



THE SILENT SPOTLIGHT

Vol. 1 No. 6

For and about the deaf in Utah

November 1977

Update on Deaf Rights

The deaf -- and friends of the deaf -- have work to do in the next 30 days to protect their rights to a quality education and to high caliber services through the Services to the Deaf unit of the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Dr. Walter Talbot presented his report at the November 18 meeting of the Utah Board of Education in Salt Lake City. There were several recommendations which did not go over well with the deaf and the oralists. The state board voted to take Dr. Talbot's report into consideration and study it for 30 days.

As the first step, an UAD delegation met with Dr. Talbot on November 21 to clarify issues and changes which were brought up on the 18th. Three issues -- separation policy at USD, the break-up of the deaf unit of the Rehabilitation Services Administration, and the 22-member hearing conservation committee -- were discussed.

In the meeting between Dr. Talbot and the UAD delegation, they agreed to work on the problem of methodology separation of deaf students as presented in the new USD policy; and to study any changes in the Services to the Deaf unit before further action is taken. As for the 22-member committee proposal, which was voted down by the state board, there is a possibility of a smaller subcommittee which would answer to the state advisory committee for the handicapped which in turn answers to the Utah Board of Education.

The UAD delegation, which was made up of David Mortensen, UAD president; Paul Chamberlain, UAD vice-president; Dora Laramie, Kenneth Burdett and Beth Ann Campbell, interpreter, received assurance that they would be consulted on these matters by Dr. Talbot in the next days and weeks. The UAD group is guarded in its hopes that a solution can be found which will be satisfactory to all and yet assure quality education and high caliber of services for the deaf.

We need to make our demands clear to all members of the Utah Board of Education, to our legislators, and to our governor. We will keep you informed by means of TTY and personal contacts.

Have You Forgotten?

The last issue carried a pink flyer asking you if you wished to say "Merry Christmas" to your friends through the Spotlight.

We have extended the deadline for sending Christmas greetings to December 10. Send yours now -- don't wait until the last minute. The Christmas greetings flyer will go out to all subscribers with the January issue, in time for Christmas.

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December Happenings

Saturday, 10th .. An old-fashioned Christmas party will be held at Valley Ward, 760 E. 700 S., SLC. A traditional Christmas beverage, eggnog, will be served at 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow; skits, a movie and dancing will be on the evening's agenda. A bazaar will be held also. Everyone is welcome.

Saturday, 10th .. Provo Branch will show "Ice Station Zebra" at 7:00 p.m. at 300 W. 100 S.

Thursday, 15th - Friday, 16th .. Utah Board of Education will meet on both days at its headquarters, 250 E. 5th S., SLC.

Friday, 16th .. Ogden Branch Priesthood will hold its annual pizza fest, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at 741 21st St. On the menu will be pizzands, tossed salad, ice cream and pop. Charge: \$1.50 per adult, \$1.00 for students, and 75¢ for children. (2nd helping of pizzand is 50¢) "Adventures of Ichabod & Mr. Toad" will be shown.

Saturday, 17th .. GSACD will have its Christmas dinner and party at the USD Multipurpose Room, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Hero sandwiches with your choice of filling, potato salad and other trimmings will be served at a cost of \$1.50 per adult, \$1.00 for those 13 to 18 years of age, and 50¢ for those below 13. Parents planning to attend should bring a \$1.00 gift for each child with them.

Tuesday, 20th .. A basketball game is on tap for the evening at the Utah School for the Deaf in Ogden when the young 'uns try to beat the stuffing out of the alumni. Game is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium-gym.

Thursday, 22nd .. The play, "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" will be presented by USD high school students in the auditorium-gym. Two showings, 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., are planned. Visitors are encouraged to attend the evening performance.

Friday, 30th .. Provo Branch will show "Krakatoa, East of Java", same time, same place.

Saturday, 31st .. A dinner and movie is planned by Valley Ward for its New Year's Eve festivities. Details will be furnished later.

Wedding Bells

October 29 .. Debbie Ann, daughter of John & Betty Tuggle and the late Alton Fisher, to Michael King in Pryor, Mt. After the ceremony in Pryor Baptist Church, a reception followed.

Rattles 'n' Powder

October 31 .. a girl, born to Beverly & Brad Christensen of Provo.

November 1 .. Shannon Anne, a daughter born to Liz & Ed Fisher of Ogden. Ed teaches religion at the USD Seminary.

November 4 .. Annaka, a daughter born to Sheryle & Bert Fox of Layton. Sheryle is the typing teacher at USD.

