

Houston Deaf Senior Citizens

Volume 3

June, 2002

Issue 6

Have a Great & Happy Father's Day!

June 16th

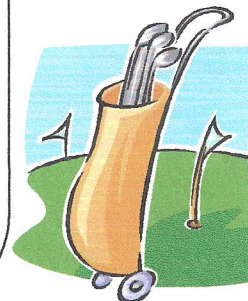
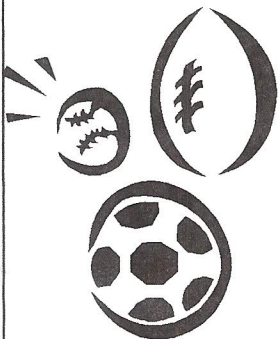
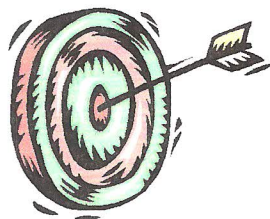


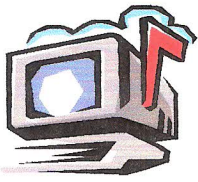
"For You I Feel an Overwhelming Love"

For you I feel an overwhelming love,
All the more because you're far away.
Though all the continents of Earth may move,
Here is my love, and here my love will stay.
Each time I feel my fortune go adrift,
Realities like rocks poised in my way,
'Ere I feel that fearful, shuddering rift,
Some memory of you holds them at bay.

Dad, your love can still my heart uplift;
After all these years, my spirit sway;
Your strength and courage still my fears remove.

Poem copyright by Nicholas Gordon





From the Editor:

Houston Deaf Senior Citizen Newsletter

Editor

Frank Shaw



Staff

Karen Clifton



Mary Jo Stevens



Audrey Leger-Wright



I would like to add some Sport News to this newsletter. Please send any sport information from any Deaf bowling, basketball, or baseball tournaments you attend. Also, summer is around the corner now and please do share with other Senior Citizens news about your summer vacation. We would love to hear from you.

Please limit your article to no more than 250 words of any news due to limited space on the newsletter. Please note that the editor may at his discretion edit articles or news items for brevity and to correct errors. Mail to: Houston Deaf Senior Citizens, 9954 Kirkshire Drive, Houston, TX 77089, email to hdsnews@yahoo.com, or fax to (281) 416-0799 or (713) 781-4576. **The deadline is the 15th of each month.**

Note: If your subscription is not paid within three months from the due date, your name will be removed from our mailing list.

Thank you,

Frank Shaw



***Flash News for next field trip
Waco – June 14, 2002***

Houston Senior Citizens will meet at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point between 6:45 and 7:00 AM. The bus will leave no later than 7:30 AM since it will be a drive of about 3 to 3 ½ hours. The group will visit the Dr. Pepper Museum and Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. The admission fee is \$3.00 at Dr. Pepper Museum and \$4.00 at Texas Ranger Hall of Fame. For lunch the group will eat at Piccadilly Cafeteria.

Be sure to bring some extra money for lunch. Come and let us have fun together. See you on 14th.

News

News from Darwin Hill

Lillian Morgeson was fainted and fell on the kitchen floor last February and broke her hip. She had a hip surgery on Feb 12th. She is staying in the hospital and rehabilitation hospital for about three months. She won't be able to go to home, because she has mind problems. When she is ready to go, that will be at the nursing home.

News from Adrenna Montez

Hello, my friends. I had moved to Dallas 2 months ago to take care of my 85-years old mother, because she recently had hand surgery and is all alone. And my sister has to take care of her husband, because he had several surgeries, and just had one on April 2, 2002. He will have another surgery soon.

News by Jake Ledbetter

Big hello, my friends, and I do think of you. I still hope that someday I could visit Houston since I left there in April, 1998. Time flies by! I should haven't left there, but it is safe for me to live at home so my sister and brother can take care of me if something happens to me. It has been 12 years (1990) since I retired. At first I enjoyed my retirement for several years, but now I'm bored! Ha.

News by Tennie Sessions

Donald Williams was sent to the hospital last March due to a mild heart attack, and he is improving now.

Nell Davis, an interpreter of New Braunfels, daughter of Carey and Nell Shaw, will be retired from San Marcos High School on May 31st. She is excited to settle down for good with her husband, Gene.

Donna Tomblin, daughter of Sandra Griffin, was given a surprise birthday party at La Vista Community Center on May 7, 2002, by her Aunt Joan Stovall, and Lola Justisc. Donna got several nice gifts and money. The refreshment was delicious. We adore her, because she is very sweet. She is "Over The Hill" – 40-years old. That was her first time to have a surprise party.

