

Houston Deaf Senior Citizens

Volume 5

April, 2004

Issue 4

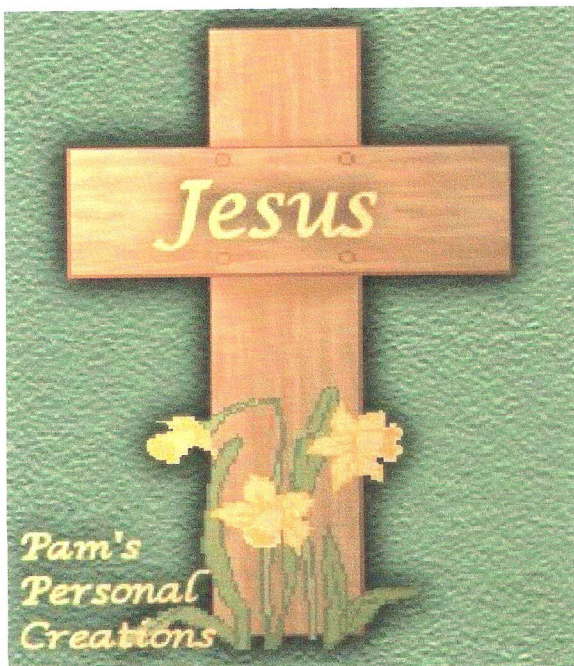
Have a Fun
April
Fool's Day...



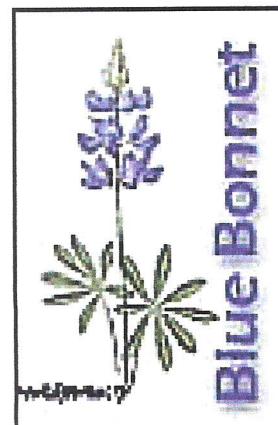
DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME
APRIL 4 at 2:00 AM
FORWARD ONE HOUR

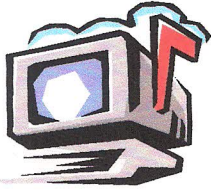


Happy Easter



Texas State Flower





From the Editor:

Houston
Deaf
Senior
Citizens
Newsletter

Editor

*Audrey
Leger*

The Staff

*Karen
Clifton*

*Zelma
Curbello*

*Thelma
Jo Hays*

*Pedro
Solis*

*Roger
Spivey*

*Mary Jo
Stevens*

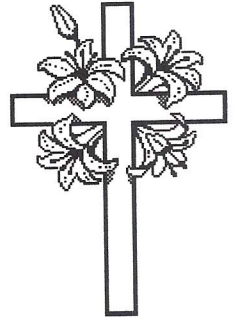
Dear Houston Senior Citizens and Friends:

Lately some of you who have had illness or health problems, we, the Senior citizens, are thinking of you and wishing you all get well.

NOTE: Unpaid subscriptions are discontinued after three months. In order to serve you better, a reminder will be sent during the second month.

Hope you all have a nice Easter weekend!

Audrey



When paying for a new or renewed subscription, please make your check or money order payable to HDSC Newsletter or Houston Deaf Senior Citizen Newsletter instead of Audrey Leger. Thanks.

Please send any news, information, jokes, pictures, recipes, sports or anything that you want to share with Senior Citizens. **Please keep articles to less than 250 words, du to limited space on the newsletter.** Please note that the editor may, at her discretion, edit articles or news items for brevity and to correct errors. **The deadline is on the 15th of each month.** Items received after the 15th will be held until next issue.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Audrey at 281-437-6224 TTY or fax at 281-416-0799 or e-mail at audright@ev1.net.

***Flash News for next field trip
Katy & Columbus, TX***



Houston Deaf Senior Citizens will meet at Woodhaven Baptist Church, 9920 Long Point Rd, Houston, TX on Wednesday, April 21st at 8:00 AM. The bus will depart no later than 8:30 AM.

