



The Deaf Reader

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President's Message

Written by Dawn Watts

<https://youtu.be/Xz9QftAkRqo>

Last January, The Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library Board and I discussed a potential partnership with the Ohio Deaf Association for the Deaf Reader Newsletter, and the board has approved this collaboration. We look forward to welcoming the Ohio Deaf Association as a valued member of our organization.

Dr. Marsha Moore, President of the Ohio Deaf Association, expressed her message. "In an exciting development, Ohio Deaf Association has partnered with ODFL to co-publish the Deaf Reader newsletter. This collaboration was formalized with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on June 5, effective July 1. I am honored to serve as co-editor alongside Irene Tunanidas. Together, we'll strengthen the communication network that connects Ohio's Deaf communities with news, resources, and upcoming events".

ODFL & ODA Partnership



Happy Summer!

Warm regards,

Dawn K Watts

ODFL President

www.ocdclibrary.org

Ohio Governor DeWine signed HB 96 on June 30th

Written by: Terry Blosser, Ohio SSP/CN Chairperson, HKNC Consumer Advisory Committee

The DeafBlind SSP/CN Funding is in the bill which means, the Columbus Speech Hearing's SSP/CN Program is being funded over the two years with \$200,000 per year for budget cycle years 2026 and 2027.

I am truly grateful for all of the SSP/CN advisory committee, DeafBlind individuals: Jason Judy, Jana Alo, Janae and SSP/CN: Brad Race, Julie Felts, and Dawn Watts who participated in the legislative process, to seek and keep the SSP/CN Funding in the state's budget. This has been an incredibly emotional rollercoaster for all of us as we navigated the legislative process. The end result is: we have the funding now and we can somewhat breathe a sigh of relief...for now.

Now, we need to look ahead and find a permanent funding solution for the SSP/CN program. AS you know, having to go back to the state legislature and "claw back" funding for the SSP program is not fun. It's hard work. Like Skip Bergquist said, we need to look to state agencies who will be willing to include the SSP/CN funding as part of their budget. This way, we can always have an open dialogue with the agency while keeping the SSP/CN Program funded. As others have stated, we cannot dismiss any state agency who may be willing to work with us on this important initiative.

Last but not least, I want to personally thank each and everyone of you for participation. Julia, for always working hard on behalf of DB Ohioans and CSH; Dawn Watts for coordinating our monthly update meetings and keeping it moving forward as well as her advocacy for DB Ohioans; Jason Judy for his sharing of his lived experiences as well as sharing his own thoughts on the SSP/CN program; Lynn Jasen for her wealth of knowledge on SSP/CN Funding in the past and her diligent work with state lawmakers; Skip Bergquist for his valuable insights on state agencies and its operations; Brittanie Maddox, Disability Rights Ohio for helping guide our group through the legislative process and always offering to take notes for us as well as assisting individuals providing written testimonies; Alexia Kemmerling for her help through the legislative process as well; Janae Miller and Jana Alo for their dedication and commitment to the DB community and her willingness to testify before the House and Senate; Brad Race for his DB advocacy and willingness to testify before the Senate Finance Committee; Jennifer Smith-Dudash for her continued advocacy for DB Ohioans; and Leah Subak, her advocacy work for DB Ohioans; and lasty, Kacie Weldy, HKNC Regional 3 for their continued support for the SSP/CN Program and its funding. At this point, I am going to take time to work on other DeafBlind initiatives such as DB Outreach which includes mental health counseling and referral services. I will also continue my work and involvement with Helen Keller National Center, HKS Board of Trustees, and the HKNC Consumer Advisory Committee. I will also be working with others to find a permanent solution to the SSP/CN Funding.

Thank you.

Parenting in ASL: More Than Just a Language Shift

Parenting in ASL isn't just about learning how to parent in a whole new language.

Join us Tuesday, July 8th at 8 PM EST for this month's Parent Support Zoom as we talk through real-life challenges, share stories, and practice ASL strategies together. Whether you're just beginning your ASL journey or you're already fluent, you're not alone. Let's grow, connect, and support one another in this unique parenting experience.



Date: Tuesday, July 8th



Time: 8:00 PM EST



Where: Zoom (link provided upon registration)

Register here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/4x0fAdGFTj-D3pzsBRoBOA#/registration>

Image Source:



Google Images

35th Anniversary Americans with Disabilities Act

Written by: Juanita Hall *Video by* Dawn Watts

The Columbus Museum of Art will be hosting the 35th Anniversary Celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Interpreters and CART will be provided as sponsored by the Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council. Here are the details of the event according to the [Center for Disability Empowerment website](#):

Date: July 11th from 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Doors will open: 6:00 pm

Keynote Speaker Rebecca Cokley, Program, and Essay Winners: 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Drinks and Hors d'oeuvres with entertainment and the Tom Olin photo exhibit: 8:00 - 9:00 pm

Address: Columbus Museum of Art: 480 E Broad St Columbus, OH 43215

There is no charge for this event, but you are required to register, and the seats are running out quickly! To register, click on this link:

<https://disabilityempowerment.networkforgood.com/events/83432-35th-anniversary-celebration-of-the-americans-with-disabilities-act>

Columbus Museum of Art on July 11th from 6 pm to 9 pm

35th ADA Anniversary for Ohioans



Ohio Libraries

Buried in HB 96 (ORC Section 3375.47), which would require public libraries to segregate materials related to sexual orientation or gender identity or expression, guaranteeing they are not visible to anyone under 18. Most of the Ohio Libraries expressed dismay with this proposed bill and urged the public to call Ohio Governor DeWine to reject this harmful provision.