Brief News from Hazel Benefield

Hello friends! I really enjoy my new land and home, and I would like to hear from you sometimes. Here is my address: Rt. 2, Box 867, Lakeland, GA 31635. God Bless you. Love, Hazel

Brief News from Marlene Hanks

My mother, Margaret Finnerty of Louisiana, lost her sister of Oak Ridge, Tennessee April 5, 2002. Also, her brother of Richmond, Virginia, died April 30, 2002. I have been with my mother in Louisiana.

FILM QUIP

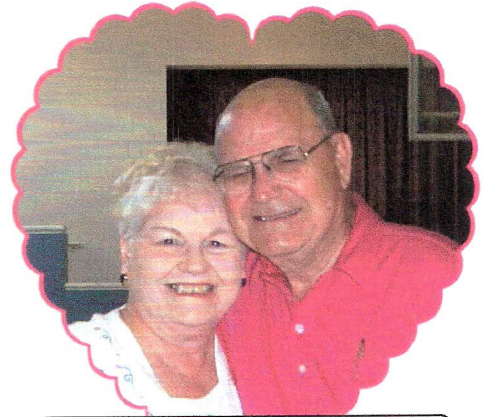


My brother Scott brought over a photo album of his camping trip. One picture showed a brown bear helping itself to their food. "What kind of bear is that?" I asked. "It's called a Kodiak," Scott replied. "Oh, yeah," my husband, Keith, shot back, "and I suppose those white ones in the Arctic are called Polaroids." ---Contributed by KRISTINE FOSTER - Reader's Digest

May - Birthdays & Anniversary



Happy Birthday to
Hazel Richard & Homer West



Happy 49th Wedding Anniversary,
James & Lavern Fair

Field Trip to Caldwell

May 17, 2002

BURLESON COUNTY CZECH HERITAGE MUSEUM



Houston Deaf Senior Citizens listened George Hlavinka, a tour guider, explaining that the house was built in the second half of the nineteenth century, the Polasek House was one of several owned by the family, one of many prominent Czech families in the county. It was rented to other Czech families over the years. Bennie & Annie Polasek donated the house to the Burleson County Czech Heritage Museum in 1996.



Marie Trcalek and George Hlavinka showed the bottles that contain 60 herbs in. They made in Czech.



This Victorian cottage-style house was built in 1891 for Thomas Kraitchar, Jr. Mr. Kraitchar was a professional merchant and also served as the Burleson County Tax Assessor & as a Caldwell City Alderman. The house remained in the Kraitchar family until 1985.



Mary Redman, an interpreter, told the group that this quilt was handmade by the members of First Methodist Church in 1933 and donated to the minister of the church. The quilt was donated to Texas Historical Society after the minister died.



The pie safe displaying the tin frames is decorated with pinching holes handmade by a carpenter.



At the antique shop the 1949 Ford pickup truck and the pump machine are behind the aluminum bowls where the water is circulating like a fountain. What an awesome creation!



Calendar of Events



June 2 - 4, 2002 (3 days: Sunday – Tuesday)

Open captioned movie: “**Sum of All Fears**”, at AMC Studio 30 on Dunvale and Westheimer.



June 4, 2002 (Tuesday)

Positive Interaction Program (PIP) will be held on Tuesday, June 4th at **Woodhaven Church for the Deaf** at 9920 Long Point at 7 PM. The presentation will be: **The Robbery Division of the Houston Police Department. Officer Rick Rodriguez** will be coming to share and up to date information on how to avoid being a victim. The refreshments will be served. Interpreter & captioning will be provided.



June 7, 2002 (Friday)

FRAT will have a meeting and luncheon Friday, June 7th at 11-11:30 AM at **Golden Corral Restaurant** (get off Hollister exit from North 290, and make a U-turn. Restaurant is on your right). If you are interested to be a member or want to know more about FRAT insurance, you're welcome to come. Besides getting all you want from the buffet, you can also find out who is getting the discount!



June 7, 2002 (Friday)

ASL Social at **Red Robin Gourmet Burgers Restaurant, 7620 Katy Freeway (I-10), Houston, TX 77024** from 5 PM to 9 PM. Come and join us to meet old and new friends! Please contact Earl Johnson at (281) 487-2921 TTY / Relay TX (voice), either 711 or (800) 735-2988; Roger Spivey (email) spivey39@ev1.net before 31st of May, so they can inform the restaurant the number of people.



