

HOUSTON DEAF SENIOR CITIZEN NEWSLETTER

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Issue 07

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Field Trip on June 17th



Fourteen seniors arrived at "The House That Strawberries Built" in Pasadena. The Parks family moved here in the late 1800's. Will Park's father, Calvin, was raised in Union Valley, NY and decided to try his luck in the west. His homestead was at the corner of the present Shaver and Highway 225. This house is a typical home of our area during its strawberry patch beginnings.



The house grew with the family, as the strawberry crops allowed the money for additions to the house. When the strawberries were ripe, everyone in the family were picking and packaging them. Also, when there was a freeze, the plants had to be

covered with straw and everyone helped with this chore; no matter how late into the night it was.

After lunch at Golden Corral, they headed to Ed V. Gray Wetland in Baytown. We had a good tour and learned about wildlife.



The woman pulled out a Corn snake which everyone petted. Then, we viewed a display of fresh, salt, and ocean waters. Each water had a different kind of fish in it. Also, we viewed a

display of wildlife animals. After that, the tour guide took us to a pond where fish and alligator were growing.



She picked up a baby alligator for everyone to pet the tail only. If anyone touches the body or head, the alligator will become agitated. Next, the tour guide explained

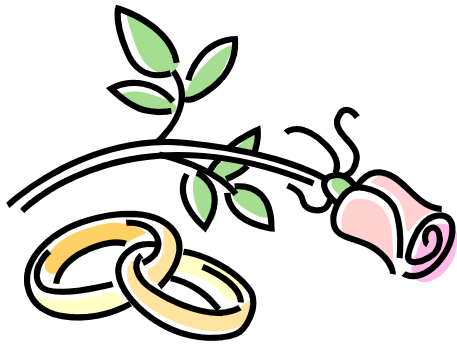
about bees and the hives. It was very interesting to learn more about Queen bees.





Birthday for July

- 2nd - Bill Koch
- 6th - William Lambert
- 8th - Arlene Benham
- 9th - Audrey Leger
- 9th - James Spaulding
- 10th - Lynwood David
- 11th - Nancy Krone
- 12th - Thelma J. Jays
- 16th - Troy Graham
- 18th - Clyde Clark
- 20th - Dewey A. Adams, Jr.
- 22nd - Fung Hahn
- 26th - Julie Spaulding
- 26th - Nancy Morris
- 31st - Roger Spivey



Wedding Anniversary in June

- 5th - Joan & Homer West 48 years (1963)
- 7th - Faye & Ruben Sims 55 Years (1956)

Calendar of Events

Wednesday, July 6: Welcome to **Amway Business** meeting at Jax Grill Restaurant, 1613 Shepherd Dr., Houston, TX 77007 from 7:00 pm till 10:00 pm. Lecturer will be Carlos Ghalico.

Friday, July 8: **ASL SOCIAL** will meet at Mandola's Deli, 4105 Leeland Street, Houston, TX 77023 from 4PM till 9PM. Check out website at www.mandolasdeli.com. Come join us to help other learn ASL or to chat.

Tuesday, July 12: **Chief's Citywide "Positive Interaction Program"** will meet at 1602 State St. Auditorium at 7:00 PM. Interpreter and captioning will be provide. Please e-mail James Sobota at james.sobota@cityofhouston.net for more information. You can contact Officer Sobota at 713-308-9070 (Voice) or 713-308-9071 (TDD).

Wednesday, July 13: **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens** welcome you to our social meeting at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019 from 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. Come and learn how to make hats for babies and teenagers or even make gifts for your family members. Amelia Guerra, Judy Lorenz, and Luci Ryan will be happy to teach you how to make them. We also have games to play.

Friday, July 15: **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens** will have their field trip to Houston Fire Museum (\$4) and 1940 Air Terminal Museum (\$5). Please arrive at Woodhaven Baptist Church, 9920 Long Point, Houston, TX at 9:00 AM as bus will leave at 9:30 AM. Please contact Margie Graham at 281-552-8321 (OJO) or Julie Spaulding at 281-249-5276 (VP).

Wednesday, July 27: **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens** welcome you to our social meeting at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019 from 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. Come and learn how to make hats for babies and teenagers or even make gifts for your family members. Amelia Guerra, Judy Lorenz, and Luci Ryan will be happy to teach you how to make them. We also have games to play.

N E W S

Deaf Professor wins suit over firing

Submitted by Audrey Leger from Morris News Service

Michael L. Collier, a deaf assistant professor hired to teach American Sign language and other courses relating to deaf culture, was dismissed in October of 2006. He took his case to Court where a Lubbock County jury has decided Texas Tech University should pay him more than \$500,000 for discriminating against him because he is deaf. For more information, check out the story by going to <http://amarillo.com/news/local-news/2011-05-28/deaf-professor-wins-suite-over-firing>. (Because of copyright reserved by Logan G. Carver on this story, I can't list the whole story.)

