

# HOUSTON DEAF SENIOR CITIZENS NEWSLETTER

Volume 10

November 2009

Issue 11



## ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!

Don't forget to change your clocks and watches back an hour on October 31<sup>st</sup> as Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. Be sure to change batteries on alarms, clocks, and anything else that runs on batteries.



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### Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>

Please remember that we are meeting on Thursday in November due to Veteran's Day being on November 11<sup>th</sup>. West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center will be closed that day. We look forward to seeing you all on Thursday then. Be sure to bring your ideas for games to play so we can have a great time together.

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### Senior Citizens Trip to Luling and San Marcos, TX October 8, 2009

We stopped at Central Texas Oil Patch Museum in Luling, TX paying tribute to the Central Texas Oil Industry and Luling's rich cultural heritage. This Museum was founded in 1990 as an educational foundation. We learned about Edgar B. Davis who brought in Rafael Rios #1 in 1922 which proved to be part of one of the most significant oil fields ever discovered in the Southwest. Luling was established in 1874 as one of "the toughest town in Texas". After our visit there, we headed to San Marcos stopping at a BBQ Restaurant for a delicious meal. Then, we stopped at La Vista to visit our friends. Some of us took a tour of apartments that are available. If you are interested in moving there, check out the website at [lavistaonline.org](http://lavistaonline.org) to obtain the cost of living there. The group there provided cookies and drinks for us. It was good to chat with our friends.



%%%

### Overnight Trip to San Antonio, TX December 2 & 3, 2009

The Travel Committee has decided to take a trip to San Antonio, TX for Christmas lights. We will be staying at Best Western Alamo, 1002 S. Laredo, San Antonio, TX.

The HDSCF Board has decided that any Senior Citizen over 60 years old and a member of HDSCF who attends the meetings will get a free motel room. For those that are not 60 and not a member, \$39 per person will be charged. This will include double occupancy (2 people) room and deluxe continental breakfast. We have reserved 20 rooms for our group. As of now, we have 5 rooms available. Please let Gertie Sessions, Julie Spaulding, or Nancy Morris know if you are interesting in going. The bus holds approximately 50 people. Thanks!

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## November 5, 2009 (Thursday)



**Positive Interaction Program (PIP)** will have a presentation on HPD Vice Division. We will be updated on how the Vice Division operates enforcing laws regarding Prostitution and Gambling. The meeting is held at Woodhaven Baptist Church for the Deaf, 9920 Long Point, Houston, TX at 7:30 PM. Door prizes! Interpreter and captioning are provided. Please notice that this meeting is on a **THURSDAY**. Officer James Sobota is responsible to set these meetings up to benefit us. Anyone can contact him at [james.sobota@cityofhouston.net](mailto:james.sobota@cityofhouston.net).

## November 6, 2009 (Friday)



**Houston Deaf Senior Citizens** will take a trip to LaGrange, TX. Everyone needs to be at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point Rd., Houston, TX by 7:15 AM as the Bus will leave at 7:45 AM. We will stop at Texas Czech heritage which includes lunch at \$7 per person. Then, we will stop at Fayette County Courthouse. Plus we will stop at Lavern Fair's Famous Meat Market and Bakery (Gertie is kidding!)! Please contact Gertie Sessions by VP 281-447-7575 or Julie Spaulding by VP 281-249-5276 for more information

## November 6, 2009 (Friday)



**ASL Social** will meet at Jax Grill, 1613 Shepherd Dr., Houston, TX 77007 from 3:00 PM till 9:00 PM. Let's meet and enjoy chatting with your old & new friends. Any questions, please e-mail to Earl Johnson at [ejohnson127@comcast.net](mailto:ejohnson127@comcast.net) for more information.

## November 7, 2009 (Saturday)



**Taste of Technology in Houston** will host a free conference by Relay Texas where you can learn about technology with adaptive telecommunications equipment, assistive listening devices, and telecommunications services for Texas residents who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, and speech disabled. It will begin at 9:00 AM till 4:00 PM at Hilton Houston Post Oak, 2001 Post Oak Blvd., Houston, TX 77056. Self parking is \$5 while valet parking is \$13. Check out their website at [houstondeafnetwork.com](http://houstondeafnetwork.com) to register for this conference.

## November 10, 2009 (Tuesday)



**Chief's Citywide "Positive Interaction Program"** will have their 26<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Holiday meeting. Come join Chief Harold L. Hurtt along with all of the Divisional PIP members to celebrate. The new location will be at 9009 West Loop South (Aramco Oil Co.). Free parking at the location. ID is required for security check-in in the lobby. The Citywide Board and Officer James Sobota hope to see you there. Interpreter and captioning will be provided. (Please notice the new location!)

