



Non-Profit Organization

Tidbits

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September 2020



Stay Safe!!!



If you were to receive this newsletter today by e-mail or by mail, there will be 64 days until election day (November 3rd), 116 days until Christmas, and, the one, most of y'all are probably already thinking and wishing it is January 1, 2021. That would be 123 days until January 1, 2021. Granted, these numbers will change when you receive your HDSCFL Tidbits newsletter.

Yes, we all are already tired of wearing masks, yet we will persevere until the medical and the government authorities know it is time to really take them off in public places and to finally get to shake hands and even hug our dear friends.

The most challenging and antsy feeling for each of us-there has been no HDSCFL meetings at MMSC since February,2020! The HDSCFL Editor and the HDSCFL assistant have been doing our best to supply the news you need to read and know what is happening in Houston and in Texas.

In the meantime, this is likely that you have been involved in Zoom meetings for your church, for deaf and hard of hearing organizations, and for your work or personal meetings. Zoom has suddenly become a popular tool to have face-to-face contact because a lot of people had been told to work at home, students had to use Zoom to communicate with their teachers and classmates, and many other reasons when the COVID-19 pandemic hit several months ago.

The HDSCFL Board met to agree to do an informal survey by contacting each patron by Videophone to find out if they would be willing to use Zoom for upcoming HDSCFL social meetings.

The result is most of the patrons are willing to participate in the HDSCFL Zoom meetings. As soon as the HDSCFL Board finalizes the specifics to set up future HDSCFL meetings on Zoom, you will be notified by e-mail by the HDSCFL Editor.

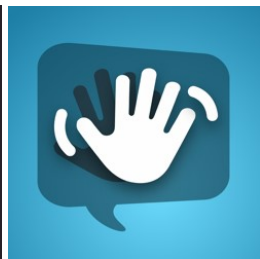
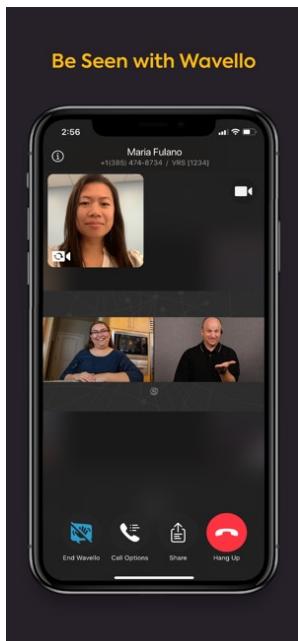
The Editor assumes most of you are familiar with the Zoom features, yet you will be given brief instructions on logging on **Zoom** with the Meeting Id number and the password by e-mail. As for the few who may not be familiar with Zoom, there are two helpful links: <https://www.nad.org/using-zoom-on-a-pc/> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7FYmpOjv4L8>.



Yay!



We can see our hearing friends or family on the phone!!!! Deaf users can invite their hearing family, friends and associates to download and use the Wavello app. Here is the instruction for hearing caller on how to enter:



Wavello

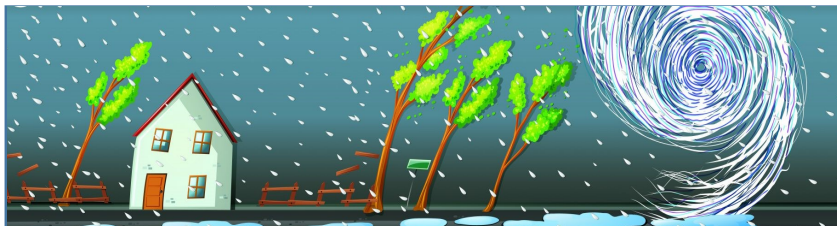
- Register your phone number.
- Enter the confirmation code you received
- Text Deaf friends to

let them know you have Wavello

- Connect with your Deaf family and friends!
- Prepare for Wavello call by enabling speaker phone
- Receive notification of Wavello invitation
- Answer Wavello call
- Be seen by your Deaf family and friends!

<https://www.sorenson.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/HowtoWavelloforiOSandAndroid.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKOHdsONS14>



Be Prepare for the Storm in Your Area

Ask yourself – would you be prepared if a natural disaster struck in your hometown? Would you be prepared if your access to food and water were cut off for an undetermined amount of time? The truth is – many of us are not.

Everyone, no matter where they live, should have some sort of plan in place to ensure their safety in case of a storm or natural disaster.

A local news station in Houston, Texas asked their viewers what they were doing to prepare themselves for impending storms. Not only did some offer some usual disaster-prep tips, many offered unique and helpful ideas that you may not have heard of. Here are some of the best ones.

1. Freeze an ample amount of water bottles

Making sure you're stocked up on frozen water bottles is good for when the electricity goes out in your home. During a power outage, you can use the water bottles to keep your food cool in both your freezer and refrigerator.

2. Freeze water-filled Ziploc bags

If water bottles aren't at your disposal, you can also use Ziploc or zippered plastic bags instead. Just fill them with tap water and freeze them like you would the water bottles – just make sure to lay the bag flat.

