# **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens**

Volume 2 June, 2001 Issue 6







Fathers can be solitary mountains,
All their love rock-like, steep, and strong.
Though warm and caring, somehow they belong
Halfway home to mothers' bubbling fountains.
Each of us needs love that knows no quarter,
Reminding us of bonds that cross a border,
Strengthening our sense of right and wrong.

Poem copyright by Nicholas Gordon Submitted by Audrey Leger-Wright



#### FROM THE EDITOR

Houston
Deaf Senior
Citizen
Newsletter

**Editor** 

Frank Shaw



Staff
Karen Clifton



Mary Jo Stevens



Audrey Wright



On May 4<sup>th</sup> ASL-social event was held at Spaghetti Warehouse where 206 people attended. It was a huge crowd and I met many new faces, who are some of students to take sign language class at North Harris Community College. It was a great social event. The next event will be on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Jax Grill...1613 Shepherd Rd...Houston from 5:00 to 9:00 PM. Come and join to meet new friends.



Please send any news, information, picture or recipe that you wish to share with other Senior Citizens. We would appreciate if you write no more than 250 words of any news due to limited space on 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 hdscnews@yahoo.com, or fax to (281) 416-0799 or (713) 781-4576. The deadline is on 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

Since summer is coming pretty soon, we, the staff, would appreciate if you can send some news about your vacation to share with us.

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

I appreciate your cooperation.

Thank you.

Frank Shaw



#### NOTE...

Trip to Biloxi, Mississippi/New Orleans on June 5-7, 2001

This is to follow up for the Senior Citizens who already registered for this trip:

- Caledonian Bus Lines will meet at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center (MMSC) at 1475 West Gray around 7:30 AM. Please meet at MMSC no later than 8:00 AM.
- Will lodge at Casino Magic Hotel where each room has two beds with no smoking permitted instead of Isle of Capri Hotel.
- > Itinerary for the trip:

First day:

Tour at Stennis Space center

Second Day: Tour in the French Quarter

Shopping in New Orleans
Tour at Caulmette Battlefield

Steamboat (Cost \$12.00 from your own expense) Optional

Third Day: Return to Houston

\*\*\*Please bring extra money for shopping or ride on steamboat or gamble if you are interested.\*\*\*



# Health News

Have you had Cancer in the past?

The Life After Cancer Care Program at M.D. Anderson Cancer Center follows the long-term health needs of cancer survivors who did not receive their initial treatment at M.D. Anderson. We are conducting a confidential survey to study long-term health problems of cancer survivors, including those who are deaf.

If you have a history of cancer and are interested in participating in our survey, pleas feel free to give us a call at 713-798-0998, TTY, or email at mailto: <a href="mailto:cstava@mdanderson.org">cstava@mdanderson.org</a>. The survey consists of 4 pages of questions, which is sent by mail. An online version of the survey is available at <a href="http://www2.mdanderson.org/sapp/laccsurvey/">http://www2.mdanderson.org/sapp/laccsurvey/</a>

If you are interested in receiving a comprehensive evaluation of cancer and cancer-related health issues, you are welcome to come visit us at the Life After Cancer Care Clinic by calling us at 1 800-392-1611 or713-792-6161 voice.

M.D. Anderson Cancer Center is a world-renowned institution devoted to eliminating cancer. U.S. News & World Report magazine's annual 'Best Hospitals' survey named M.D. Anderson the number one hospital for cancer care in the world.

# Health Tip

# Ten Secret Teachings for a Long Healthy Life

1. Less sugar	more fruits
2. Less eating	more chewing
3. Less meat	more vegetables
4. Less salt	more vinegar
5. Less dressing	more bathing
6. Less vehicles	more walking
7. Less worry	more sleep
8. Less anger	more smile
9. Less talking	more action
10. Less craving	more giving



What is a computer's first sign of old age?

Loss of memory.





