



Deaf line

DECEMBER, 2004



Schaumburg Township Deaf Services

“Deaf & Hard of Hearing Social Night”

Thursday, January 27, 2005
6:30 to 9 p.m.

Schaumburg Township (Activity Center)
One Illinois Blvd., Hoffman Estates, IL 60194

- * Beat the holiday blues. Let's get together and have fun!
- * Free admission to anyone – children are welcome!
- * Refreshments will be served.

RSVP by January 25th – Contact Sarita Phadke, Deaf Services Coordinator, at 847-884-1560 TTY; 847-884-0039 Fax; sphadke@schaumburgtownship.org Email.



holiday parties

- **HOLIDAY PARTY FOR DISABLED CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES:** Will be held on Saturday, December 4th, 2004, Noon - 3 p.m., at Schaumburg Township in Hoffman Estates. It is for Schaumburg Township residents only. All disabled children and their siblings age 16 and under who are in attendance will receive a gift. There will be food, entertainment, and raffle prizes. Co-sponsored by Parkway Bank.
- **HOLIDAY PARTY FOR DISABLED ADULTS & SENIOR CITIZENS:** Will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2004, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Poplar Creek Country Club, 1400 Poplar Creek Drive, Hoffman Estates, IL. It is for Schaumburg Township residents only. There will be food, entertainment, and raffle prizes. Sponsored by Heritage Bank & the Hoffman Estates Park District.
 - An ASL interpreter will be provided for the children's party.
 - For more information, call 847-884-1560 TTY or 884-0030, ext. 2025 Voice.



TOWNSHIP'S SNOW PROGRAMS

- **The Safe Shovel Program** – Can assist veterans, senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Canella Construction Company has offered to shovel up to 15 driveways in Unincorporated Schaumburg Township. There are applications available at the Township. Proof of eligibility will be requested. If there are more than 15 valid requests for this service, a lottery system will be used to choose the participants.
- **Snow Removal from Driveway Apron** – Is for seniors over age 60, disabled residents and veterans who live in Unincorporated Schaumburg Township. Applications are available at the Township. Proof of eligibility will be requested.
- Schaumburg Township is in **need of Individuals** who enjoy being out in the cold and helping others by clearing driveways and sidewalks for seniors over age 60, disabled residents and veterans. If interested, call 847-884-0030 V and ask for either Senior or Disability Departments. You will be put in touch with one or more client. You can either volunteer your time or work out a fee schedule with the person.

WORDS FROM DEAF SERVICES COORDINATOR

- I would like to thank **Lynn Walter** for her wonderful demonstration at the “Holiday Craft Fun” class on November 16th. The audience enjoyed making the greeting cards and other projects using rubber-stamping techniques and then taking them home.
- There will be no issue of **Deaf Line** in January. There will be a combined issue for January & February in February, 2005.



HOLIDAY CARDS

If you have greeting or holiday cards that you don't know what to do with, you can recycle them.

All you need to do is to send your used cards (fronts only) to:

St. Jude's Ranch for Children

100 St. Jude's Street

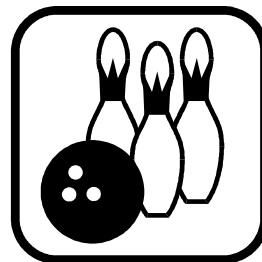
Boulder City, NV 89005-1618.

The children precision trim the cards and glue them onto pre-printed card backs and then sell them to the public through their newsletter.



HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE

International Center on Deafness and Arts (ICODA) will host two combined performances – “**Alice in Wonderland**” by CenterLight Theatre for Young Performers and “**Holiday Fun**” by Story-N-Sign & Traveling Hands Troupe. These shows will be performed in American Sign Language and Spoken English. They will be held on December 10th at 7:30 p.m., the 11th at 3:30 & 7:30 p.m., and the 12th at 3:30 p.m., at the Wilmette Park District, 3000 Glenview Road, Wilmette, IL. One ticket is for both shows. The cost of the ticket is \$10 per adult and \$8 per child. For more information, call 847-509-8257 TTY or 847-509-8260 x230 V.



BOWLING COMPETITION

West Suburban Association of the Deaf (WSAD) will host the **11th Individual Handicap Deaf Bowling Classic** on Saturday, February 5, 2005, which will be held at the Bowling Green, 30W150 Roosevelt Road, West Chicago, IL. It is for any Deaf or Hard of Hearing person who wants to compete in bowling. There are prizes for the winners. The entry fee for men's division is \$46 and for women's division is \$40. Fans are welcome to witness the competition, but there is a minimal admission fee. There will be door prizes, a jackpot, and raffles. After bowling, the bowlers and fans can have a “night-out” at the same place from 7:30 p.m. till 2 a.m., which costs \$6.

For more information, contact Eileen Rozborski at 847-584-4112 TTY or esroz3@aol.com Email.