Obituaries

October 23 .. Gladys Luell Pope, formerly an housemother at USD, died in Logan. Private graveside services were held at Garden City Cemetery near Logan.

Hospital Rounds

November 5 .. Leland Kidman is doing well after hernia surgery at the LDS Hospital in Logan.

November 7 .. After a couple of days in Cottonwood Hospital for surgery, Linda Haddon is home.

November 8 .. Diagnostic tests have revealed a severe infection which caused pain and stiffness in Violet Zabel's neck the last four months. She should be on the mend with medication now.

November 9 .. Edna Sevy had hip replacement surgery done on her right hip at the Lakeview Hospital in Bountiful.

November 9 .. An open heart surgery was successfully performed on Grace Smith at the Holy Cross Hospital. She is home now.

November 16 .. Shanna Mortensen underwent eye surgery at Holy Cross Hospital to treat glaucoma in her right eye.

Wanderlust

To escape the cold snap so evident these days, Edwige Dunbar and Cleo Peterson of Ogden, Beverly Nunn of Sun Valley, Ca. and Debbie Davis of Seattle, Wa. went on November 17 for a two island, eight day tour of Hawaii. They return Thanksgiving Day.

Rosalee & Jay Parkin left on November 19 to visit her parents in Phoenix, Az. for a week.

Visitors to Our Segoe Lily State

Chuck Rogerson, son of Priscilla Burdett, returned November 4 from Rantoul, Il. AFB after training there. The Burdetts also had Ken's sister and brother in law, Esther & Bill McCammon of Lake Tahoe, Nv. visiting November 7-10; all four went to Evanston, Wy. to visit two aunts who are in their 80's.

Val & Dennis Platt had her mother, Verna Kinney, and her aunt, Violet DeCourcy, visiting for four days in late October. They also had Pat & Gloria Kerr overnight, long-time friends of Val's family. All four are from Vancouver, B.C. Canada.

Debbie & Bob Bybee of San Diego, Ca. combined a visit with her mother, Carol Wilson of W. Jordan, with a deer hunt.

Nancy & Craig Opheikens spent a few days in Ogden over the weekend of November 5. They were guests of honor at an open house hosted by Craig's parents.

Transplanting Roots

Tom Starkey returned from West Virginia on May 30 to set up a distributing business in Salt Lake City, dealing in Bendix auto parts.

Ronald & Suzanne Cain Davis moved July 16 to Vancouver, Wa. Suzanne works as an input keypunch operator at U.S. Bank in Portland, while Ron works as a splicer at Nicolai Door Co., also in Portland. Both say a big "hello" to all their friends.

Richard Brubaker, whose family preceded him the last part of August, joined them November 19 in Olathe, Ks. Richard is a mapping draftsman for the Wyandotte County Surveyor office in Greater Kansas City.

Milestones

Keith & Jean Nelson joined the Nelson family in Blackfoot, Id. to honor his mother and father, Mr. & Mrs. Norman Nelson, at a family dinner November 5, in honor of the elder Nelsons' 50th wedding anniversary, which was the next day, the 6th.

Tidbits

Von & Betty Jones have sold their Riverton home and are living in a condominium while looking for a home to move into in the spring. Friends Larry Kinnett, Ronald Koss and Randy Sobieski helped move the Jones' household goods in their trucks.

Dennis & Linda Smith of Houston, Tx., send their regards and say they miss their friends in Utah. For those who would like to correspond with the Smiths, their address is 6315 Overlook Drive, Houston, Tx. 77041.

Bruce & Barbara Aldridge moved to Salt Lake City at the end of September so that Bruce could take his job as draftsman with the U.S. Geometronics Center.

Although Arvel Christensen has not been hospitalized recently, he has not been too well and has been under doctor's care. Berdean is now home to be with him.

Job Opportunities

After six months, Valorie Woodbury will leave her job as secretary at the Ogden Services to the Deaf office on December 31 in order to attend USU in Logan. Therefore, a job vacancy will exist. In addition to the usual qualifications as a secretary, a knowledge of manual communication is highly recommended. Formal announcement of the job vacancy and a description of qualifications will soon be made by the State Merit System. Those who are interested should register with the Merit System at the State Employment Office immediately, preparatory to applying for the job. Subscribers to this paper may know of someone who would be interested in this job -- if so, do a favor and let them know. For further details, contact Jim Hilber or Norman Roberts at the Ogden office.