From Margaret Hall:

Sorry for the error: Norma (Hensley) Naftally has Parkinson's disease, not Alzheimer's disease, as stated in the May issue. We apologize.

#### From Sandra Griffin:

On Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> my cousin, Emma (Wright) Hill came and visited with my daughter, Donna and me. She took us out to eat, then went to Conroe Library. She showed me how to find the family history. I really enjoy learning how to research our family tree. We both enjoyed her visit all day. Emma said that she and her husband are planning to move to Ft. Worth in wintertime to be near their daughter and family. R. E. Wright is Emma's father who was superintendent of (TSD) Texas School for the Deaf in Austin from 1939 to 1945.

#### From Jake Ledbetter:

Hello, hope everything goes well with you. And as for me, I am doing OK! I still miss Houston! I hope I will visit over there one of these days! I have been working in the yard and the plants...Bless you all!



#### From Zelma Curbello of LOVE FUND:

We wish to thank you for your generous donations to LOVE FUND: Arlene Benham, Joan/Richard Brubaker, Karen Clifton, Zelma/Gus Curbello, Ann Edgley, Maurice Ford, Marlene Hanks, Thelma Jo Hays, Jake Ledbetter, Audrey Leger-Wright, Christine McKinnon, Elnora Morgan, Frank Shaw, Betty Tefler, Cathy Thumann, Miriam Thumann, Floyd Wicker, and Damon Wright.

Also thank you very much for your generous donations to LOVE FUND IN MEMORY OF FRIENDS:

Arlene Benham & William Lambert in memory of all friends,

Sidney Braquet in memory of Helen Bourque, Clyde Hays, & Joy McKinnon,

Bobby Griggs in memory of Joy McKinnon,

Marie Hays in memory of Helen Bourque, Frances Gunter, Joy McKinnon & Beatrice Wischkaemper.

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.

> "Rags make paper. Paper makes money. Money makes banks. Banks make loans. Loans make poverty. Poverty makes rags." Submitted by H. Richard





# Rest in Peace





Jack Todd Thompson, 70, of Kerrville, TX passed away on Wednesday, April 18, 2001 at his residence. He was buried in Kerrville, TX on April 23rd. He was a member of the Methodist faith. He worked for the Austin American Statesman as a cold type setter for thirty years before retiring in 1993. Among his survivors are his wife, Shirley Thompson; daughter, Jil Anne Thompson of Canada; son, Tim Thompson of Mountain Home, TX; sister and grandchildren.

#### THANK YOU NOTE:

I want to *thank* everyone who had visited my husband, Joy during his stay at the Nursing Home. You were so thoughtful and wonderful. I also *thank* everyone for the food, cards, flowers, and donations that made to the *Love Fund* and *Woodhaven Baptist Church* in memory of *Joy McKinnon*. All of your thoughts and prayers were appreciated very much. Love, Christine McKinnon

#### **NEW SC MEMBER:**

Welcome to Senior Citizens Member: William Hebert and Roger Spivey.

#### **NEW SUBSCRIBER:**

Welcome to our new subscribers: Amelia Duck, and Susan Jackson.

#### **RENEWALS:**

Thank you for renewals: Ora Bolton, Lois Brammall, M/M Cliff Cheatham, Richard Fair, Sandra Griffin, Doris Hightower, Jake Ledbetter, Vernon/Joan Pate, Flora Perkins, Tony/Sue Ramirez, Cathy/Fred Simerka, Bonnie Tippett, and Charles/Barbara Warren.

#### LOOKING BACK IN HISTORY:

From: www.Deafdigest.net

Year 1900 - Frank Wurdemann became the first deaf licensed automobile driver in the District of Columbia.



## Calendar of Events

#### June 1, 2001 (Friday)



ASL Social at Jax Grill Restaurant, 1613 Shepherd Road, Houston, TX 77007 (south of I-10) from 5 PM to 9 PM. Come and join us for great social and delicious food. Please contact Earl Johnson at (281) 487-2921 TTY or Roger Spivey (spivey39@ev1.net), so they can inform the restaurant the number of people before May 28<sup>th</sup>.