10 AM – Old Town Columbus Historic District

12:30 PM – Lunch

3 PM – Forbidden Gardens at Katy

If you are interested in going on the field trip, please contact Audrey Leger at 281-437-6224 before the 20th. Come and let's have fun together. See you on the 21st.

NEWS

Dorothy (Hays) King: submitting by Thelma Jo Hays

Hi All,

On March 12, 2004 Dorothy (Hays) King turned 90 years old. As many of you know, she was a well known teacher at Austin School for the Deaf for many years. She is doing well.

It would be very nice if those who knew her would send her a belated birthday card, pictures (write all info on the back of pictures) or a short note. I know she will be thrilled to hear from us.

You can mail directly to her at Dorothy King, C/o Barton Hills Assisted Living, 1606 Nash, Austin, TX 78704.

Thanks & Love, *Thelma Jo*

A PROUD GRANDFATHER Submitted by Joe Katz

Joe Katz is a very proud grandfather at the age of eighty-eight. He is proud of his achievements in life, but more importantly, he is proud of his son and two grandsons. Why is he so proud? Because they are becoming doctors. His son, Jerry, is a dentist. His grandson, David, is a physician, and his grandson, Steve, is working on his Doctorate in English.

Joe feels that is a real accomplishment for a hearing-impaired person who came from a very modest family of seven with very little money and no college education. However, Joe did learn to work hard and aim high, and he passed that belief on to his son and grandsons. At the early age of seven, Joe and his brothers sold newspapers on the corner in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Joe earned money at an early age to support himself and contribute to his family's needs. He even polished shoes at the state fair of Minnesota. These early lessons in selling made him comfortable around the hearing and made him so confident about selling that he had his own business selling automobile parts and tools for over thirty-two years in Fort Worth and Houston. He retired in 1990, at the age of seventy-four, when he and Rosie moved to Austin, Texas. However, he continued to sell as he helped Rosie with her TTY business.

At age of eighty-eight, Joe still sells at the side of Rosie in her TTY business and Joe smiles with pride as he talks about his three doctors –Jerry, David, and Steve. Indeed, Joe is a very proud grandfather!

Joan West by her hubby, Homer

On March 1, 2004, Joan West was sent to the Bayshore Hospital in Pasadena by her doctor, where she was placed in I.C.U. She has a bad kidney and has to have kidney dialysis. On Monday, March 8th she moved out of the I.C.U. into a room, and then went home on the 20th. Everyone is glad that she is doing better.

Latest News:

We got the latest death information that **Melba (Ware) Anderson, 69**, passed away March 17, 2004 with colon cancer. We apologize that there is not more details.

Field Trip:

On Friday, March 12, 2004, a group of Houston Deaf Senior Citizens had a field trip to El Campo and Historic Danevang, TX on a beautiful, nice sunny day. They toured and went sight-seeing to several of El Campo's 24 professionally-painted murals, and the Museum of Natural History (a collection of exotic and indigenous animals in dioramas of their natural habitats). That was so unique and amazing to see. (See pictures page 8 & 9). We ate at El Campo's favorite Mikeska's BBQ & Buffet Restaurant and the food was delicious!