Collier alleged the university dismissed him without warning or explanation in violation of its own policies. Tech spokesman, Chris Cook, sad the university did not think the verdict was supported by the facts.

Headed out to walk

Submitted by Robert Yost

While visiting an assist living home to see her grandfather with her mother, a little 3-year old looked into another room and saw someone sleeping in bed. By the side of the bed was a glass of water and a full set of dentures. She jerks Mom's hand and points to the glass and says, "The tooth fairy ain't going to have enough money!"

Message on Grandparents Answering Machine

Submitted by Robert Yost

Hello - we're not home, but please leave your message after you hear the beep. Beeeeppp....

* If you are one of our children, press 1 and then select the option from 1 to 5 in order of "arrival" so we know who it is.

* If you need us to stay with the grandkids, press 2

* If you want to borrow the car, press 3

* If you want us to wash your clothes, press 4

* If you want the grandkids to sleep here tonight, press 5

* If you want us to pick up the grandkids at school, press 6

* If you want us to prepare a meal for Sunday or to have it delivered to your home press 7

* If you want to come here to eat, press 8

* If you need money, press 9

* If you are inviting us to dinner, or want to take us out, we are listening so start talking!

Obama Southern War

Submitted by Robert Yost

President Barack Obama was in the Oval Office when his telephone rang. "Hello, President Obama" a heavily accented southern voice said. "This is Archie, down here at Joe's Catfish Shack in Mobile and I am callin' to tell y'all that we are officially declaring war on ya!"

"Well, Archie, " Barack replied, "This is indeed important news! How big is your army?"

"Right now," said Archie, after a moments calculation "there is myself, my cousin Harold, my next-door-neighbor Randy, and the whole dart team from Hooters. That makes eight!"

Barack paused. "I must tell you Archie that I have one million men in my army waiting to move on my command."

"Wow," said Archie. "I'll have to call ya back!" Sure enough, the next day, Archie called again. "Mr. Obama, the war is still on! We have managed to acquire some infantry equipment!"

"And what equipment would that be Archie?" Barack asked.

Well, sir, we have 2 carbines, a bulldozer, and Harry's farm tractor."

President Obama signed. "I must tell you, Archie, that I have 16,000 tanks and 14,000 armored personnel carriers. Also, I've increased my army to one and half million since we last spoke."

"Lord above," said Archie, "I'll be getting back to ya." Sure enough, Archie called again the next day. "President Obama! I am sorry to have to tell you that we have had to call off this here war."

"I'm sorry to hear that," said Barack. "Why the sudden change of heart?"

"Well, sir," said Archie, "we've all sat ourselves down and had a long chat over sweet tea, and come to realize that there's just no way we can feed that many prisoners."

2nd Annual Deaf Awareness Banquet/Awards Night

Submitted by Cynthia Stevens

This will be held at Hilton Hotel—Clear Lake—NASA, 3000 NASA Road One, Houston, TX 77058. Buffet Style Meal will be served. Cash Bar will be provided. Dress Code: Semi-Formal (No Jeans Please). Cost is: now—August 1st, 2011—\$60.00 per person; August 2nd—September 15th—\$70.00 per person. Please send checks to Greater Houston Deaf Connections (GHDC), 1799 FM 528 Road #3008, Webster, TX 77598. Check out the website at: <http://www.deafhouston.org>. Contact person is Cynthia Stevens at rcstevens4@verizon.net. The Discount Hotel Room (Normal Price if \$139.00) is \$89 for October 1st only. (Only 15 rooms have been booked at this price.) Please use CODE: GHD to take advantage of this price.

“Tie my shoe!”

Submitted by Robert Yost

While taking a routine vandalism report at an elementary school, an officer was interrupted by a little girl about 6 years old. Looking up and down at his uniform, she asked, “Are you a cop?” “Yes”, he answered and continue to write his report. “My mother said If I ever needed help, I should ask the police. Is that right?”, she asked. He told her, “Yes, your mother is right.” “Well, then,” she said as she extended her foot toward him, “Would you please tie my shoe?!”

Black Deaf Senior Citizens

Submitted by National Black Deaf Advocates, Inc.

The REUNION – 2011 hosted by NBDA’s Senior Citizen Program will be presented on October 13-16, 2011. It will be held at Residence Inn – Orlando Convention Center, 8800 Universal Blvd., Orlando, FL 32819. Reunion registration is \$55 per person until July 5th and \$65 per person after July 5th. To register, make check or money order payable to “National Black Deaf Advocates” and write “Senior Citizen Reunion” in memo area at bottom of check. Mail it with your full name, address, email and VP, and your T-shirt size to: Betty M. Henderson, Treasurer, 151 S. Bishop Ave. #T-7, Secane, PA 19018-1968. Registration will cover: Welcome ceremony, Friday & Saturday History Night, Saturday BBQ cookout, Senior Citizen panel & forum, Reunion T-shirt, meals & refreshments when served.

