

# HOUSTON DEAF SENIORS OF TEXAS NEWSLETTER

Volume 9

September 2008

Issue 09

This is funded by DARS-DHHS



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## CHRISTMAS IN GRAPEVINE, TX

Please reserve November 19<sup>th</sup> for a trip to Grapevine, TX to see Gaylord Texas Lone Star Christmas Ice. Need to wear warm clothes with gloves and hat or scarf. The Event will provide heavy jackets for us to wear as we view these ice sculptures. We will stop for lunch. Then, we will be staying at Super 8 Motel, 250 E. State Hwy 114, Grapevine, TX. Call 817-329-7222 for your reservations as we are staying one night there. After viewing the ice sculptures, we will go to a Mall closeby. While there, we can select what kind of foods we want to eat that evening. Any questions, please feel free to contact Gertie Sessions (VP 281-447-7575), Julie Spaulding (VP 281-445-1072), or Nancy Morris (VP 281-656-2576). Please call them after you have made your reservations as they need to know how many are going.

The Bus has been reserved to hold up to 50 people. Therefore, we need to know how many are going.

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## HOUSTON DEAF SENIORS OF TEXAS 25<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary Banquet Wednesday, September 24, 2008 From 9:00 AM till 4:00 PM

Please mail the Order Form with Check or Money Order payable to HDST Fund, P. O. Box 664, Missouri City, TX 77459. **The deadline for ordering tickets is Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup>!** We will have BBQ Luncheon that costs \$10 per person. For those that do not want to eat, the cost is \$5. The Banquet is held at West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019.

**Awards.....Entertainment.....Guest Speaker.....Door Prizes**

Order Form:  
Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Non-refundable ticket(s).

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

For more information, please contact Patsy Walker, Chairperson at [waynellus@yahoo.com](mailto:waynellus@yahoo.com) or by calling on VP by 281-446-2056.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## September 1, 2008 (Monday)



Have a safe and happy **Labor Day!** If you are going out of town for the weekend, please respect the other drivers and obey the State Laws. Enjoy the long weekend from work by relaxing and enjoying what you want to do.

## September 2, 2008 (Tuesday)



**Positive Interaction Program (PIP)** will be from the HPD "Crisis Intervention Team". These Officers are specially trained to deal with persons who may be mentally ill. This will be a very informative presentation. The meeting is held at Woodhaven Church for the Deaf, 9920 Long Point, Houston, TX at 7:30 PM. Door prizes! Interpreter and captioning provided.

## September 5, 2008 (Friday)



**ASL Social** will be at Souper Salad, 5822 Fairmont, Pasadena, TX 77505 from 5 till 9:30 PM. Let's come to meet and enjoy chatting with your old and new friends. Any questions, please e-mail to Earl Johnson at [ejohnson127@comcast.net](mailto:ejohnson127@comcast.net)

## September 9, 2008 (Tuesday)



**Chief's Citywide PIP** will have their meeting at 1600 State St., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Houston, TX 77007. It beings at 7:00 PM. Interpreter and captioning provided. Contact Officer James Sobota by TDD at 713-308-9071 for more information. The next meeting will be on November 18<sup>th</sup>.

## September 10, 2008 (Wednesday)



**Houston Deaf Seniors of Texas** will have a regular business meeting at West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019 at 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. Please attend to share your ideas with this organization. You need to be present to vote on the motions handled during the meeting. The 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet Committee will have a meeting after our Business meeting. Patsy Walker requests that those on the Committee to please plan to stay to finalize the plans for the part on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September.

## September 12, 2008 (Friday)



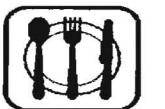
**Houston Deaf Seniors of Texas** will have their field trip to Galveston, TX. Everyone needs to be at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point Rd. at 8:00 AM as Bus will be leaving by 8:30 AM. We will visit Texas Seaport Museum (\$8) and Mardi Gras Museum. If you sign up and can not make it on the trip at last minute, please call Gertie or Julie to cancel. Please contact Gertie Sessions by VP 281-447-7575 or Julie Spaulding by VP 281-445-1072 if you have questions.