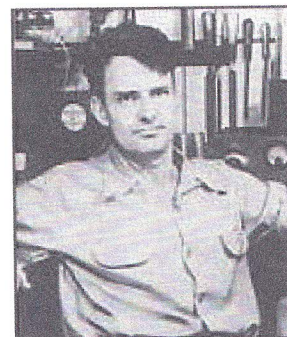
Then we toured at Danevang Historic Culture Center – a three-acre museum complex, the only existing Danish settlement in Texas. We were pleased to sight-see the historical, collections and Christmas tree with handmade ornaments. It is Danish tradition to have Christmas tree standing in the middle and stays there up to Easter time. There is a dance in the Danish Tradition that forms three or four circles or rings around the Christmas tree, everyone joined hand-in-hand, while singing and dancing in opposite directions! That was an enjoyable trip for us.

~~~~~

## DEAF HISTORY -- [http://members.aol.com/deafcultureinfo/deaf\\_history1900s.htm](http://members.aol.com/deafcultureinfo/deaf_history1900s.htm)

**1941-1945 World War II** - Hundreds of deaf people in United States were active "on the home front" during the war to build bombs, bullets, planes, and tanks in defense industries. Deaf people worked in all capacities. Some were professional chemists; some were young men and women with no specific skills who came in from the surrounding farms. At least 40 companies reported in various newspapers that they were highly satisfied with their deaf workers.

**1964 Robert Weitbrecht**, A deaf man introduced an invention to help the deaf to speak on the phone. The invention was an electronic device called an acoustic coupler that enables typewritten communication over the telephone through the use of a teletypewriter (TTY). In 1982, there were over 150,000 TTY sets in the U.S. Not only are they in deaf people's homes, but in many public places, businesses, airline reservation desks, police, fire departments, hospitals and schools. Because of this invention, deaf people can now one step closer towards equal enjoyment of the technological luxuries and necessities of modern culture.



## Shadowed Performance:

**Illuminations Arts** joins **A. D. Players** to bring you a shadowed performance of *The Princess & the Pea* By Travis Tyre on Monday, April 26, 2004, 11:00 AM at Miller Outdoor Theatre in Herman Park, 100 Concert Drive, Houston, TX 77030. A story – Blending fact and fable, this strikingly original adaptation sets the action in the tumultuous era of Imperial Russia. When peasant meets Czar, he discovers a world he is supposed to rule but knows nothing about. Captioning services will be provided! Please join us for this fun, free performance open to the public. Susan Jackson, Artistic Director, Illuminations Arts – 713-529-6909 TTY. [www.illuminationstheatre.org](http://www.illuminationstheatre.org)

## DEAFDIGEST BLUE

Barry Strassler, Editor

Serving the Deaf Community since 1996

## A DEAF POLAR BEAR

Everyone loves watching the polar bears play in their zoo swimming holes, especially in frigid weather. One such playful polar bear, a 10-year old, 575 pound female named Alaska, from the Baltimore Zoo, is deaf. Curators are trying to train this deaf bear by using flashlights and smelly fish treats.

DEAFDIGEST BLUE

AN UNDERGROUND LANGUAGE

The Washington Post, February 24th edition, ran a story about the nushu, or women's script, as practiced by the women of China years ago. The women, not permitted at that time to aspire for high educational levels, developed their own secret script language - the nushu.

This language is dying, but there is a determination among groups of women to keep it going. Pretty much reminds us of the deaf, in the years after the infamous 1880 Milan Convention that forbade use of sign language in the classrooms. The ASL became our underground language for many years. It was not until late 20th century when learning ASL became fashionable.



Texas American Sign Language Teachers Association (Texas ASLTA) – Houston, TX

WHO ARE WE? Texas-ASLTA Board, Chapter of ASLTA