Princess Alice of Battenberg

Submitted by Gertie Sessions

Princess Alice of Battenberg, later Princess



Andrew of Greece and Denmark (Victoria Alice Elizabeth Julia Marie was born February 25, 1885 and passed away on December 5, 1969) was the mother of [Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh](#), and mother-in-law of [Elizabeth II](#). She was [congenitally deaf](#), and grew up in [Germany](#), [England](#), and the [Mediterranean](#). After

marrying [Prince Andrew of Greece and Denmark](#) in 1903, she lived in [Greece](#) until the exile of most of the [Greek royal family](#) in 1917. On returning to Greece a few years later, her husband was blamed in part for the defeat of Greece in the [Greco-Turkish War \(1919–1922\)](#), and the family was once again forced into exile until the [restoration of the Greek monarchy in 1935](#). In 1930, she was diagnosed with [schizophrenia](#) and committed to a sanatorium; thereafter, she lived separately from her husband. After her recovery, she devoted most of her remaining years to [charity work](#) in Greece. She stayed in [Athens](#) during World War II, sheltering Jewish refugees, for which she is recognized as “[Righteous Among the Nations](#)” at [Yad Vashem](#). After the war, she stayed in Greece and founded an [Orthodox nursing order of nuns](#) known as the Christian Sisterhood of Martha and Mary. After the fall of King [Constantine II of Greece](#) and the [imposition of military rule in Greece](#) in 1967, she was invited by her son and daughter-in-law to live at [Buckingham Palace](#) in [London](#), where she died two years later.

Oklahoma City Association of the Deaf

Will host the 10th annual individual mixed HDCCP bowling classic on Saturday, October 8, 2011 at Oklahoma City, OK. Admission will be \$6 (includes admission and deaf social), children above 12 and up will be \$2, and children from 5 to 11 years will be \$1. For more information, contact Wendy Mayhak & Max Gardinier, Jr. at wmayhak2002@yahoo.com.

Deaf Senior Bowlers of America

Will be hosting their 15th annual bowling tournament at the Orleans Hotel, Casino, and Bowling Center in Las Vegas on October 11-13, 2011. Room rate is \$35 net (Sunday – Thursday). Go on-line at www.orleanscasino.com/groups to reserve your room using group code of “1DSBC10” in the Group Code field. Or mail your check or money order payable to “The Orleans Hotel & Casino” to Attn: Room Reservations, P. O. Box 80690, Las Vegas, NV 89180-0690. Senior men must be 55 and up while women must be 50 and up. For entry forms, contact Carol J Moers, DSBA Secretary & Treasurer, 4004 W. Eldorado Place, Denver, CO 80236-2315 or call 720-457-2165 or email at DSBASecry@aol.com.

Trudy & Bill Shofner

We want to go back to our home in AZ as our car is till there. We are checking into renting a motorhome or RV as we have some stuff that we need to bring back home. Or if you are interested in driving us to AZ, you need a hitch for small trailer. Please contact me at tmshofner@gmail.com. We will take care of the cost to rent trailert. Thanks!

National Bass Association for the Deaf

The tournament was held recently at Lake Rayburn in Jasper, TX. If anyone is interested in joining this great organization, please contact any of the Officers at nbad.org. Each year, they have tournaments in different states.



Obituaries



Lorena Kee Bubeck, 89, passed away on May 25, 2011. She was born on September 17, 1921 in Olney, TX. She was educated at Texas School for the Deaf in Austin and Richland College in Richardson, TX. As a young girl, she was an avid horse rider. Lorena was past

president of the now defunct Dal-Tar Deaf Lioness Club and active in the Dallas Association for the Deaf and North Texas Deaf Senior Citizens. She traveled extensively with her husband, Allan, to 48 states, Canada, Mexico, visiting historic and famous sites, several colleges / schools / programs for the deaf and family roots. Mrs. Bubeck was preceded in death by her parents, Jim & Bessie Kee; sisters: Bonnie Vaughan, Betty Clinton, Alene Blagg; and brothers: J. B. Kee, Jeff Kee, and Billy Kee. She is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 38 years, Allan F. Bubeck, Jr.; 4 beloved miniature dachshunds; 2 children: daughter, Judy Smith Robertson Roe and son, Mark Allen Smith and partner Teresa Prazuck; 3 grandchildren; 6 great-grandchildren; sister, Jimmie Cope & husband Grady; and 2 brothers, Glenn Kee & Wife Mary and Charles Kee & wife Hilda. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to your favorite charity.