### June 5, 2001 (Tuesday)



Positive Interaction Program (PIP) that will be held at *Woodhaven Church for the Deaf* at 9920 Long Point at 7 PM. The presentation will be: "H.E.A.T. THE STATE OF TEXAS". (H.E.A.T. stands for *Help End Auto Theft*.) This is a program that the state issues and many law enforcement agencies use it. It can keep your car from being stolen. Refreshments will be served. Interpreter & Captioning will be provided.

## June 5, 6 & 7, 2001 (Tues, Wed, & Thurs)



Open captioned movie, "The Mummy Returns", (Rated: PG:13) at AMC Studio 30 on Dunalye & Westheimer.

# June 13, 2001 (Wednesday)



Houston Senior Citizens will have a meeting at **Metropolitan Multi-Service Center** at 1475 West Gray from 9 AM to 1 PM.

## <u>June 21, 2001 (Thursday)</u>



Senior Citizens will meet at **Woodhaven Baptist Church** at 9920 Long Point. There will be potluck for 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.

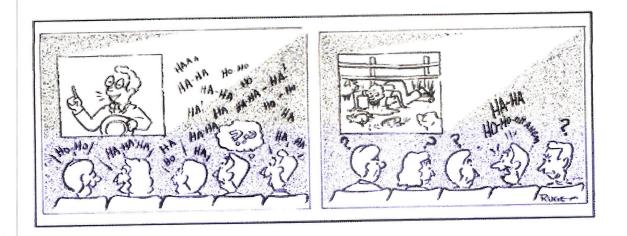
## June 27, 2001 (Wednesday)



Houston Senior Citizens will have a meeting at **Metropolitan Multi-Service Center** at 1475 West Gray from 9 AM to 1 PM.

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23	22	21 SC Social Woodhaven	20	19 Gus & Zelma Curbello– 1954	18 Lois Good	17 Father's Day  Earl Luther
16	15	14	13S.C.M.M.S.C.  James & Julie Spaulding - 1970	12	11	10
9 Daril & Sue Williamson–1989		7 ORLEANS	70 NEW	5 Pip Meeting ""H.E.A.T." FIELD TRIP	4	3
2 Floyd & I.D. Wicher - 1953	1 William Buchanan					
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			June 2001	0		



# Cartoons of Wilbur J. Ruge



Wilbur J. Ruge was a technical editor/writer with Boeing Aircraft
Manufacturing Company in Wichita, Kansas for more than 30 years. He
was a graduate of the Nebraska School for the Deaf and Gallaudet
College (now University). His wife, Dorothy, who was also deaf, was
director of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Counseling Service in the
same city. Cartooning was but one of Ruge's many hobbies.

Photo and cartoons are from DEAF HERITAGE, copyrighted 1981 (c) by Jack Gannon



#### Dr. Lisa Woolf The Quest

"I always knew I wanted to be a doctor, but I can't count the number of people who told me I would never become one," says Dr. Lisa Woolf. "I showed them!" Her father is a doctor, and so are four of her uncles. When Lisa was a child, she loved following her father around in hospitals to see his patients. Lisa and her brother and sister also played with their dad's casting materials. They would put fake casts on each other's arms and legs. Lisa's parents thought her sister would become a doctor, and that she would become a banker. Lisa proved them wrong.

Dr. Woolf was born in New York, but moved to Los Angeles, California when she was an infant. At two years old, Lisa was given a vaccine. She got a high fever. Soon afterwards, Lisa's hearing changed. She didn't respond to sound like before and communication became a problem. Her mother knew that something was wrong. Her parents took her to 16 doctors before the last one found out that Lisa was losing her hearing! Her parents were very worried and upset. Her father, being a doctor, wanted to "fix" everything, but nothing could be done.