This presentation will (1) provide an overview certification, (2) review content, skills and competencies required at each level of certification, and (3) explain how teacher of ASL may apply to be evaluated. Future workshops will provide ASL teacher training and state conferences on April 17, 2004 from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at North Harris College, Academic Building, Theater Room 126, 2700 W. W. Thorne Blvd, Houston, TX 77073-3499. Fee: Texas ASLTA members \$12.50 and non-member \$17.50.

TCDHH CEUs pending – Texas-ASLTA board meeting from 9:00 to 11:30 am at North Harris College, Academic Building, Room 164. Open to the public. If any questions, contact Brian Kilpatrick at [brian.r.kilpatrick@nhmccd.edu](mailto:brian.r.kilpatrick@nhmccd.edu).



58<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Deaf Bowling Association (SWDBA)  
39<sup>th</sup> Annual Southwest Deaf Women Bowling Association (SWDWBA)

Sponsored by  
Waco Deaf Bowlers & Waco Deaf Club

Thursday – Saturday, April 29-30, May 1, 2004.

AT DOOR COMBO - \$45.00, EARLY BIRD COMBO \$35.00 - DEADLINE – APRIL 1, 2004, & SENIOR CITIZENS (55 and up) - \$35.00. All are non-refundable. For more information contact Walter Holder at [wholder1@hotmail.com](mailto:wholder1@hotmail.com) or Larry Umberger at [rberg@hotmail.com](mailto:rberg@hotmail.com).

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>SWDBA/SWDWBA HEADQUARTER</b></p> <p>Holiday Inn<br/>1001 MLK JR Blvd<br/>(Martin Luther King JR Blvd)<br/>Waco, TX 76704</p> <p>(254) 753-0261</p> | <p><b>MEN'S 58<sup>th</sup> Annual SWDBA</b></p> <p>AMF Westview Lanes<br/>4565 W. Waco Dr<br/>Waco, TX 76710</p> <p>Jack D Rosenthal<br/>Secretary/Treasurer</p> <p>(972) 495-1165 TDD/FAX<br/><a href="mailto:j.grosenthal@verizon.net">j.grosenthal@verizon.net</a></p> | <p><b>WOMEN'S 39<sup>th</sup> Annual SWDWBA</b></p> <p>AMF Lake Air Lanes<br/>4610 Bosque Blvd<br/>Waco, TX 76710</p> <p>Pat Hoffman<br/>Secretary/Treasurer</p> <p>(254) 881-7751 TDD/FAX<br/><a href="mailto:plhoffman17@hotmail.com">plhoffman17@hotmail.com</a></p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## April 2, 2004 (Friday)



FRAT will have a meeting and luncheon at 11 AM Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at Golden Corral Restaurant (get off Hollister exit from North 290, and make a U-turn. Restaurant is on your right.

## April 2, 2004 (Friday)



ASL Social will be at **Jax's Grill Restaurant, 1613 Shepherd, Houston, TX** on Friday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> from 3 PM to 9 PM. Come to meet your old and new friends. Any questions please e-mail to Earl Johnson at [ejohnson127@houston.rr.com](mailto:ejohnson127@houston.rr.com).

## April 6, 2004 (Tuesday)



**Positive Interaction Program (PIP)** will be held on Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at Woodhaven Deaf Baptist Church at 9920 Long Point Rd. Houston at 7 PM. The presentation will be: Alma Gonzales with the HPD Southeast Family Violence Unit will be here to tell us about how family violence affected us and what we can do about it. Come join us! Refreshments will be served. Interpreter & captioning will be provided.

## April 13, 2004 (Tuesday)



**Chief's Citywide "PIP"** will have a meeting at 1200 Travis on Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. The presentation will be: This month our format is a questions and issues for the Chief. Come meet our new Chief Harold L. Hurtt. Interpreter & captioning will be provided.

## April 14, 2004, 2004 (Wednesday)



Houston Senior Citizens will have a general meeting at **Metropolitan Multi-Service Center** at 1475 West Gray, Houston from 9 AM to 1 PM. Come and enjoy chatting with friends!

