NY 14606, (716) 254-6777 FAX.

## A note to our readers

We are happy to send you this issue of the Deaf Rochester News. There have been many address changes on our list since last August, so it is possible some of you did not get your copy through the mail. If you know of a friend who did not receive one, let them know they can get one from our office. Also, tell them about the subscription to DRN. We can be contacted at 254-6730 TTY.

To readers who had a subscription with the old Deaf Rochester that was stopped last August, the Deaf Rochester News will continue the subscription due to you, beginning with the April issue. This free issue is not part of the subscription. Be aware that there will be six issues published during 1997, every two months. If you have any other questions concerning your subscription, contact our office.

Deadline for news for the April issue of Deaf Rochester News is March 10th.

## Classified

Babysitter needed: Three lovely girls, age 8 and twins 7 years old. Four nights a week, Monday through Thursday. Own transportation preferred. For more information, call 436-1325.





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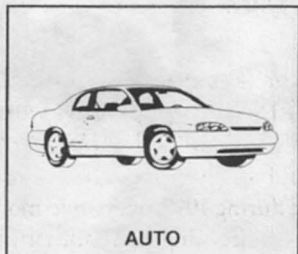
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