News of Note

The two Frat divisions held their 1978 elections for officers in early November. The slate for the Salt Lake division is as follows: president, Steve Baldwin; vice-president, Peter Green; secretary, Bridget Laramie; treasurer, George Laramie; director, Wayne Stewart; sergeant at arms, John Lowell; senior trustee, Floyd Underwood; second trustee, Rodney Walker; and third trustee, Mauna Wilson. For the Ogden division, it is as follows: president, Dennis Platt; vice-president, George Wilding; secretary, Valerie Platt; treasurer, Nellie Sausedo; director, Donald Jensen; sergeant at arms, Edith Wheeler; senior trustee, Kenneth Kinner; second trustee, Roy Cochran; and third trustee, Kenneth Burdett.

The National Association of the Deaf held its Region IV Conference in Twin Falls, Id. at the end of October. In attendance from Utah were Peter Green, NAD representative; David Mortensen, Jerry Taylor, George Wilding. Focus of the workshop was on state associations and its problems. Over twenty people from seven western states were present along with Fred Schreiber, executive secretary, and Gary Olsen, soon to be assistant executive secretary for state associations.

Over 150 people, including players, were at the first annual invitational mixed volleyball tournament sponsored by the St. Mary Magdalene Club for the Deaf. First place winner was the hard-working Catholic team, 'Saints', awarded \$33.00; second place award of \$23.00 went to the Idaho team who gave the 'Saints' a run for their money; and third place winner, Provo 'A' who happily went home with \$10.00. The USD senior class manned the concession stand to earn their 'sneak day' money.

URID president Beth Ann Campbell and Lucy Greenwood, both with professional certification, attended a special workshop in Cheyenne sponsored by the Wyoming Rehabilitation Division on November 17. The Wyoming office hopes to set up interpreting services for deaf people and were very interested in the system Utah has developed.

The URID conducted its annual workshop and certification exams during November. Twenty candidates were tested. Results are now being calculated and should be ready during December.

Hearing ear dogs are now permitted, as are seeing eye dogs for blind people, to accompany their deaf masters on twenty of the airlines in the United States. Paul Findley, a Republican congressman from Illinois, was able to obtain this permission as the result of a letter-writing campaign after a deaf constituent was denied permission to board a flight with her hearing ear dog.

TTY Jottings

An Illinois congressman, Paul Findley (R) introduced a bill on July 28 providing for an income tax credit for the expense of long distance phone calls made by deaf persons using TTY's. Mr. Findley explained that long distance calls made by TTY's take three to four times as long as voice calls.

The TTY directory is now in its preparatory stages. Be sure, if you change or address or phone number, to let Norman Williams know. Both Utahns and out of staters with TTY may be interested in having their name, address and phone number listed -- listing is free. Sale of these directories will be early in 1978; Robert Bonnell, who is doing the preparatory work, will let you know of the price in the next issue or two. Send all information and inquiries to Norman Williams at his home, 8036 S. 2280 W., W. Jordan, Ut. 84084.

Deaf people who call by TTY are reminded that sometimes hearing people answer; they would appreciate a few taps to indicate that it is a TTY call. A little courtesy would save the irritation of hearing silence on the other end.

Vibes from the Utah School for the Deaf

Steve Baldwin attended the Gallaudet College -- NTID communications workshop in Kansas City, Mo. November 6 - 10. He reported this to be helpful to USD. Emphasis on the workshop was the teaching of sign language, ways to use videotape in sign language classes, and curriculum. Steve will have a fuller report in a future issue of the Eagle.

There is a need for weekend homes for total communication students, many of whom are from Wyoming, Nevada and southern Utah. These students go home only during Christmas and summer vacations. If you can offer a weekend home on an occasional or regular basis, involving the student in your family life -- movies, church attendance, household and yard chores -- contact Trice Smith at USD, 846 20th St., Ogden, Ut. 84401 or call her at 399-5635 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays.

The USD girls' volleyball team may participate in the state regional volleyball tournament in Provo, December 1, 2 and 3.

The USD girls basketball team will have its first game December 21 at USD, beginning 5:30 p.m., challenging Dugway.

The USD boys' basketball team will follow this schedule for December:

Thursday, 8th	7:00 p.m.	Idaho School for the Deaf at Gooding
Friday, 9th	10:00 a.m.	Idaho School for the Deaf at Gooding
Wednesday, 14th	2:30 and 4:00 p.m.	Tabonia at USD
Friday, 16th	3:00 and 5:00 p.m.	North Gem at USD

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So that our staff members may enjoy Christmas holidays with their families, the January issue will be sent out a little early. Send all your news by December 15 to Val Platt, 112 W. 5150 S., Ogden, Ut. 84403 or call her at 399-3028.