## September 12, 2008 (Friday)



**Houston Hand Talk Social** will be at Memorial City Mall in the Food Court, I-10 Freeway at Gessner Road, Houston, TX 77024 from 5 PM till 9 PM. Let's come to meet and enjoy chatting with your old and new friends. For those that will be on the Senior Citizen field trip, this Mall is very close to Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church. Any questions, please e-mail to Roger Spivey at [spivey39@yahoo.com](mailto:spivey39@yahoo.com).

## September 18, 2008 (Thursday)



**Houston Deaf Senior Citizens** will have a fellowship and potluck at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church at 9920 Long Point Rd. from 9 AM to 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 281-442-8016 VP and let them know what you plan to bring.

**September 19, 2008 (Friday)**



**ASL Social** will be Prince's Hamburgers, 11460 Fuqua, Houston, TX 77089 from 3 PM till 9 PM. Let's come to meet and enjoy chatting with your old and new friends. Any questions, please e-mail to Earl Johnson at [ejohnson127@comcast.net](mailto:ejohnson127@comcast.net).

**September 24, 2008 (Wednesday)**



**Houston Deaf Seniors of Texas** will celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019 at 9:00 am till 4:00 pm. Please enter the double doors and walk to the left to get your name tag. If you have not sent in your payment, the cost is \$10 for BBQ and \$5 for Fan. Please see the Order Form on front page to submit. We will socialize before our first Speaker talks to us about the History of HDST. We will have BBQ for lunch. There will be entertainment, awards, and door prizes. We welcome everyone to join us as we are proud of our history of this wonderful organization!

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**LOVE FUND**

Zelma Curbello sent a Thank You note as followed:

I want to thank all of you for your prayers and thoughtfulness of me during my nose surgery. I am doing OK and really am improving slowly. I love you all! Again thanks! Zelma



Anyone who wishes to donate money to HDSC Love Fund, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation) or HDST Newsletter should please make check or money order payable to either **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens - Love Fund** or **HDST Newsletter Fund**. And mail to:

HDSC Love Fund, Inc.  
c/o Mrs. Zelma Curbello  
9623 Tiltree  
Houston, TX 77075-4042

OR

HDST Newsletter  
c/o Audrey Leger  
P. O. Box 664  
Missouri City, TX 77459

**NEW SUBSCRIBER:**

Welcome to June  
Greer and Vicki S. Hunter.

**GIFT SUBSCRIPTION:**

June Greer's gift subscription is given by Virginia Diana Duncan. Diana, thank you for your general gift.

**RENEWAL SUBSCRIBERS:**

Thank you for your renewal: Chris Balat, M/M Martin Bienvenu Jr, Dolores Cordova, Emma R. Cross, Sherry Fewell, Ben W. Harmon, Glenn Kee, Ellen Konoski, Gracia Lorello, James Moore, Thomas & Martha Pruitt, Beatrice Smith, and Paul Aaron Theriot.

**DONATIONS:**

Emma R. Cross and Beatrice Smith

Emma and Beatrice, thank you for your hearty support donates to HDST Newsletter Fund.

**Dennis The Menace**



"HOPE YOU DON'T MIND IF I SIT, 'CAUSE I SKINNED MY KNEES TODAY."

# NEWS

## Texas School For the Deaf Boys Varsity Football 2008 - 2009 Submitted by Billy Buza

| Day      | Date  | Opponent                              | Facility                  | Time    |
|----------|-------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| Friday   | 08/29 | Fort Bend Baptist Academy             | Fort Bend Baptist Academy | 7:00 PM |
| Friday   | 09/05 | Cypress Christian                     | Gamblin Field             | 7:00 PM |
| Friday   | 09/12 | Brazos Christian High School          |                           | 7:30 PM |
| Saturday | 09/20 | California School F/T Deaf, Riverside |                           | TBA     |
| Friday   | 09/26 | Saint Paul High School                | Gamblin Field             | 7:00 PM |
| Saturday | 10/04 | Maryland School For The Deaf          | Gamblin Field             | 7:00 PM |
| Friday   | 10/10 | Dallas Home School                    | Gamblin Field             | 7:00 PM |
| Friday   | 10/17 | A+ Academy                            |                           | 7:00 PM |
| Friday   | 10/24 | St. Joseph Catholic High School       | St. Joseph Catholic       | 7:00 PM |
| Thursday | 10/30 | Regents                               | Gamblin Field             | 7:00 PM |
| Friday   | 11/07 | Waco Reicher Catholic H. S.           | Waco Reicher              | 7:30 PM |
| Friday   | 11/14 | Bi-District Playoff                   |                           | TBA     |