June 12, 2002 (Wednesday)

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



June 14, 2002 (Friday)

Houston Deaf Senior Citizens will have a field trip to **Waco, TX** to tour the Dr. Pepper Museum and Texas Ranger Hall of Fame & Museum at Fort Fisher. Please be at **Woodhaven Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point, Houston, TX** between 6:45 & 7 AM. The bus will pick people up by 7:30 AM. Let's join us and enjoy ourselves. (See editor page 2, for more information).



June 20, 2002 (Thursday)

Houston Deaf Senior Citizens will meet at **Woodhaven Baptist Church** at 9920 Long Point from 9 AM to 1 PM. There will be potluck lunch. 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.



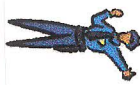













June 26, 2002 (Wednesday)

Houston Senior Citizens will have a meeting at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center at 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX from 9 AM to 1 PM. Volunteers are needed to help with folding Senior Citizens newsletters. Your help is greatly appreciated.

June 2002

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

						1 William Buchanan 
2 Floyd & I.D. Wicker—1953 	3	4 PIP Meeting 	5	6	7 ASL Social at Red Robin Gourmet Burgers Restaurant 7620 Katy Freeway (1-10) Houston, TX 77024	8
9 Daril & Sue Williamson—1989 	10	11	12 S.C.M.M.S.C. 	13 James & Julie Spaulding—1970 	14 Field Trip “Waco, Tx” 	15
16 Father's Day 	17 Earl Luther 	18 Lois Good 	19 Gus & Zelma Curbello—1954 	20 S.C. Social Woodhaven 	21	22
23	24	25	26 S.C.M.M.S.C. 	27 Lillian Morgenson 	28	29
30						



Social Meeting



Birth



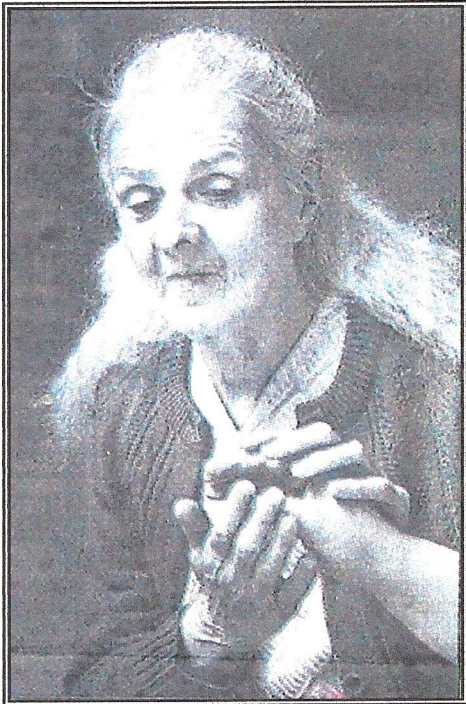
Anniversary

Deaf History

(Submitted by Maurice Ford)

Akron Bacon Journal, Sunday 24, 2002
Written by Craig Wilson, Special to the Beacon Journal

19 years as prisoner of others' ignorance



For nearly all her waking hours from age 52 to 71, Nellie Zimmerman sat in a straight chair, covered by a bedsheet.

Under this makeshift tent, the fingers of her left hand tapped rapidly and rhythmically in the palm of her right hand.

Later she tapped out the reason: "I did it to keep my sanity."

Zimmerman's "home" for almost two decades was the Masillon State Hospital for the retarded and mentally ill.

She lived there without knowing where she was from 1957 to 1976. She was considered hopelessly retarded and insane.

Her real problem? She was deaf and blind. She had a near-genius intellect, knew Braille and could communicate via finger-tapping letters and numbers.

But the staff didn't know that.

What was she doing all that time with her hands? Just keeping her mind busy.

Zimmerman was tapping out random three-, four- and five-digit numbers, then adding them and remembering the total.

Then she would do another arithmetic problem. After four or five problems, she would go back over each list and add each set of numbers again – just to assure herself that she had the totals correct the first time.

Only then would she smile triumphantly to herself, alone,

under her shroud.

Zimmerman went on to subtraction problems, multiplication, long division, fractions, decimals, square roots and algebra.

At times, she did simple word games.

When her mind would tire, she would finger-spell the Lord's Prayer.

The sheet protected her from the patients around her, who liked to pull her hair, slap her face and pinch her arms. With 60 out-of-control women milling about the ward, this was Zimmerman's only defense.

When others pestered her, Zimmerman would scream in frustration. She could not hear herself.

