

## SHOWTIME! Deaf Students Perform “Where the Wild Things Are” *(see page 4)*



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# President's Message

Dear Friends,

As spring teases us into thinking summer is here, I can't help but think of what a change warm breezes and sunny days have on my outlook to each new day. All of a sudden, I want to go for long walks and smile more at everything. I open my back door at 7am, and the birds are singing once more in full force. The chipmunks are returning and so are the unwanted bugs. Soon we are going to see birthing of all kinds; the buds on the trees, the daffodil's bright yellow flower, the crocus pushing their heads up to a new season, new baby lambs flocking in the fields and the young doe walking proudly with her new fawn.

We too, here at the Family Village, have a birthing occurring in new and exciting ways. Because of some wonderful new donors, we are able to increase our programs to the Deaf, Deaf/Blind and hard of hearing. Sharon Meldrum is busy at meetings, developing a weekend for Children of Deaf Adults (CODA). Jill Gaus has a new Parents of Deaf/Blind weekend and a week for the National Board of Deaf/Blind. Kathy Derderian has four or five weekends of Art and Drama for middle school children. We now have a full week of Art and a full week of Drama for young aspiring Deaf artists and Deaf actors. Fr. Mike Depcik, Kid (Theresa) Fedio and Rose Smith have been working very hard at developing an international week for German, Canadian and American Deaf Young Adults.

These programs extend our normal summer program schedule and create an atmosphere of exciting newness. The directors are to be congratulated for their service to the different aspects of their programs and commitment to the Deaf and Deaf/Blind.

Spring means summer is "just around the corner." I can't wait to see all the children and families arrive with joyful smiles, anticipating great fun and wonderful experiences of learning and new friendships. Come visit us. Our schedule is on the back inside cover of this newsletter. You are always welcome.

Sincerely yours,

Ardis J. Gardella  
President

**COMING  
SOON...**

**ANTICIPATE . . . .  
SAVE THE DATE**

## CELEBRATING AMERICA !!

### A SUMMER EVENING

at The Grosse Pointe Club  
Grosse Pointe Farms

- Entertainment
- Gourmet Dining
- Fireworks on the Lake

Celebrating Flag Day, Thursday, June 14, 2007  
7:00 PM til "Rockets Red Glare"  
Patriotic Cocktail Attire

Benefiting Deaf and hard of hearing Family Village Programs

Inquiries: Holley Ear Institute - 313.343.7484 or 313.343.4084

## Meet Jonathan Stec:

*Highly-motivated Family Village counselor dreams of becoming first Deaf Navy Seal*

**A**t age seven, Jonathan Stec lost his hearing and became profoundly Deaf from spinal meningitis. Even worse than losing his hearing for Jonathan was the resulting decrease in physical and motor skills and chronic migraine headaches. “Jonathan was more upset that he was unable to get out of bed and run up and down the hallway than he was with losing his hearing,” recalled his mother, Beverly.



Ten years later, this 17 year-old senior at Michigan School for the Deaf is more than back on his feet. With the help of specialized education, which emphasized total communication with continued physical therapy, Jonathan overcame the challenges set before him early in life. Today Jonathan is an agile, multi-sport student athlete.

Constantly seeking improvement, Jonathan has risen through the ranks and earned the respect of many. He has excelled as an athletic team captain, class president, academic bowl team member and award-winning Tech Sergeant with the Civil Air Patrol, an auxiliary of the United States Air Force. He has also helped lead Deaf and hard of hearing youth as a counselor at the Holley Family Village since the summer of 2006.

Jonathan’s self-discipline and interest in serving others began as a small child

while emulating his father, a Police Officer and former member of the United States Army. After he became Deaf, Jonathan began to spend time with his father at local clubs to learn the art of marksmanship. “It was during this time that I heard about the Navy Seals,” recollected Jonathan, “and how they were the best and never quit...that is when I felt the fire light inside.”

Since then, it has been Jonathan’s ultimate goal to become the first Deaf Navy Seal. He believes that his strong sense of teamwork, endurance and leadership qualities will help him succeed. “I never quit anything in my life,” proclaimed Jonathan, “I have no doubt that I will make it through the hellacious training and transformation of the Navy Seal if they give me a chance because I have been training all my life.”

However, as a back-up plan, Jonathan is considering attending Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University to study Homeland Security or Aeronautical Science. Another option for him is to enroll in a Law Enforcement program at a local college. No matter which road Jonathan chooses, the sky is the limit for this motivated Deaf teen.

Good Luck Jonathan!