From kindergarten through high school, Lisa attended mainstreamed public schools in Los Angeles. She was the only deaf student in her classes. She communicated orally by using speech and lipreading skills. She did not know sign language. "Looking back," explains Lisa, "I'm not sure how I made it through school. I had no special services such as interpreters and notetakers." She studied hard and got good grades, but it was not easy. Her favorite subject was English. She loved to read. She also loved sports. Track, soccer and softball were her favorites.

In 1985, Dr. Woolf graduated from Agoura High School. Then, she made plans to attend college at U.C.S.B. (University of California, Santa Barbara). At U.C.S.B., Lisa felt lost and unprepared for college. The classes were huge. Some had over 400 students! Lisa could barely see the teacher's lips in the classroom. Movies and videos were shown without captions. She couldn't understand them. The first year Lisa struggled. She got a 1.0 G.P.A. She knew she had to make a change or flunk out. Lisa transferred to a private college called Pepperdine University in Malibu, California. The average class size was 25 students. She adjusted well at Pepperdine and her grades improved.

During her junior year of college, Dr. Woolf had to take two science classes for pre-med studies. The classes were not offered at Pepperdine University when she needed them, so she decided to attend C.S.U.N. (California State University, Northridge). When Lisa applied at C.S.U.N., one of the little boxes on the application asked if she were deaf and if she needed special services. Lisa had never been asked that question before. Lisa says, "I checked 'yes,' not knowing what to expect. Soon after, I received information about notetakers, interpreters, etc. I had no idea that these services were available!"

Her first day at C.S.U.N. was unforgettable. She had an oral interpreter sit in front of her who mouthed the entire lecture. It was the first time in her life that Lisa could understand everything the teacher said. She even understood all the questions students asked. At the end of class, Lisa cried. She knew at that moment with the help of an interpreter who could become a doctor. The next day she signed up to learn ASL (American Sign Language) and has used an interpreter since then.

When Lisa was 21 years old, she was training to run in a long distance race called the L.A. Marathon. This race is 26 miles long! While running, she crossed a busy street and suddenly a man riding a motorcycle hit her. Her right ankle and foot were crushed. An ambulance rushed her to a hospital. The injury was so bad that Lisa was in a wheelchair for four months. She had to drop out of college for one year to recover from her terrible accident. She spent two years in rehab trying to build up her strength and movement in her foot. Lisa learned to walk without a limp, but she could never run again.

After the accident, Lisa thought her hopes and dreams of becoming a doctor were finished. "How can a doctor be deaf and be stuck in a wheelchair?" she thought. She became discouraged and depressed. Everything seemed hopeless.

Slowly, Lisa's health and spirits improved. She got stronger and decided to meet this challenge head on. In 1992, Dr. Woolf graduated from Pepperdine University with a degree in sports medicine. She was determined to attend medical school even though school counselors discouraged her.

Lisa was excited when U.C.L.A. (University of California, Los Angeles) Medical School accepted her. She says, "U.C.L.A. did a wonderful job providing me with the services I needed to succeed. I don't remember being without an interpreter, ever. I always had an interpreter, even the times I went into the O.R. (operating room) or when I was 'on-call.' I learned sign language at C.S.U.N., so I was able to use these services."

To become a doctor, Lisa studied and trained hard for 12 years:

- 4 years of college (U.C.S.B., Pepperdine University, C.S.U.N.)
- 4 years of medical school (U.C.L.A.)
- 1 year of internship (West L.A. V.A. Medical Center)
- 3 years of residency (Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland, Oregon)

Lisa is a dermatologist and surgeon. She helps patients with skin problems and diseases. Some common skin problems are: cancer, rashes and acne. She chose this medical field because it is visual. She can see skin problems in different parts of the body. She can help people of all ages from babies to elderly.

Sometimes Dr. Woolf must operate or do surgery on a patient. For example, if a person has skin cancer, she must remove it. Then she needs to repair the open area. She may need to make a skin graft or use stitches. Lisa also uses laser surgery and other new medical technology to help her patients. Being a dermatologist is exciting work. "Everyday is a new adventure. I never know what I 'm going to see!" Lisa explains.