## April 21, 2004 (Wednesday)



Houston Deaf Senior Citizens will have a field trip to Katy & Columbus, TX. Meet at Woodhaven Baptist Church, 9920 Long Point Dr, Houston, TX by 9 AM. Let's join us and enjoy ourselves. (See editor page 2, for more information).

## April 22, 2004 (Thursday)



Houston Deaf Senior Citizens will have a fellowship and potluck at **Woodhaven Deaf Baptist Church** at 9920 Long Point from 9 AM to 1 PM. If you wish to bring a covered dish, please contact **Evelyn Autry** at (713) 984-8186 TTY or **Gertrude Sessions** at (281) 447-7575 TTY and let them know what you will bring.

## April 26, 2004 (Monday)




















Illuminations Arts joins A. D. Players to bring you a shadowed performance of *The Princess & the Pea* by *Travis Tyre* at Miller Outdoor Theatre Monday, April 26 11:00 AM. Any questions please call at 713-529-6909 TTY. (See page 4 for the details)

## April 28, 2004 (Wednesday)



Houston Senior Citizens will have a meeting at **Metropolitan Multi-Service Center** at 1475 West Gray, Houston from 9 AM to 1 PM. Come and enjoy chatting with friends!

# April 2004

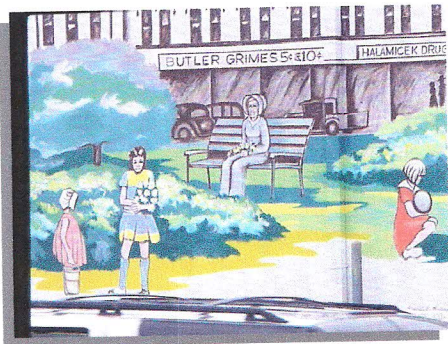
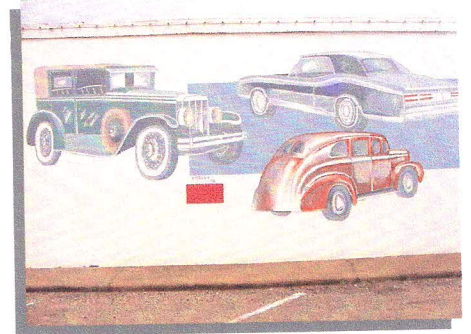
| SUN                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | MON | TUE                                                                                                                                                                                                           | WED                                                                                                                                | THU                                                                                                                        | FRI                                                                                                                                     | SAT                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>4 DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME FORWARD 1 HOUR</p>  <p>PALM SUNDAY</p>  | 5   | <p>6 PIP MEETING</p>  <p>Gus Curbello</p>  | 7                                                                                                                                  | <p>1</p>                                                                                                                   | <p>2 ASL SOCIAL</p> <p>Jax's Grill Restaurant</p>  | 3                                                                                                                    |
| <p>11 EASTER</p>  <p>Travis &amp; Gertrude Sessions-1953</p>       | 12  | <p>13 Chief's City Wide Meeting</p>                                                                                          | 14 S.C.M.M.S.C.                                  | 15                                                                                                                         | 16                                                                                                                                      | <p>17</p> <p>Carl Long</p>        |
| <p>18</p> <p>Floyd Wicker</p>                                                                                                                       | 19  | 20                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>21 FIELD TRIP</p> <p>Katy &amp; Columbus</p>  | <p>22 S.C. SOCIAL</p> <p>WOODHAVEN</p>  | <p>23</p> <p>Robert Small</p>                        | <p>24</p> <p>Estella Cameron</p>  |
| <p>25</p> <p>Ann Edgley</p>                                                                                                                         | 26  | 27                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>28 S.C.M.M.S.C.</p>                           | 29                                                                                                                         | 30                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                      |