*Jonathan Stec leads Deaf youth in morning exercises at the Holley Family Village*

## Showtime for Deaf Students

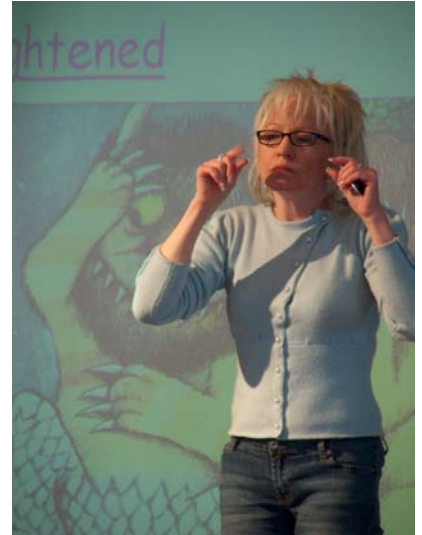
**D**uring a February weekend workshop, Deaf actress Camille Lorello directed 24 students in a stage presentation of Maurice Sendak's classic children's story "Where the Wild Things Are" at the Holley Family Village Theater.

Through various hands-on activities, Ms. Lorello taught the Deaf and hard of hearing students how to create storytelling in American Sign Language (ASL). Complete with handmade costumes, the students successfully worked through the creative process to tell the story, in their own language - ASL - of a boy named Max, who is sent to bed without supper and imagines sailing away to the land of *Wild Things*, where he is made king.

Most importantly, the workshop allowed the students to learn about effective problem solving, commitment and teamwork. "Working in theatre companies teaches us how to work effectively with different types of people and demands that participants work together cooperatively for the production to be a success," Ms. Lorello explained to the group.

When asked about her impression of the students, Ms. Lorello shared: "They were all amazing to work with." She also added that: "The students did an awesome job of learning how to do ASL storytelling in such a short amount of time."

Indeed, the students were fabulous! Their weekend experience with Camille Lorello concluded with an on-stage performance enjoyed by parents, teachers and members of the Deaf community.



**Camille Lorello**



## The ABC's of American Sign Language and Holley Ear Institute's Deaf Instructors

**A**merican Sign Language (ASL) is a wonderfully expressive language that enables the Deaf to communicate with one another and with the hearing. In addition, thousands of hearing people are learning ASL in schools, colleges and other settings each year. The Holley Ear Institute's ASL classes offer a unique opportunity for members of the local and hospital communities to learn the language of the Deaf community and Deaf culture directly from an instructor who is Deaf.

*"At first, I thought, how can we (hearing students) learn sign language from a Deaf instructor? But, my teacher has proven that this is indeed a great way to learn – because it forces us to learn. My sister and I really enjoy the class." - Alease M.*

### Instructor Profiles:



**Patricia Dudis**

**Teaching Experience:** 17 years

**Background:** Born into a Deaf family

**Family:** Proud mother of Paul Dudis (Deaf), Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Gallaudet University; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley

**Quote:** *"After working with a student who struggled to learn the signs, I watched her sign a short story for the class beautifully that inspired me. I cheered her... she jumped around with excitement."*



**Kathy Wilson**

**Teaching Experience:** 2 years

**Background:** Born to hearing parents; Lost hearing at an early age due to illness

**Family:** Husband Bill and daughter Barbara (hearing)

**Quote:** *"I am thrilled that people want to learn how to communicate with the Deaf."*

### Class Information:

The Holley Ear Institute offers ASL classes at St. John Senior Community in Detroit and St. John Macomb Hospital in Warren. Students come from the tri-county area (Wayne, Macomb and Oakland) and range in age from grade school to grandparents. Reasons for taking the class vary: just interested, always wanted to know ASL, I have a friend/relative who signs, our church has Deaf members, it will be helpful in my job, etc., etc. Classes are offered in spring, fall and winter. Each class meets 10 times, once a week, for 1 1/2 hours. More information may be obtained at [www.stjohn.org/hej](http://www.stjohn.org/hej). There is a nominal fee to cover expenses.



### Rules to Remember When Signing – It is Always Important to:



#### Maintain Eye Contact



#### Present Clear and Identifiable Signs



#### Utilize Facial Expressions

## *St. Nicholas Christmas Party Raises Funds for the Deaf*

**T**he spirit of Christmas was everywhere as friends gathered for the Holley Ear Institute's (HEI) annual St. Nicholas Christmas Party at The Grosse Pointe Club on December 1, 2006. Proceeds from the event benefited HEI's Deaf, Deaf/Blind and hard of hearing Family Village Programs.