## November 12, 2009 (Thursday)



**Houston Deaf Senior Citizens** will have their business/social meeting at West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019 at 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. Please bring your games to play. Please bring your friends to have a great time. (Editor's note: I have no idea what will be planned on this day, but please come.)

## November 13, 2009 (Friday)



**Houston Hand Talk Social** will be at Northwest Mall at the Food Court, 9930 Hempstead St., Houston, TX 77092 from 5 PM till 9 PM. This is a fun way to meet people that are learning ASL. Let's meet and enjoy chatting with old and new friends. Any questions, please e-mail Roge Spivey at [spivey39@yahoo.com](mailto:spivey39@yahoo.com).

**November 14, 2009 (Saturday)**



**Deaf Houston Latino** will meet at Ragin Cajun, 4302 Richmond Ave., Houston, TX 77027 from 4 PM till 9 PM. Please contact Rafael Gonzalez for more information. Come and chat with old and new friends.

**November 19, 2009 (Thursday)**



**Houston Deaf Senior Citizens** will have a fellowship and potluck at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church at 9920 Long Point Rd. from 9 am till 1 pm. If you wish to bring a covered dish, contact Evelyn Autry at 713-984-8186 TTY or Jenice Wells 281-442-8015 TTY or 281-249-5251 VP and let them know what you plan to bring. If you do not bring food, please bring \$5 to help cover the cost of providing food.

**November 26, 2009 (Thursday)**



**Thanksgiving Day** is a harvest festival. Traditionally, it is a time to give thanks for the harvest and express gratitude in general. It is a holiday celebrated primarily in the United States. It is celebrated on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of November. The dinner is held as a gathering of family members and friends.

**November 30, 2009 (Monday)**



**Joe's Banquet Center**, 1300 East Hwy. 6, Alvin, TX 77511 will provide free meal for Seniors from 6 AM till 10 AM. It is free on the last Monday of each month. However, you have to pay for your drinks.

\*\*\*\*\*

**DONATIONS & NEWSLETTER DUES**

**Donations to Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund**

Thanks to Melva (Miller) Nomeland for her thoughtful donation to LOVE FUND in memory of Shirley Jackson.

Anyone who wishes to donate money to **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation)** should please make check or money order payable to **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund**. In the memo part of your check, please write down what the amount applies to or you can send a note. Please mail to address on back page. Thanks so much!

**DONATIONS TO NEWSLETTER:**

Thanks to Ollie Lee Pool and Betty Telfer for their donations for supplies.

**RENEWAL SUBSCRIBERS:**

Thank you for your renewal: Alfred G Crager, Roland De Los Santos, Beverly Duncan, David & Linda Garcia, Delia A Harris, Paula A Harris, Ann Hornbeak, Thomas & Alice Jarma, Garcia Lorello, Millie A Miller, Peggy J Miller, Rosalind Stuckey, and Judy Thomas.

**REOPENING SUBSCRIBER:** Rita Aguilar, a gift subscription from Nancy Morris. Nancy, thank you for your gift.

**NEW SUBSCRIBER:** Welcome to our new subscribers - Val Morton, Carolyn Teague, and Robert & Leslie Wong. Wong's gift subscription is given by Gertrude Sessions. Gertrude, thank you for your thoughtful gift.