## Chapelwood United Methodist Church Email received from Sheryl Fisher

Everyone is invited to Chapelwood United Methodist Church on Sundays beginning at 9:45 for Contemporary Service that is interpreted in American Sign Language (ASL). The location is at 11140 Greenbay Drive, Houston, TX 77024 (West Houston). Please check out our Website at [www.chapelwood.org](http://www.chapelwood.org). You may contact Sheryl at 713-252-1016 for more information.

## SouthWest Flag Football of the Deaf Tournament Submitted by Linda Smith from Deaf Network.com

Brent Potter is the SWFFD Chairperson. The tournament will be held first weekend of October 3-4, 2008 in Austin, TX. There will be several teams from Austin, Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, Lafayette, Mississippi, Little Rock, and others. TSD Homecoming game is the same weekend against Maryland School for the Deaf, too. Please contact Brent by sending him a note at [email@swffd.org](mailto:email@swffd.org) if you are interested in playing. Check the website at [www.SWFFD.org](http://www.SWFFD.org).

## Travis County Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Submitted by Linda Smith from Deaf Network.com

Travis County Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing is sponsoring an event on Nov 8 from 9-4 at Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Bergman Ave, Austin, TX 78702. We are inviting food vendors, exhibitors, and entertainment for the event. The event is free to the public. Booths are free, but we ask that all exhibitors bring something to donate for a door prize. Food vendors are responsible for the \$10 Health Department permit. All the profits go to the vendors.

We will have a Kiddie Korner and would like to have someone there to make balloon animals. We do not have money to pay entertainers. We are hoping that our community will share their time and talents with everyone to make it a Fun Filled Fall Family day. Please contact [Lynette.Fant@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:Lynette.Fant@co.travis.tx.us) for more information.

## School Started Already! Protect Our Children! From Neighborhood Newsletter dated August, 2008

School started August 25<sup>th</sup> in most areas. Please watch for children waiting for school buses in the morning and getting off the buses in the afternoon. School buses will be in the neighborhood several times throughout the day. Please be aware of and abide by the laws pertaining to traffic in the presence of school buses. The fines associated with violations of these laws are very costly and one accident will never be worth the few seconds gained by ignoring these laws.

## How to Place Emergency 911 Calls Using SVRS

Submitted by Linda Smith from Deaf Network.com

You can use Sorenson VRS® (SVRS) to make 911 emergency calls with your Sorenson videophone (i.e., VP-100™ or VP-200™). 911 emergency calls placed through a Sorenson videophone will receive priority attention.

To place a 911 emergency call through SVRS with your Sorenson VP-200, please follow these directions:

1. Use the number keys on your Sorenson videophone remote to enter 911 in the dial field
2. Highlight the SVRS button
3. Press the Enter button on your remote
4. Be prepared to give the interpreter your full name and the address of the emergency

Although Sorenson VRS is an option for you to use in an emergency, you should always keep a standard telephone or TTY. During a power outage or an Internet connection failure, you would not be able to use your Sorenson videophone to make a 911 emergency call. Your TTY should work in those situations if it is equipped with a backup battery. Dialing 911 from your telephone or through TTY services is still recommended for immediate identification of your location.

## SETDGA's 1<sup>st</sup> Annual 2-Men Deaf Golf Tournament

The Tournament will be held on September 20, 2008 beginning at 1:30 PM. Southwyck Golf Club is located at 2901 Clubhouse Drive, Pearland, TX 77584. Entry fee is \$65 for SETDGA members or \$75 for non-members. Registration deadline is September 12, 2008. Check out the registration form at [www.setdga.org](http://www.setdga.org) to fill out and mail the money to Southeast Texas Deaf Golf Association, P. O. Box 88297, Houston, TX 77288.