How do Dr. Woolf's patients feel about having a deaf doctor? She has never had a problem with her patients. No one has ever refused to see her because she is deaf. When she meets new patients, she tells them right away that she is deaf. She explains that she lipreads. She also believes it is important to have a nurse with her because she needs to be aware of everything that is going on. She can't predict who will walk into her office or clinic. It could be something with a beard or moustache. It could be someone with a foreign accent. Lisa knows she must be prepared to deal with anyone who needs her services as a doctor. Dr. Woolf says, "Even good lip readers miss some of what is being said. In medicine, if I miss one small thing, it might make a big difference."

In 1999, while doing her residency at O.H.S.U. in Portland, Oregon, Lisa got a call from Hollywood! The producers from the hit show, "ER" invited her to their TV studio. She met all the writers and actors. They asked her many questions. They asked her about being deaf. They asked her about being a doctor. They asked her how deaf people communicate. Lisa gave them many new ideas for their TV show. Later, they wrote a story about a deaf doctor named, Dr. Lisa Parks. They named the character after Lisa!

Life for Lisa has not always been easy. When one door shut in her face, another one opened. She never lost hope because she believed her dreams. She found a way to reach her quest: to become an M.D. – medical doctor. Dr. Lisa Woolf is now in private practice in Calabasas, California. She is married to her high school sweetheart, Rich, and they live with their beloved dog, Lucy.

Lisa says, "Being deaf has made me who I am. I think it's made me more sensitive to people, more understanding. My deafness is kind of a blessing."

Written by Darlene Toole, Living Legends III -Six Stories About Amazing Deaf People, 2000





Pie makes its own crust: (tested recipe) "No crust is needed because it forms its own. It's quick and easy and delicious!" Peggy Lara (printed on Houston Chronicle paper some years ago)

\*\*\*\*Sound easy and delicious!\*\*\*\*

Submitted by Opal Piercy

#### **German Chocolate Pie**

1 stick margarine

2 ounces German chocolate

3 eggs, well beaten

1 cup sugar

3 heaping tablespoons flour

1 teaspoon vanilla

1 cup pecans

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a small saucepan, melt margarine and German chocolate over low heat, stirring constantly. Set aside.

In bowl of electric mixer, combine eggs, sugar and flour. Beat 3 minutes at high speed.

Add chocolate and margarine mixture to egg mixture. Beat 1 minute at high speed. Add vanilla and chopped pecans.

Pour batter into well-buttered, 9-inch pie pan. Bake for 25 minutes. The crust forms itself. Chill and top with whipped topping.

(Printed on Houston Chronicle some years ago): "A Favorite Recipe contest winner Sept 15 for Ann Byrne." \*\*\*\*Sound Delicious!\*\*\*\*

Submitted by Hazel Richard

#### Cajun Cake

Cake:

2 cups each: sugar and all-purpose flour

1 (20-ounce) can crushed pineapple, including

2 eggs

liquid

1½ teaspoons baking soda

Dash of salt

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease a 13-by-9-by-2-inch baking pan. Combine sugar, flour, eggs, soda, pineapple including liquid, salt and vanilla in large mixing bowl. Stir with a fork until well blended. Pour into prepared pan. Bake 30 to 35 minutes.

NOTE: This cake does not call for shortening, oil or liquid (other than liquid from the pineapple).

lcing:

1 stick (1/4 pound) margarine

1½ cups sugar

2/3 cup evaporated milk

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

½ cup each: flaked coconut and chopped nuts

(optional)

About 5 minutes before you remove cake from the oven, mix margarine, sugar, milk and vanilla in a saucepan and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Let boil 3 to 5 minutes. Add coconut and nuts. Pour over cake as soon as it is removed from the oven.

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

# ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED





5802 Holly Houston, TX 77074 Mary Redman & Rita Lee (713) 981-1543 Voice / TTY

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