# REST IN PEACE

## OBITUARY

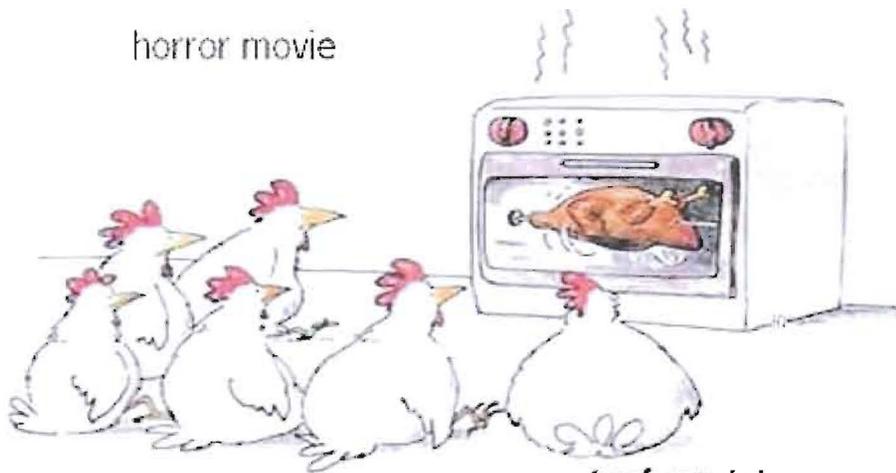


**Shirley Stegall Jackson**, 74, has moved on to be with our Father on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September joining her parents and her brother, Kenneth Stegall. She was born January 5, 1935 in Houston, TX. Survivors are her children: Sue Ann Haley and Jerome Jackson; brother, Bill Etie & wife Rene; sisters: Martha Sahualla & husband Lucky, Cherry Key & husband Butch, Sondra Guthrie & husband Bill; sister-in-law, Shelley Stegall; 3 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and long time soul mate, Val Morton. A memorial service was held on Saturday, October 10 at 2:00 PM at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point Rd., Houston, TX.

\*\*\*\*\*

Looks like they are celebrating Thanksgiving! Smiling.....

horror movie



toofunnyjokes.com

\*\*\*\*\*

### Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church Presents Christmas Drama 2009

This is a free performance about Deafville USA II. The dates and times are as followed: Friday, December 11 at 7:30 PM; Saturday, December 12 at 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM; and Sunday, December 13 at 7:30 PM. These performances are voiced for the hearing audience since all the actors and actresses are signing. It's held at 9920 Long Point, Houston, TX 77055. Their website is woodhavendeaf.org; then, click on HOME PAGE to scroll down to "Christmas Drama" for more information. For more information, you can contact them by TTY/Voice at 713-467-3325.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Closed Captioning Issues?

Are your closed captions.....garbled? .....out of sync (delayed or early)? .....in the wrong place? .....jumping around the screen? .....flashing? .....overlapping? .....filling up the screen? Please contact CSD-DTV Help Center by calling VP 866-351-1950 or 866-401-3519 or email at [DTVHelp@c-s-d.org](mailto:DTVHelp@c-s-d.org) or use their Website at <http://dtv.c-s-d.org>. (Editor's note: I received this from CSD E-News.

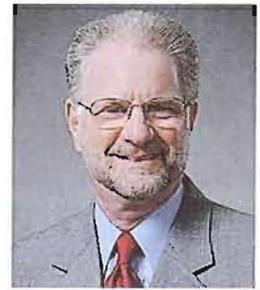
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#### Luling City Market

If you're looking for REAL Texas Bar-B-Que, you've come to the right place! Located in the heart of the Bar-B-Que capital of the world, The Luling City Market restaurant is located in the Galleria area of Houston, TX and is easily accessible from any part of the city.

Submitted by Minnie Collins

# NEWS



## **Gallaudet announces T. Alan Hurwitz as 10th president**

Sent by Audrey Leger

Dr. T. Alan Hurwitz has been appointed by the Board of Trustees as Gallaudet University's tenth president. The announcement was made by Dr. Benjamin Soukup, chair of the Board of Trustees, on October 18 before an overflow crowd in the University's Swindells Auditorium. Hurwitz currently serves as president of the National Technical Institute for the Deaf [NTID] and vice president and dean of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT). He has worked at NTID/RIT since 1970, first as an instructor in RIT's College of Engineering and, subsequently, as an NTID professor, department chair, dean, and the college's president. Throughout his career, he has been active in a variety of professional organizations, including serving as president of both the National Association of the Deaf and the World Organization of Jewish Deaf.

"In Dr. Alan Hurwitz, the Board of Trustees has chosen a leader for Gallaudet who possesses an extensive and distinguished track record in the field of higher education for deaf and hard of hearing persons," said Soukup. "This expertise, along with his commitment to Gallaudet's unique mission and strategic plan, ensures that he is the right person to lead the University as it seeks to attract and educate students from a variety of educational and communication backgrounds."

Dr. Soukup introduced Dr. Hurwitz and Gallaudet's new first lady, Vicki Hurwitz, to the exuberant crowd that had assembled for the announcement. Hurwitz called the occasion "a very emotional time, as well as an exciting time for me and my wife, Vicki." He thanked the Board of Trustees and the Gallaudet community "for their support and confidence in my selection," he said. "I enthusiastically accept the appointment." Hurwitz, who will take office in January, succeeds Dr. Robert Davila, the University's president since 2007. Davila, who joined Hurwitz on the stage, remarked, "I'm confident he'll do well," and added that Gallaudet will be fortunate to benefit from "his wealth of skill and knowledge." In closing, Gallaudet University Alumni Association (GUAA) Board Chair Alyce Slater Reynolds congratulated Hurwitz on behalf of GUAA's 17,000 members, and said, "We look forward to joining you on the journey we're taking."