Thomas Gene Harkness, 85, passed away in Houston. He was born November 13, 1925 in Kaufman, TX to Alonzo and Jack Crimm Harkness. He was a retired painter. He married Nannie Jean Grooms on January 1, 1949. Thomas was a member of Woodhaven Baptist Church for the Deaf. He was preceded in death by his parents; step-father, John Gillespie; and wife, Nannie of 56 years. Thomas is survived by 2 sons, David B. Harkness & Wife, Donna J. of Houston, TX and Tommy G. Harkness & wife, Terrie of Orangeburg, SC; 4 grandchildren; first great-grandchild due in June; and sister, Helen Karnes of Dallas, TX.

Susan Jackson, passed away on May 28th. She fell in the bathtub on Friday evening. Her body was cremated and her ashes will be sent to Illinois, OH to spread around her sister, Kari, who passed away a few months ago. We will have a memorial service in August. More information will be sent in the next newsletter.

Bobby Joe Griggs, 76, a retired printer and member of the Communication Workers of American Local 6222, died May 30 at Park Plaza Hospital in Houston, TX. He was born on February 19, 1935. A long time resident of Pasadena, he had been employed by Gulf Printing Co. and the Houston Post. Born in Kirbyville, TX in 1935, he attended the Texas School for the Deaf, from which he graduated in 1955. He is preceded in death by his parents, Roy & Opal Griggs. He is survived by his daughter, Debbie Griggs Carter & husband, Henry and grandson, Robert Roy Carter, all of Arlington, VA. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Texas School for the Deaf, 1102 South Congress Ave., Austin, TX 78704.



Carl Franklin Mirus, Jr., 84, passed away on June 3, 2011 at his home. He was born on April 19, 1927 in Corsicana, TX. Carl began his first job as a linotype operator at the Times-Picayune in New Orleans, LA. He later purchased a farm in 1955 near Corsicana, TX. While raising cattle, he worked as a printer for

the Corsicana Daily Sun, Barsons in New York City, and Dallas Times Herald for several years. He will be missed for his stories, humor, and wisdom. Carl is survived by his wife of 50 years, Martha Mirus of Plano, TX; 2 sons, Carl "Freddie" Mirus III & wife Kelli Williams-Mirus and Gene Mirus; and 4 grandchildren. Please join or make a gift to the National Association of the Deaf (<http://www.nad.org>).



Marian Pharr Posey, 83 of San Marcos Texas, passed away on Sunday, June 5, 2011. She was born October 13, 1927 in Austin, Texas, to Burnett and Gladys (Wornell) Pharr.

She was married to Edward Posey, who used to be a Instructional Supervisor at TSD (as such as learning how to cook, print, sewing, mechanic, cloth pressing, etc). Ruth Seeger and Marion Pharr both were TSD teachers and had good memories together.

The family extends their heartfelt thanks to C.T.M.C. Hospice Care for their compassionate love and care during Marian's last days.

Private Family Services will be held. Arrangements by Pennington Funeral Home, San Marcos, Texas, 512.353.4311. www.penningtonfuneralhome.com

Editor's Message



Since we are celebrating Father's Day on June 22nd, we won't be able to get pictures into this newsletter. A story will be written in August of what we did and which Fathers won the gifts. I'm planning a delicious luncheon for these men. Several women are helping me out and I've forever grateful to them. So, watch for the August's newsletter for more information.



With the weather getting hotter, please stay indoors as much as you can in the afternoons. Be sure to drink plenty of fluids - water is the best! Always have a bottle or glass of water with you when outside for a long period of time. Swimming is best in the mornings or late afternoons. Be sure to use sunscreen with 30 or more SPF. The Cancer Society has warned us to be careful of the Sun's rays.

Have happy traveling days wherever you go! Drive careful and watch out for other vehicles. Most of all, enjoy your trips!



I just found out that I put the wrong name under the picture for the birthday people in June's newsletter. The name of the woman should be Ellen Sias --- not Betty Telfer. Ellen, I'm so sorry that happened, but thanks for bringing that to my attention.

I want to thank Robert Yost for bringing snacks to our socials when we don't have luncheons. That is so thoughtful of him to do that for us. Thank you, Robert, for doing that for us!!!! smiling.....



Fourth of July

Find and circle all of the words that are hidden in the grid.
The words may be hidden in any direction.

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AMERICA
BALLOONS
BARBECUE
BASEBALL
CARNIVAL
CELEBRATION
DEMOCRACY

FIREWORKS
FLAG
FREEDOM
GREAT BRITAIN
HISTORY
HOLIDAY
INDEPENDENCE

NATIONAL ANTHEM
PARADE
PATRIOTISM
PICNIC
RED WHITE BLUE
STREAMERS