VIDEO ANSWERING MACHINE

There is an exciting innovation for videophone users: **VPCorder**. It is a video answering machine that allows you to save video messages in the VCR, DVR, Tivo or PVR machines automatically on every videophone calls. When there is any incoming call through a videophone (D-Link i2eye, Sorenson VP-100, or any other videophone device), the VPCorder will monitor and record the video messages. The price of this new device is \$199. For more information, contact the Scottwireless Company at 877-545-7208 Voice or info@scottwireless.com Email. You can check either website: www.vpcorder.com or www.scottwireless.com

IDENTITY THEFT

Identity Theft is a growing crime in the USA. It happens when someone is able to get important information about a person's identity like name, address, Social Security number, date of birth, mother's maiden name, driver's license number, bank account & credit card numbers. The thief uses this personal information to open credit card accounts, get loans, and even mortgages in the victim's name.

How does someone get this information?

- Stolen mail or go through your mail
- Search through garbage
- Stolen wallets/purses
- Insecure internet sites

What will the thieves do with it?

- Open new bank or credit card accounts in your name
- Get car or home loans
- Set up phone service
- Change mailing addresses for existing accounts and use them without your knowledge
- Empty your bank account

What to do when you are a victim?

- Immediately file a police report. Ask for a copy to show creditors and financial institutions.
- Contact creditors and financial institutions to close all accounts that are opened or accessed by thieves. Open new accounts with new PINs and passwords.
- Ask for passwords on the new accounts.
- Contact the major credit bureau's fraud departments. Tell them you are an identity theft victim and request that a "fraud alert" be placed in your file as well as a victim's statement asking that creditors call you before opening any new accounts or changing your existing account.
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by calling its hotline: 1-877-438-4338 V, 202-326-2502 TTY, by mail at Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580 or online at www.consumer.gov/idtheft.

Tips to guard against Identity Theft

- Do not give out your Social Security card unless necessary. Also, do not carry your card in your wallet.
- Carry only the ID and credit cards you need.
- Always know where your cards or personal information are and keep them in a safe place.
- Do not give your account number or any personal information over the phone unless you made the call.
- Shred documents containing personal information before discarding or tear them into small pieces.
- Do not include your Social Security number on checks.
- Call your credit card company if your card has expired and you did not get a new one.
- Memorize any PIN and do not write it on anything in your wallet.
- Cancel unused credit cards.
- Make sure your computer has current anti-virus software. Also do not give any personal information over the Internet unless it is a secure site.
- Check all receipts against the statements.
- Empty your mailbox as soon as you arrive. Mail any outgoing bills at the post office. If you must put them in your home mailbox, don't leave them there overnight.
- Order your credit report every year from any of three major credit-reporting agencies below. Starting January 1, 2005, there is a law stating you can obtain a credit report once a year at no cost from any of these following credit bureaus:
 - Equifax: 1-800-685-1111 V
 - Experian: 1-888-397-3742 V
 - Trans Union: 1-800-916-8800 V
- When you open a new account for a credit, debit card or a bank account, ask that a password be used before any inquiries or changes can be made on the account.

NEW INFORMATION FROM IP-RELAY

MCI's IP-Relay just announced two new options:

- **Video Relay Service (VRS)** – There are two ways to make a relay call to a hearing person: A web cam connected to a computer and the website is www.ip-vrs.com; a videophone (D-Link) connected to a TV and the website is www.tv.ip-vrs.com.
- **My IP Relay Number** – You can receive calls on your wireless device from a Relay Operator. By registering for My IP Relay Number, you will be assigned a phone number that will allow voice callers to call you on your wireless device or wherever you are logged on to AOL Instant Messenger. When you are logged in and have added the screen name My IP Relay to your buddy list, an operator will ping you with incoming call information. You will then be able to make outgoing relay calls as well as receive incoming relay calls. In order to get My IP Relay Number service:
 - Register on www.ip-relay.com/myiprelaynumber_info.html
 - You will then get your number and be sure to add My IP Relay to your buddy list
 - Share your number with others and let them know they can call you
 - Voice callers will dial the number and then be connected to an operator
 - You will get an incoming call from My IP Relay.

ANOTHER CODAZZLE SHOW

Illinois CODA (Children of Deaf Adults) will host another evening of entertainment: **CODAZZLE II** – a show with comedy, music in sign & exciting storytelling in celebration of CODA/Deaf Heritage by two CODA performers: Keith Wann from California and Dr. Arlene Malinowski from Chicago. This exciting show will be held on Saturday, February 12, 2005, 8 p.m., at John Hersey High School Auditorium, 1900 E. Thomas in Arlington Heights, IL. The cost of tickets before January 15, 2005, is \$15. Tickets will be \$20 if purchased from January 16th to February 11th. At the door, the cost will be \$25. There are reduced fees: \$10 (senior citizens & students with ID); \$5 (children 12 and under). If interested, send a check or money order (made out to Illinois CODA) to Lisa Callsen, 811 N. Maple, Prospect Heights, IL 60070.