## **Social Activities at West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center**

Written by Nancy Morris, Editor

Please come and join us on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month to have fun playing games. There are several games to choose from. In this picture, Patsy Walker, Larry Butler, and Judy Lorenz are playing Checkers. They had a great time. If you have ideas for a game that you love to play, please bring and share with all of us. Everyone will get a chance to learn new games from others, too. Please note that we will not meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday in November and December due to Holidays.



Also, Jan Dermon and Joan West will begin teaching us how to make things to keep or give away as gifts. If you have any ideas that you want to learn to make, please contact one of them. They will plan to teach beginning in January.

## **Can you guess who are these people????**

Jan Dermon put these pictures together

Group picture was taken at Barton Spring in Austin. At the top is Aleta Taylor. Second row from left to right are Vera Christal, Marcia McGregor, Laura Erickson, Abbie Ingram, Janet Boreland, and Sara Beth Stanley. Third row are Andra Davis, Ollie Sparkman, and Julie Hiriart.

Top right is Troy Graham with Bubba Lorenz under him. Bottom from left to right are Margie Graham, Rochelle Simpson, and Judy Lorenz.



## **Deaf Woman Attacked At Dallas Apartment Complex**

Submitted by Linda Smith from Deaf Network.com

A Dallas woman has been traumatized by a silent attack that left her bruised and bloodied and she may have been targeted because she's deaf. The violent act at the Doral Apartment Homes has many residents shaking their heads. It's been two days since it happened and her injuries are still visible. "He hit me in the eye," explained Kathy Jowers. Jowers couldn't hear the stranger who approached her, but she is still feeling the pain from what he did to her. "A guy approached me from the back... threw me down to the ground, flipped me over and just started punching me in my face," Jowers recalled, with her daughter, Tara Thomas, interpreting. The 50-year-old woman was walking to her apartment early Sunday morning when she was beaten by a robber. The attacker apparently wanted more than Jowers' purse. "He took her rings off of her fingers and then hit her again in the jaw and then grabbed her by the throat," said Thomas. After the attack Thomas took pictures of her mother. Both Jowers and her daughter believe the man responsible knew he was targeting a deaf woman. "Me and her will be outside, signing, talking and people stare." The apartment complex has a security camera pointing at the spot where the attack happened, but property management won't say if it captured the crime. Jowers says she now feels like a prisoner inside her apartment and is worried her attacker lives in the complex. Despite her fears she says she's speaking out because she wants her attacker to know she survived. "I want to stand up. I don't want to be scared. I want him to see that I'm still alive, that I'm here." Police have only a vague description of the man responsible.

## **Burned Biscuits**

Submitted by Nancy Morris

When I was a wee "tike", my mom liked to make breakfast food for dinner every now and then. And I remember one night in particular when she had made breakfast after a long, hard day at work. On that evening so long ago, my mom placed a plate of eggs, sausage, and extremely burned biscuits in front of my dad. I remember waiting to see if anyone noticed! Yet, all my dad did was reach for his biscuit, smile at my mom, and ask me how my day was at school. I don't remember what I told him that night, but I do remember watching him smear butter and jelly on that biscuit and eat every bite!

When I got up from the table that evening, I remember hearing my mom apologize to my dad for burning the biscuits. And I'll never forget what he said: "Baby, I love burned biscuits." Later that night, I went to kiss Daddy good night and I asked him if he really liked his biscuits burned. He wrapped me in his arms and said, "Your Momma put in a hard day at work today and she's real tired. And besides - a little burnt biscuit never hurt anyone!" You know, life is full of imperfect things..... and imperfect people.

What I've learned over the years is that learning to accept each other's faults and choosing to celebrate each other's differences is one of the most important keys to creating a healthy, growing, and lasting relationship.

## **No Social Security COLA could prod \$250 payments**

Sent by Audrey Leger (Written by Stephen Ohlemachier, Associated Press Writer)

Social Security recipients won't get a cost-of-living increase next year for the first time in more than a third of a century and that could boost President Barack Obama's plan to send seniors another round of \$250 payments before the congressional elections. More than 50 million Social Security recipients will see no increase in their monthly payments next year, the government said Thursday, the first year without an increase since automatic adjustments were adopted in 1975. Social Security payments do not go down, even when prices drop. Government analysts have been forecasting for months that there would be no increase next year in monthly Social Security payments because of falling consumer prices. In anticipation of Thursday's announcement, Obama said Wednesday he supported \$250 payments to about 57 million senior citizens, veterans, retired railroad workers, and people with disabilities.