A children's signing choir, comprised of students from Detroit Day School for the Deaf who have benefited from the Family Village, performed a festive choreography at the event.

Frank and Kimm Campanale of Orchard Lake served as Honorary Chairpersons in recognition of their continued support of HEI's mission.

The evening included cocktails, dinner and musical entertainment by Bobby Lewis and Gia Warner. Even jolly 'ole St. Nicholas was present, taking time out of his busy schedule to surprise the children with gifts.



*Attending the St. Nicholas Christmas Party, from left, were Sally Cytacki, Charles and Laura Huebner, Frank and Kimm Campanale, Jenny and Bill Chope, Holley Ear Institute President Ardis Gardella and Raymond Gardella.*

## *Holley Ear Institute Volunteer Honored For National Philanthropy Day*



*Celebrating National Philanthropy Day, from left are Holley Ear Institute "Distinguished Volunteer" Thelma Czubak and Holley Ear Institute Vice President William J. Rice, M.D.*

**T**he Holley Ear Institute (HEI) is proud to announce that the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) recently honored volunteer Thelma Czubak as a Distinguished Volunteer for her exceptional efforts. Czubak was honored at the AFP's Greater Detroit Chapter's National Philanthropy Day® Recognition Dinner at The Dearborn Inn.

One of the HEI's first volunteers, Thelma Czubak began volunteering at HEI in 1994 while coping with personal hearing loss. She assisted at programs for families with Deaf and hard of hearing children at the HEI's Family Village, and later screened newborns for hearing loss at St. John Hospital and Medical Center. Thelma's dedication to the hard of hearing continues as founder and president of the Macomb chapter of the Hearing Loss Association of America.

## *Did you know that hearing loss is one of the most common conditions affecting older adults?*

According to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, one in three people over the age of 60 and half over the age of 85 have hearing loss. Hearing problems can make it difficult to understand and follow a doctor's advice, to respond to warnings, hear doorbells, alarms and sirens. Those with hearing loss miss out on conversation with friends and family. This can be frustrating, embarrassing, and even dangerous.

**If you think you have a hearing problem, the Holley Ear Institute and the Department of Audiology at St. John Hospital and Medical Center can help.**

### *May is Better Hearing and Speech Month*

Free Hearing Screens for All Ages

By Appointment Only: (313) 343-4436

## *Calendar of Events - 2007*

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 9, 2007	Council Meeting	Mack Office Building, Conf. Room C
May 18 – 20, 2007	Experimental Painting Workshop	Family Village – De Sales Center
June 14, 2007	Celebrate America	The Grosse Pointe Club
June 24 – 29, 2007	ASL Week	Family Village – De Sales Center
July 1 – 6, 2007	Family Literacy Week I	Family Village – De Sales Center
July 8 – 13, 2007	Family Literacy Week II	Family Village – De Sales Center
July 15 – 20, 2007	German Deaf Youth Exchange Week	Family Village – De Sales Center
July 22 – 27, 2007	Religious ASL Week	Family Village – De Sales Center
July 29 – August 3, 2007	Deaf Youth Leadership Week	Family Village – De Sales Center
August 5 – 10, 2007	Art Week	Family Village – De Sales Center
August 16 – 19, 2007	Deaf/Blind Week	Family Village – De Sales Center
August 27 – 31, 2007	Volunteer Week	Family Village – De Sales Center
September 12, 2007	Council Meeting	Mack Office Building, Conf. Room C
October 19 – 21, 2007	Children of Deaf Parents Workshop	Family Village – De Sales Center
November 16 – 18, 2007	Storytelling/Drama Workshop	Family Village – De Sales Center

# Holley Ear Institute

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Gary R. Stark  
Development Officer

Diana Leatherman  
Facilities Coordinator  
Holley Family Village

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Kathy Derderian  
Susan Dupor  
Jill Gaus  
Monique Holt  
Paul Kuplicki  
Sharon Meldrum  
Rose Smith  
Wendy Whiting

### Audiology Department

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Manager, Audiology  
Glenn Clippard, MA, CCC-A  
Audiologist  
Tanya McColl  
Administrative Assistant

## Holley Ear Institute Council

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**The Holley Ear Institute, a non-profit organization founded in 1993, is a consortium of medical and non-medical professionals, as well as volunteers including: doctors, teachers, religious leaders, and support technicians. The Holley Ear Institute shares a close relationship with St. John Hospital and Medical Center. The mission of the Institute is to assist the Deaf, Deaf/Blind and hard of hearing and to provide services and programs aimed at improving their quality of life.**