If the interference increased, Zimmerman's shrieks would get louder and louder until they echoed through the halls of the hospital.

Even the most deranged women around her soon learned to leave Zimmerman alone.

She was eventually rescued from her "snake-pit" life by an alert hearing-impaired social worker and concerned young volunteers who worked with the handicapped. She began a new life at the age of 71.

Her incredible story rivals that of Helen Keller (1880-1968), who lost her vision and hearing as an infant but became internationally famous as a spokeswoman and role model.

How it all happened is told in *Walking Free: The Nellie Zimmerman Story*, a new paperback biography.

The co-authors are Rosezelle Boggs-Qualls of Canton, a hearing-impaired social worker with Summit County Children Services, and the Rev. Daryl G. Greene, a retired blind clergyman who lives in Richmond, Ind.

Nellie Zimmerman was born in Braddock, Pa., in 1906. Disease took her hearing by age 8. Her schooling ended with third grade.

Then her family moved to Massillon. Her vision began to fade at 16, and she was totally blind by age 22. Her father hired a teacher-governess for her. She began home study in Braille.

When she was 45, her father died. No one around her had learned to communicate with her, and Zimmerman's world fell apart. That led to violent tantrums that alienated everyone.

For six years, she was handed off from one nursing home to another. Caretakers gave up. Zimmerman was committed to Massillon State Hospital.

Nearly two decades later, Carrie Dixon, a hearing-impaired volunteer at Massillon State Hospital discovered Zimmerman under her sheet tapping away.

As she watched, Dixon recognized the taps: "h-a-l-l-o-w-e-d b-e t-h-y n-a-m-e"

Dixon gently tapped "h-i" in Zimmerman's palm. The lonely woman gasped in surprise. She tried to sound words with her long-unused voice, and fingered out a joyous response:

"What is happening in the world?"

Dixon told her about the hospital and how long she had been there. Had she had any visitors?

"N-e-v-e-r!"

The two tapped for four hours. Zimmerman was reluctant to let Dixon go, but her visitor promised to return in two days.

Later, Dixon brought a friend, Jim Schneck, a social work student at the University of Akron. Together they worked for her release. Just before the happy day arrived, Dixon, her husband and a grandchild died in a tragic accident.

Schneck enlisted Emily Street, a young Brewster woman, who became her companion.

Zimmerman's new life was exhilarating, even tumultuous. After she was released, she learned to live independently with companions.

She relearned to modulate her voice so others could understand her. She attended Malone College, became a popular public speaker and earned money as a teacher and counselor for deaf and blind teen boys.

Soon she was going to all-night gab fests and pizza parties with college-age friends and teaching her cat to do tricks.

As she became a local celebrity, the state legislature honored her as an "Outstanding Ohioan" for her work with other handicapped people.

Eventually, both Schneck and Street found marriage partners, leaving less time to help Zimmerman, who could be feisty.

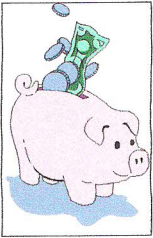
She had not forgotten how to shriek. The biography leaves out none of the bumps and blessings.

As she grew old, Zimmerman was taken to the Columbus Colony for the Deaf, where she made many friends.

Her loyal companion, now Emily Street-Hensel, lived with her husband, Lloyd, and family in Navarre. She always accepted mail for Zimmerman, and would translate letters into Braille and forward them.

Much detail for *Walking Free* came from interviews with Street-Hensel and the documents and letters she retained.

Author Boggs-Qualls first became interested in doing a book on Zimmerman when she attended her funeral in Navarre. Zimmerman died October 18, 1995, having lived to the age of 89.



From Zelma Curbello of LOVE FUND:

We wish to thank you for your generous donations to **LOVE FUND:** Zelma & Gus Curbello, Bonnie Gough, Thelma Jo Hays, Darwin Hill, Jake Ledbetter, Audrey Leger-Wright, Beatrice & J. C. Smith, Betty Tefler, Damon Wright, and I. D. & Floyd Wicker.

Marie Hays and Early McVey, thank you very much for your donation to **LOVE FUND: IN MEMORY OF ALL OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE NO LONGER WITH US.**

Also thank you George T. Joffrion for your thoughtfulness to donate money to **LOVE FUND: IN MEMORY OF ORA C. GOODWIN.**

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

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

NEW SUBSCRIBERS:

Welcome new subscribers: Dottie Brooks, Judy Cline & Earl Day, gifted by Christine McKinnon, Communication Access Interpreting Service-Attn. Jim Fincher, and Mr. & Mrs. Norman Radar, gifted by Gertie/Travis Sessions.