**Senior Citizens** are the biggest carriers of AIDS. It includes: Hearing Aids...Band aids...Roloids...Walking Aids...Medic-aid... Government Aid!

### **Lillian Beard at RID Opening Ceremonies, Philadelphia 2009**

Submitted by Audrey Leger

Lillian Beard, sign language interpreter, addresses the opening ceremonies of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) conference in Philadelphia on August 1, 2009. She is 100 years old. Check out: YouTube - Lillian Beard at RID Opening Ceremonies, Philadelphia 2009.

### **Thank You note received from Audrey Leger**

Dear HDSCLF, Your special ways and generous heart make a beautiful difference. Thank you so much for the nice sympathy card in the loss of my sister. Bless you all with God's Love. Love, Audrey

### **Sydna Smith's Twin's birthday party**

Submitted by Sydna Smith

Sydna Smith's twins of Mrs. Josie McGee and Mr. Albert Smith, Jr. had a nice birthday party at the Mexican Restaurant in Sulphur, LA on Friday, September 25. Her twins are 40 years old.

### **FRIENDS VS TEXAS FRIENDS**

Submitted by Gwen Anderson

FRIENDS: Never ask for food.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Always bring the food.

FRIENDS: Will say 'hello'.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Will give you a big hug and a kiss.

FRIENDS: Call your parents Mr. and Mrs.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Call your parents Mom and Dad.

FRIENDS: Have never seen you cry.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Cry with you.

FRIENDS: Will eat at your dinner table and leave.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Will spend hours there talking, laughing, playing dominoes or cards & just being together.

FRIENDS: Know a few things about you.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Could write a book with direct quotes from you.

FRIENDS: Will leave you behind if that's what the crowd is doing.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Will kick the whole crowds' back-ends that left you.

FRIENDS: Would knock on your door.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Walk right in and say, 'I'm home!'.

FRIENDS: will visit you in the hospital when you're sick.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Will cut your grass and clean your house; then, come spend the night with you in the hospital and cook for you when you come home.

FRIENDS: Are for a while.

TEXAS FRIENDS: Are for life.

### **Chicken Dressing Casserole**

Submitted by Betty Falke

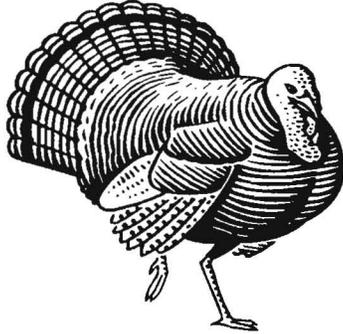
Cook 1 fryer chicken and remove bones. (Reserve ½ cup broth.) Cut chicken into bite-size pieces. Combine 1 can cream of mushroom soup, 1 can cream of chicken soup, 1 can (13-oz.) evaporated milk, and ½ cup of chicken broth. Heat thoroughly. Combine 1 (8-oz.) package top of stove stuffing mix and ½ cup melted butter. Spread half of stuffing in a greased 9 X 13 pan. Layer chicken over this; then, pour soups over and top with remaining stuffing. Bake uncovered for 35 minutes at 350 F. (Instead of a fryer chicken, you can use 4 or 5 (12.5 oz.) cans of chunk chicken as it is much quicker.)

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving with your families and friends! Count your blessings and name them one by one. Be grateful for your family members and friends.

It's been 2 years since I took over as Editor. It has been a challenge for me. Yet, I appreciate your words and comments on the Newsletter. Most of all, I love it when many of you share your ideas on improving and making changes. Thank you! We do make a great team when we work together to make Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund a successful organization. Let's keep working together and enjoy life.

If you have any information, jokes, recipes, event, pictures, sports, or news that you want me to publish, please send them to me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. My E-mail address is [nmorris726@gmail.com](mailto:nmorris726@gmail.com) or you can mail to me at 15335 Falmouth Ave., Houston, TX 77084-1412.



Please note that Editor may, at her discretion, edit articles or news items for brevity and to correct errors. When sending large pictures to me, please make sure you use a larger envelope.

*Nancy Morris, Editor*

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**For News & Other Information:**

Nancy Morris, Editor  
15335 Falmouth Ave  
Houston, TX 77084

VP: 281-815-4033  
Voice: 866-939-6502

Email: [nmorris726@gmail.com](mailto:nmorris726@gmail.com)  
Email: [hdsnews@yahoo.com](mailto:hdsnews@yahoo.com)

**For Address/Renewal Due:**

Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund  
C/o Audrey Leger  
P O Box 664

Missouri City, TX 77459  
VP/V: 866-552-1651

Email: [hdsnews@yahoo.com](mailto:hdsnews@yahoo.com)

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