# FIELD TRIP - EL CAMPO

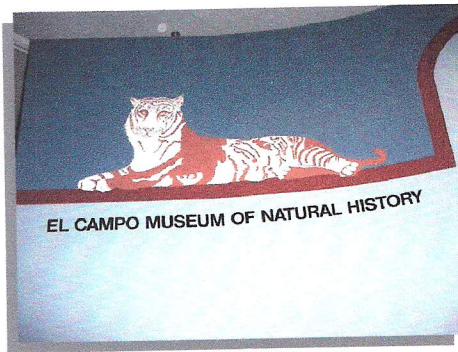
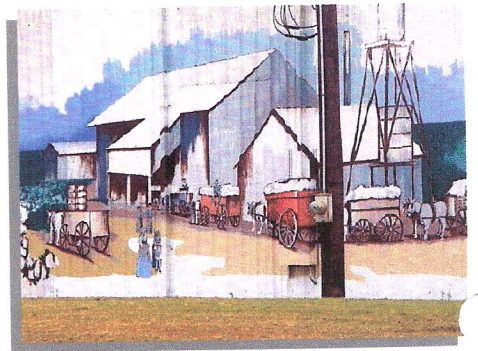
March 12, 2004



← One of Professional Painter's home



Professionally-Painted Murals



One of Clown collections in the Museum



The Museum features the life-sized dioramas and animal trophy collection.





# AND DANEVANG

Danevang means "Danish Fields"



Heritage Museum

It features reminiscent of the barns of Denmark.



Front Heritage Museum



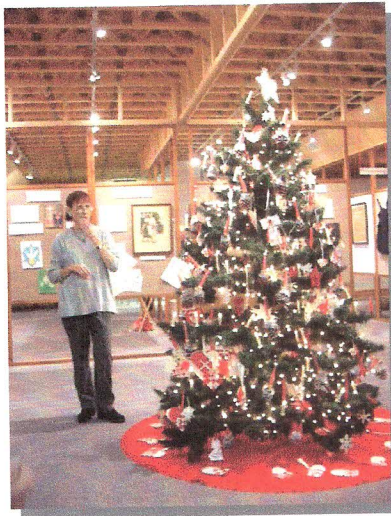
Pioneer House

This early settler's 1898 house was moved to the museum site in 1993.



Christmas Plate Collection

The Museum features an exhibit of a Complete collection of Bing & Grondahl Christmas plates from the beginning in 1895 to 1996.



Christmas Tree with Handmade Ornaments



Cotton Plant in a Vase

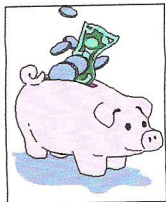


The group really did enjoy themselves and was happy to go home after a pleasurable day.



Picture of Danevang Lutheran Church and Community Hall

**From Zelma Curbello of LOVE FUND:**



We wish to thank you for your generous donations to LOVE FUND: Arlene Benham, Zelma Curbello, Marge & Troy Graham, Thelma Jo Hays, William Hebert, Audrey Leger, Elnora Morgan, Pernella Smith, Roger Spivey, Paula Szablowski, Betty Tefler and I.D. & Floyd Wicker.

Maurice Ford, thank you for your thoughtful donation to the Love Fund from the proceeds of crafts sold.

Jean & Gene Harkness, thank you for your generous donations to LOVE FUND: **IN MEMORY OF ARLENE BENHAM'S SON, RONALD BENHAM.**

Anyone who wishes to donate \$\$\$ to LOVE FUND should please make a check or money order payable to Houston Deaf Senior Citizens - Love Fund. Please mail to:

**Mrs. Zelma Curbello  
9623 Tiltree  
Houston, TX 77075-4042**

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**NEW SENIOR CITIZEN MEMBERS:**

Welcome to our new S.C. members: *Margie & Troy Graham*

**RENEWALS:**

Thank you for your renewal: *Carole Allen, Carter & Wanda Bearden, Larry & Yvonne Butler, Mary M Dunagan, Larry & Ollie Flanagan, M/N Emmett Hall, M/M Nelson Hays, Lola Justiss, Truitt & Mary M Longmore, M/M Olon Lowrance, Evelyn Marek, Connie Patterson, Hazel E Reed, Mary Ann Ryba, Nell Shanefield, Cathy & Fred Simerka, and Franklin & Mary Faye Tippett.*

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**Planned field trips for Houston Deaf Senior Citizens for the next four months:**  
(Attention: those places or dates may be changed if unable to reserve or time permits)

- ❖ May 14, 2004 (Friday) ~~ Galveston, TX ~~ Bishop's Palace, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Moody Mansion/Museum & Lone Star Flight Museum
  
- ❖ June 2, 2004 (Wednesday) ~~ Lufkin, Weches & Crockett, TX ~~ Texas Forestry Museum, Downs-Aldrich  
House & Monroe Crook House

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**A DEAF DIGITAL DAY**

DeafDigest – February 2004

***What is a typical Deaf Digital Day?***

6:30 AM – special alarm signaler wakes you up  
8:00 AM – receiving a message on your deaf wireless pager while commuting to work  
8:45 AM – you check on email from deaf friends  
11:30 AM – receiving a TTY machine call from a deaf friend  
1:00 PM – making a TTY relay call via web site

3:00 PM – receiving a VRS call from a hearing person  
4:00 PM – setting up a VRS conference meeting  
6:30 PM – arrive home and watch captioned news on TV  
9:00 PM – watching a captioned movie on your DVD player  
11:00 Pm – resetting your special alarm signaler

# REST IN PEACE

## OBITUARIES



**Alton Ray Robinson, 58**, of Pueblo, Colorado, passed away by kidney failure Wednesday, February 4, 2004. He was born to Ben Alton and Olga (Champion) Robinson on August 28, 1945 in Paducah, TX. He is survived by his two sisters, Jenice Wells and husband Tommy of Houston, and Cardelia Whitener and husband Paul of Paducah, TX.

Preceded his death by two deaf brothers, Coy Wayne Robinson and Kyle Curtis Robinson.