RENEWALS:

Thank you for your renewal: Ora Lee Bolton, Wayne & Bernice Bottlinger, M/M Kenneth Burkett, Rob & Janice Caraway, M/M. H. C. Collins, William & Billie Dover, Beverly Duncan, Bonnie Gough, Norma Hensley, Doris Hightower, Virginia L. Horton, Hannelore Khoury, Jake Ledbetter Jr, Flora E. Perkins, Tony & Sue Ramirez, Fred & Cathy Simerka, Kennedy B. Slavin, and Charles & Barbara Warren.



REST IN PEACE

OBITUARIES



Carla Holmes' father, Carl Holmes, 81, passed away on March 7, 2002, of pneumonia. The funeral was at Our Lady of the Ridge Church in Chicago Ridge, IL. He was buried next to his wife and daughter at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery in Worth, IL. He was 82 on October 12, 2002. Carl Holmes spent around five (5) months of the year, with Carla, during the winter. He enjoyed attending Mass at the deaf center, visiting with the deaf community, sharing sports news, especially fish stories, etc. Besides Carla, Mr. Holmes has 2 daughters and 1 son. Carla Holmes is the Director for the deaf at St. Dominic Center for the Deaf at 2401 E. Holcombe, Houston, TX. She will celebrate her 30th anniversary in deaf ministry in January 2003.

Eugenia "Genie" Hiriart (January 1, 1916 – April 12, 2002). She passed away peacefully among family at a local hospital. She was born in Little Rock, Arkansas and lived in Houston, Texas from 1943 to present. She was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, James Hiriart. She is survived by her children, Julie Spaulding (husband, James), Michelle Smith, Randy Hiriart (wife, Pam), and Laurretta Kelley (husband, Preston); sister-in-law, Louise Dahn; six grandchildren, a great-granddaughter, nieces, great-nieces and nephews. Visitation was held on Monday, April 15 at Forest Park Lawndale Funeral Home. Funeral services were held 2 PM on Tuesday, April 16 at Park Place Methodist Church, 3827 Broadway, Houston, TX with interment to follow at Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery.

Ora C. Goodwin, 92, born August 20, 1909 in Natchez, LA, passed away Sunday, April 14, 2002 at her daughter's house in Bremen, GA after a lengthy illness. Ora Goodwin enrolled at Louisiana School for the Deaf in 1915. She is survived by her husband of 70 years, Eugene Goodwin; daughter, Ruby Petruzzelli of Bremen, GA; son, Don Goodwin of Shreveport, LA, and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Graveside services were held at 3 PM, April 16th at Hill Crest Memorial Park Cemetery in Bossier City, LA. Mr. Eugene E. Goodwin, 91, is still living at 3903 Virginia Avenue, Shreveport, LA 71103.



Quick Turkey Salad

This is a great way to use up roast turkey leftovers.

Make about 2 cups

- 2 cups diced, cooked turkey
- ½ cup Mayonnaise
- ¼ cup Celery, dice
- 2 Tablespoons walnuts, chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste

Mix together all ingredients. Serve on mixed greens or add lettuce and sliced tomatoes to create a great lunch salad.

Deaf Sports History –



Year 1987 - Will Hicks, Louisiana School for the Deaf, lifted 595 pounds to win the state individual Power Lifting Championships. He gave a power lifting demonstration at the school auditorium; lifting 605 lbs. Unfortunately it was an exhibition and cannot be counted as a state record!

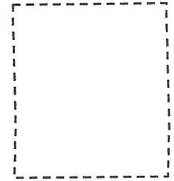
LOOKING AT COSTS OF EDUCATING A DEAF CHILD



A former superintendent of a residential school for the deaf said there are two parts to the costs picture. The educational part is the cost of teaching and learning in classrooms. The other part is non-educational (dorm costs, cutting grass, repairing leaky roofs, upgrading hearing systems and such).

The educator said "residential schools will always be more expensive only because public school special education costs are never figured to include building and utility costs...because they can't claim these costs in state aid formulas."

Houston Deaf Senior Citizens
9954 Kirkshire Dr.
Houston, TX 77089-2207



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



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

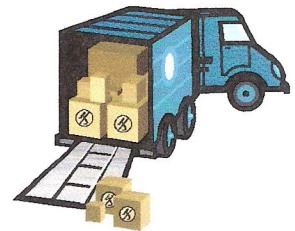
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