3. Fill your bathtub with water

During heavy storms, there can end up being issues with your plumbing. The **National Weather Service** recommends filling your tub with water if you know a storm is coming. This water can be used to flush a toilet, wash dishes, or even drink if you needed to.

4. Prep your laundry before a storm

If you know a big storm is headed your direction, be sure to do all of your laundry in the days before, if possible. If your power ends up going out for a significant amount of time, you'll at least know that you have clean clothes and underwear.

5. Have empty plastic bins ready

In times of emergency, you may need to flee your house in a hurry. Make sure to have a couple of plastic bins empty and ready to throw necessities into, or if you live in an earthquake-prone area, you should have these prepped and ready to go at any moment.

6. Fill up your gas tank

If you do have to leave your house, always make sure your gas tank in your car is full. Prepare your vehicle for a potentially long drive (including food and water inside) without potential access to gas stations.

Learn more about how to prepare yourself for a storm, disaster, or emergency in the helpful video below. There's no such thing as "over-preparation" when it comes to you and your family's safety.

<https://homehacks.co/emergency-prep-ideas/>

Editor Note: Hopefully, we can go on a field trip at Brookwood Community for luncheon on September 12th. Just a little warning for us, watch out for a bright green caterpillar under the leaf. See below, it was published in August 2015.



There is a beautiful garden outside at Brookwood Community where our senior citizen group went. Jim went out to take a look after lunch at the cafe. One of the plants caught Jim's eye. He was curious and he touched the flower.

Whoa! He felt a sting! There was a bright green caterpillar under the leaf. The nurse took care of Jim's fingers and gave him an ice pack to relieve the pain.

To find out about that caterpillar, we learned that it is **lo moth larva**. It is actually considered a pest - it eats the leaves of hundreds of plant species, and has venomous spikes that can be quite painful when handled. Thanks to Bill for taking this bug picture.



- Bastrop County Museum
- Bastrop County Historical Society
- Paw-Paw's Catfish House (Take-out) On Your Own
- Bastrop State Park

Field Trip—Visiting Bastrop, Heart of the Lost Pines

Cost: \$5.00 October 17, 2020—Saturday

(Tentative)

Contact: Jim Dermon
(VP 936.828.4013)

Please meet at **8:30 am**

Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church Parking Lot

9920 Long Point Rd, Houston

Bus leaves at **9:00 am**

THAT DEAF GUY

BY MATT & KAY DAIGLE



Remember the panic buying the toilet paper during the coronavirus?



DID YOU KNOW??
International Day of Sign Languages
 - September 23, 2020



International Day of Sign Languages



International Week of the Deaf
September

September 23, 2020 will be the **International Day of Sign Languages** (IDSL). Historically, the deaf and hard of hearing people know that the last week of September is the National Deaf Awareness Week in the United States (this year will be September 20-26, 2020).

According to the World Federation of the Deaf, there are approximately 72 million deaf people worldwide. More than 80% of them live in developing countries. Collectively, they use more than 300 different sign languages. **[Editor's Note: Imagine there are more than 300 different sign languages in the world!]**

The UN General Assembly has proclaimed 23 September as the International Day of Sign Languages in order to raise awareness of the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf. The proposal for the Day came from the **World Federation of the Deaf (WFD)**, a federation of 135 national associations of deaf people, representing approximately 70 million deaf people's human rights worldwide. The resolution [A/RES/72/161](#) was sponsored by the Permanent Mission of Antigua and Barbuda to the United Nations, co-sponsored by 97 United Nations Member States and adopted by consensus on 19 December 2017.

Here is the background of how the choice of **23 September** commemorates the date that the WFD was established in 1951. This day marks the birth of an advocacy organisation, which has as one of its main goals, the preservation of sign languages and deaf culture as pre-requisites to the realisation of the human rights of deaf people.

The International Day of Sign Languages was first celebrated in 2018 as part of the [International Week of the Deaf](#).

The International Week of the Deaf was first celebrated in September 1958 and has since evolved into a global movement of deaf unity and concerted advocacy to raise awareness of the issues deaf people face in their everyday lives.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/sign-languages-day#:~:text=The%20choice%20of%202023%20September,human%20rights%20of%20deaf%20people>.

[Editor's Note: This editor has already saved National Senior Citizens Day on Saturday, August 21, 2021 on his phone, so this will be mentioned (hopefully if remember that for the July 2021 Tidbits). Every year, National Senior Citizens Day falls on August 21. This is FYI for you all.]

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In Memory of Larry Rice:

Jim/Jan Dermon



Donations:

Wally Mallay

On behalf of HDSCLF board, we want to thank you for your kind donation. Your generosity makes a difference in the lives of Houston Deaf Citizens.

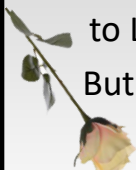
Thank you again for your kindness.

Jim Dermon, Treasurer



Sympathy

to Larry and Yvonne
Butler in loss of their
grandson,
Hayden McDonald



In Memory of

Walter Mathieu

08/28/1943—08/30/2020



Field Trip

Please mark your calendar.
 October 17 (Saturday)
 November 14 (Saturday)
 December 12 (Saturday)