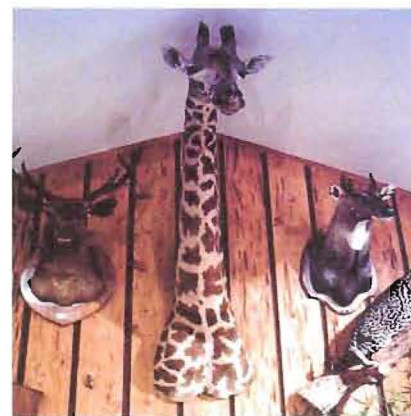
## BRIEF NEWS: Submitting by Malcolm & Eva Pace, Jr.

May 6<sup>th</sup> to July 3<sup>rd</sup>, we traveled to Texas, Arizona, & California to see our grown up boys' and girls' graduations. Malcolm Pace & Eva (Lozano) Anguelo had enjoyed their trip and returned home safe.

## Senior Citizen Trip to Wharton, TX

Written by Nancy Morris, Editor

On August 8<sup>th</sup>, several members went to Wharton County Historical Museum and 20<sup>th</sup> Century Technology Museum in Wharton, TX. The pictures below were taken on the trip. These 2 Museums were interesting and has so much History in it. We all had a great time learning about Wharton, TX.





# REST IN PEACE

## OBITUARY



**Rudolph (Rudy) Ramirez, Jr.**, 33, passed away May 24, 2008. Services were held at 10 a.m. Friday at OakCrest Funeral Home with the Rev. Mike Dominguez officiating. Burial was in Oakwood Cemetery. Prayer service was held at 7 p.m. on Thursday at OakCrest Funeral Home, 4520 Bosque Blvd. A memorial video was shown during both services.

Rudy was born in Waco and attended Waco Regional School for the Deaf (WRSD) and WISD schools. He graduated from the Texas School for the Deaf in May 1993. He moved to San Antonio to attend the Methodist Home Trade School from August 2005 to December 2007. He was a strong, brave, kind hearted man who was always willing to help anyone in need. Rudy had many ambitions including his loyalty to the Dallas Cowboys. Being loved by many, he will be dearly missed.

Survivors include his mother, Delores Rodriguez and step-father, Robert Rodriguez; father, Rudolph Ramirez Sr.; daughter, Minnie Ramirez; paternal grandmother, Yolanda Resendez; sisters, Renee Marie and husband Raymond Sedillio, Stephanie Ramirez, and Makiah Ramirez; brothers, Julian Ramirez and wife Veronica, and Makario Ramirez; nieces and nephews, Vanvessa, Consuelo, Brianna, Brittany, Little Richard and Xavier; many aunt, uncles, cousins, family members and wonderful friends who will miss him and cherish the sweet memories of Rudy forever.



**George L Hanks:** 12/31/61 – 8/8/08

Marlene Hanks' son, George Hanks was released from the restraints of his earthly life while surrounded by his family on Friday, August 8, 2008 after a 22-month battle with cancer. He was born on December 31, 1961 in Houston, Texas, and served in the U-S Marine Corps and Naval Reserve. He worked as Controls Engineer for Adaptive Equipment in Gainesville. George was a pillar of strength, courage, and faith for everyone who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Debbie; three children, Ross, Heather and Rich; his mother, Marlene Hanks of Gueydan, LA; and three sisters, Margaret Kline of Gueydan, LA, Mamie Burton of Calgary, Canada and Michelle LeFors of Baton Rouge, LA. He was an active member and deacon of the University City Church of Christ.

A memorial service celebrating his faithful life was held at the University City Church of Christ on Sunday, August 10, 2008 at 3:00 pm. Memorial contributions may be made, in lieu of flowers, to the University City Church of Christ Scholarship Account to aid in college tuition costs for his children. Checks may be made payable to University City Church of Christ Scholarship Account; 4626 NW 8th Avenue; Gainesville, FL 32605. Arrangements were under the care of WILLIAMS-THOMAS FUNERAL HOME (352) 375-7556 (Florida).