HOLIDAY PARTY FOR CHILDREN

Chicago Club of the Deaf (CCD) will host its annual **Holiday Kids' Party**, which will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2004, 12 to 5 p.m., at the CCD, 4221 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, IL. There will be games, activities, entertainment (Peter Cook and Robert Schleifer – Deaf performers), crafts, refreshments, etc. In addition, there will be a signing Santa giving free gifts & stockings to Deaf & Hard of Hearing children and their siblings and children of Deaf Parents (1 year through 12 years). To get free gifts, you must register by contacting the following people:

- Tim Mahoney: 773-545-9596 Fax or chicagoclubdeaf@aol.com Email
 - Deloris King: 708-865-2900 Voice
- The deadline is December 3rd. When you rsvp, be sure to add parents' and children's names, ages, school and home address, and also contact numbers (phone number, fax, or email).

VIDEOPHONE LISTING

There is a cool website – www.vplist.com where you can see a listing of people who have videophones (D-Link I2eye, Sorenson VP-100, or any other videophone). The listing is created based on names, pictures, and alphabetical list. If you have a videophone and would like to be on the list, you will need to sign up by registering first. There is no charge to sign up. Communication Service for the Deaf (CSD) sponsors this. If you have any problems or concerns, send an email: info@vplist.com.

(Thanks, Tom Benziger, for this information)

SIGNING ELF AT THE MALL

There will be a signing Elf at the Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg. The dates and times are:

- Friday, December 10th – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Sunday, December 12th – 4 to 8 p.m.

For more information, call Woodfield Mall at 847-330-0220 V or 847-330-9721 TTY.

HOLIDAY/VACATION PRECAUTIONS

The holidays are a special time of year. But they are also a time when busy people forget to be cautious about their property and personal safety. Here are some tips to keep your holiday safe:

- When shopping, avoid carrying a large amount of cash; pay with a check or credit card if possible.
- Watch your credit card during the transaction to make sure it is used to print only one slip.
- Be sure to keep your purse or wallet in front of you. Be aware of pickpockets in a crowd.
- Never overburden yourself with packages - being loaded down may make it difficult for you to keep track of your purse/wallet.
- Park your car in a well-lit space, and always lock your car. Hide shopping bags in the trunk before you get to your parking place.
- Be cautious of any frauds or con games.
- Never display gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway.
- Always lock doors/windows when you leave the house, even if you will only be away for a few minutes.
- If you go on vacation, use timers for your lights and radio. Turn off the phone. Ask a neighbor or friend you trust to watch over the house: shovel snow, pick up the mail & newspapers, and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Lock everything including the garage door before you leave on vacation.
- If you have valuables in the house, take them to your bank for storage in a safe deposit box.
- Notify the Police Department about your departure and arrival dates and give a name and phone number of a neighbor or relative to notify you in case of an emergency.



Schaumburg Township Disability Services Staff
Wishes you a very
Happy Hanukkah
Merry Christmas
Happy Kwanzaa
Happy Healthy New Year

The monthly **Deaf Line** newsletter is free for **Schaumburg Township residents and all agencies & organizations serving the Deaf, and Hard of Hearing consumers. Deaf Line, and Ablegram newsletters can be viewed on Schaumburg Township's website.**

Deaf Line is published monthly. Any agency, organization, or group may reprint any of our articles provided proper credit is given by name of newsletter & date.

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Mary Wroblewski – Supervisor

Wendell C. Howell – Clerk

Diane Dunham – Trustee

Pete Patel – Trustee

John Caporale – Trustee

Timothy Heneghan – Trustee

John Lawson – Assessor

Robert Fecarotta – Highway Commissioner

Jim Litwin – Collector

Schaumburg Township is a Selection Center for the Illinois Telecommunications Access Corporation (ITAC) Program (Distribution, Training, Repair & Exchange)

**DEAFLINE
SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP DEAF SERVICES
ONE ILLINOIS BLVD.
HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL 60194**



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Saturday, December 4 – **Holiday Party for Disabled Children & their Parents** at SCH TWP, 12 – 3 p.m. (RSVP: 847-884-0030 V or 847-884-1560 TTY)
- Tuesday, December 7 – **Diabetes Support Group** at SCH TWP, 1:30 - 3 p.m. (RSVP – Call 847-884-0030 V or 847-884-1560 TTY)
- Wednesday, December 8 – **Holiday Party for Disabled Adults** at Poplar Creek Country Club, Hoffman Estates, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (RSVP: 847-884-0030 V or 847-884-1560 TTY)
- Wednesday, December 15 – **Township Board meeting** at SCH TWP, 7:15 p.m.
- Friday, December 24 & 31 – **SCH TWP Closed** (Christmas' Eve & New Year's Eve)
- Saturday, January 1, 2005 – **Happy New Year!**

- Thursday, January 27, 2005 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Social Night at SCH TWP, 6:30 p.m. (RSVP: 847-884-1560 TTY or sphadke@schaumburgtownship.org Email)