Alton attended at Texas School for the Deaf in Austin around 1951 to late 1960's.

His nurse, Cindy noted that he was cremated at Pueblo, Colorado and spread out his ashes in Vale, Colorado Monday, February 9, 2004.

**Ronald R. Benham (Arlene Benham's son)** passed away February 19, 2004. He is survived by son, David Benham; daughter, Kellie Benham; his mother, 3 brothers and 3 sisters along with other relatives and friends. Memorial services were held at 4:00 PM, Saturday, February 21, 2004 in the Chapel of Earthman Resthaven Funeral Home.

[www.EarthmanFunerals.com](http://www.EarthmanFunerals.com)

**Connie Fitch (sister-in-law of Hazel Richard, Evelyn Floerke and Jeanette Turnham)** of Nederland, 67, passed away March 12, 2004 at home from lung disease. She was born August 9, 1936 in Longview, TX and had been a resident of Nederland most of her life.

She was a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church of Port Arthur where she served as a Eucharistic Minister.

She is survived by her husband, Jimmy Fitch, three daughters, Joan Orr and husband Dwain of

Nederland, Veronica Messina and husband Vincent, and Gwen Young and husband Mark all of Beaumont, one son Jack Fitch and wife Stacey of Nederland, ten grandchildren and one great-grandson, one sister Pat Scow and husband Reed of St George, Utah, and numerous nieces and nephews.

### THANK YOU NOTES

Dear Houston Deaf Senior Citizens,

Thank you for the lovely card. It is greatly appreciated.

Yeah, we love you all...Take care. God bless you all richly.

*Walter and Dinah Anderson*

Dear Houston Deaf Senior Citizens,

I received several sympathy cards from you and appreciate that you're thinking of me during the great loss of my son.

Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. God bless you.

*Love, Arlene Benham*

To the Deaf Senior Citizens,

Kindness comes so naturally to everyone of you.... So naturally, the warmest thanks are coming to you, too.

Thank you very much for your prayers and your donation to my family,

Sincerely, *The Earl Luther Family*

# LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE



## SENIOR MOMENTS.....

A little old lady was running up and down the halls in a nursing home. As she walked, she would flip up the hem of her nightgown and say "Supersex."  
She walked up to an elderly man in a wheelchair. Flipping her gown at him, she said, "Supersex."  
He sat silently for a moment or two and finally answered, "I'll take the soup."

E-mail from a friend



5802 Holly  
Houston, TX 77074

Mary Redman  
(713) 981-1543 Voice/TTY

You may call them by RELAY TEXAS #711 OR #1-800-735-2989

Funded in part by (TCDHH) Texas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Please enter my subscription: (1 year...\$12.00)

(  ) New Subscriber      (  ) Renewal Subscriber

Enclose:

**ATTENTION: No Cash, Please**

(  ) check (  ) year(s)

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Please make payable to:  \$  
(HDSC Newsletter)  
Houston Deaf Senior Citizen Newsletter

Mail to: Audrey Leger  
P O Box 664  
Missouri City, TX 77459

(Print, Please)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

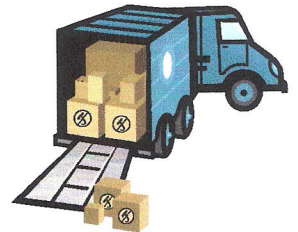
STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TTY or FAX #: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Circle one)

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

# MOVING?



Please make sure your

**NEWSLETTER**

moves with you!

(Print, Please)

OLD ADDRESS:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS:

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_