**Viola Lanora Hoffman Cain 1916 - 2008:** Viola quietly drifted away August 11, following a massive stroke, leaving behind a family who loved her very much. She was preceded in death by her husband Jesse Cain, her parents, and all ten of her siblings. Viola is survived by her daughter, Janelle and her husband, Pat Terry; son, Delbert Cain and his wife Elaine; grandchildren, Delane Joe, Dawn Scott, Lesly Elmore, Paul Cain, and spouses; ten great grandchildren; sister-in-law, Mary Beth Hoffman and numerous nieces and nephews. Viola was born in Bastrop, Texas on July 13, 1916, and graduated from high school there. She moved to Austin in 1937, married in 1938, and retired in 1981 as a food service manager with the Texas School for the Deaf. Her faith in God was deep-rooted, and she was a longtime member of the Hyde Park Church of Christ. Visitation with the family was held

from 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm on Friday, August 15 and Funeral services was held at 10:00 am Saturday, August 16 at Cook-Walden Capital Parks Funeral Home in Pflugerville. Graveside service was followed at Memorial Hill Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Hospice Austin's Christopher House, to which the family is deeply grateful.

**Dewana Clark Collins**, 72, retired teacher, of Austin died Monday. Minnie Collins, who is Dewana's sister-in-law, explained that Dewana woke up at 3:45 Monday morning, August 19, with heavy sweating and asked her son, William, to take her to the hospital. She did not wake up when she arrived at the hospital and was given an immediate resuscitation as a result of cardiac arrest. No luck to get her heart beating again. She eventually died at 7:30 am in the hospital. It had nothing to do with her recent successful kidney transplant. Survived by husband Billie Sr. Visitation was at 6 pm on Thursday, August 21 at Wilke-Clay-Fish Funeral Home. Services 2 p.m. Friday, August 22.

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### **HEARING LOSS WORKSHOP SLATED SEPTEMBER 4 IN WHARTON**

A workshop on hearing loss will be held at the Texas AgriLife Extension Service Wharton County building at 210 S. Rusk in Wharton, TX on Thursday, September 4 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The public is invited to this free event.

Sponsoring groups are the Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services (DARS), Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services, and Communication Access Ability Group (CAAG). The main presenter is Teri Wathen. Ms. Wathen is the Hearing Loss Resource Specialist at CAAG and has been giving presentations on hearing loss for many years. Other speakers include Chris Conway who will talk about the free phone voucher program and Mark Doshier who will talk about cochlear implants, how they work, who is a candidate, and where to go for more information.

Topics that will be covered in this FREE workshop are psychosocial issues of hearing loss, communication strategies in the workplace and at home, the latest on cochlear implants, assistive communication devices, and resources. Live captioning will be provided at the workshop. Anyone who would like to attend or obtain more information can RSVP to 866-353-7268 or send an email to [HLRS6A@dars.state.tx.us](mailto:HLRS6A@dars.state.tx.us),

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### **Village Du Lac Apts.** 1404 Carmel Ave., Lafayette, LA 70501

Paulette Guthrie is Activities Coordinator for this apartment complex. The village is housing for the elderly and those with disabilities in particular the deaf and deaf/blind. She has found a nursing home that will open a hall for the deaf and deaf/blind. That hall will have nurses, aides, and staff who will know sign language. The idea is to have a place to welcome each person and be able to know their language which is ASL. Not only will the staff be able to communicate, but the deaf and deaf/blind resident will have other deaf and deaf/blind residents there to communicate with.

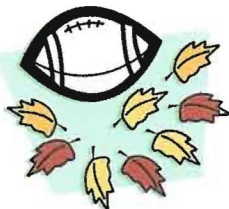
Paulette will work in conjunction with this facility and continue to be a support system to the deaf and deaf/blind. You are welcome to call her to discuss this idea. Her cell phone number is 337-654-4193. You can also call by TDD/TTY to (800) 846-5277. Fax number is 337-234-2630. This Apartment Complex is an equal opportunity housing provider.

**EDITOR'S MESSAGE**

It's a blessing to have Grandchildren in our lives. Last month, Destiny and Connor were able to help me with the Newsletter. They had so much fun putting the labels on all the envelopes. I had just arrived home from vacation and was trying to get the newsletter mailed on time. It was a blessing to have both of them with me th. weekend to help. Smiling.....

It's football season again. Check out the schedule for TSD games. They are playing at Fort Bend Baptist Academy on Friday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

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. Please keep articles to less than 300 words, due to limited space on the newsletter. My E-mail address is [nmorris726@comcast.net](mailto:nmorris726@comcast.net). 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.

*Nancy Morris*

**HOUSTON DEAF SENIORS of TEXAS**

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
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