Ohio Governor DeWine appeased the dissenting public by vetoing it.

There was a significant win for intellectual freedom and the right of every Ohioan to freely access information at their library.

Your voices made a difference. We worked together to show the Governor the real-world impact of this policy; its cost, complexity, and potential to limit access to information. We remain committed to keeping our libraries open, welcoming, and responsive to the needs of our community.

Thanks.

Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton, and Cincinnati Main Libraries

FB: ASL/Deaf Day - Skydiving Event at Cleveland

On July 12, 2025 at 10 am at 15210 Grove Road, Garrettsville, Ohio

Cost First time flyers: 259.00. Second time flyers: \$179.00

Weight limit: 230 lbs

Reserve your spot at <https://skydivecle.com>

This event is open for anyone, including those who are not interested in jumping. Children are welcome as well. We will most likely have a bonfire afterwards. We recommend bringing snacks/drinks and your own lawn chairs.

HOMERUN FOR HEARING LOSS



SATURDAY
30
AUGUST

CINCINNATI REDS

VS

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

GREAT AMERICAN BALL PARK

100 Joe Nuxhall Way, Cincinnati, OH 45202

GATE OPEN AT 5:10 P.M.

<https://www.gofevo.com/event/DeafDay25>



DEAF SERVICES CENTER

OPEN HOUSE

MEET & GREET

DOOR PRIZES

MANSFIELD OHIO

MONDAY JULY 28TH

10 AM - 4 PM

Stop by and meet North Central Mansfield DSC's NEW (DHHSS) Deaf Hard of Hearing Support Specialist!

We want to hear from YOU! What are your needs?

What concerns do you have?

What would make life better or easier in this area?

Enjoy some light refreshments,
donuts and cookies with us!

**MANSFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY
COMMUNITY ROOM**
43 W 3RD ST, MANSFIELD, OH 44902

ICE CREAM *Social*

JOIN US AT DAIRY QUEEN IN MILFORD
5981 MEIJER DR, MILFORD, OH 45150

FOR DEAF AND HOH
COMMUNITY

JULY
18
6-8PM

FIRST 30
CHILDREN
GET FREE
ICE CREAM



DEAF SERVICES CENTER MEET AND GREET

1002 GARDEN LAKE PKWY TOLEDO OH 43614

Come to our Open House to learn more about the services Deaf Services Center offers in Toledo area.

We want to hear from YOU! What are your needs?

What concerns do you have?

What would make life better or easier in this area?

Come see how DSC can help you!

A large green graphic with a wavy bottom edge. Inside the green shape, the words "OPEN HOUSE" are written in large, bold, black letters with white outlines. Below this, "TOLEDO OHIO DSC" is written in smaller black letters, followed by "MONDAY AUGUST 4" and "10 AM - 4 PM". To the left of the green shape is a stylized 'X' logo made of green and grey geometric shapes. The words "DOOR PRIZES" are written in bold black letters, tilted upwards, on both the left and right sides of the green graphic.

OPEN HOUSE
TOLEDO OHIO DSC
MONDAY AUGUST 4
10 AM - 4 PM

DOOR PRIZES

**STOP IN FOR LIGHT REFRESHMENTS &
MEET YOUR NEW DEAF HARD OF HEARING
SUPPORT SPECIALIST (DHHSS) TEAM**

Ohio Renaissance Festival on September 6 and 7, 2025



Noble Knights and Fair Ladies—your presence is requested!

Join us in a magical journey back in time at the **Ohio Renaissance Festival** on the **6th and 7th of September 2025**. With **75+ interactive shows** and countless whimsical moments, this is a royal opportunity to get involved!

We are seeking **volunteers** to help **translate and interpret in Olde English style** during the festivities. If you have a flair for the dramatic and a passion for accessibility, we'd love to have you on our team!



Sign up here:

<https://forms.gle/Td52jqJ7VPZXXtCJ9>



For event details: www.renfestival.com

COLUMBUS ZOO FOR THE DEAFBLIND AND HEARING BLIND PEOPLE

Written by Julia Felts

I just wanted to reach out to let you know that the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium is taking over the planning for the Blind, Deaf, and DeafBlind Accessibility Day. It is on their website, so it is officially on Sunday, September 7th.

<https://www.columbuszoo.org/events/blind-deaf-and-deafblind-accessibility-day>

We will provide an SSP/CN Workshop on Saturday, August 23 at 9 am to 3 pm. If you are interested to attend, please contact Dawn K Watts at dwatts@columbusspeech.org



In the meantime, please save the date on your calendars for a day full of fun on Sunday, September 7th.

110th Anniversary at St. Rita School for the Deaf Reunion



On June 27th, Art Roehrig, 82, DeafBlind man, attended the 110th reunion of St. Rita School for the Deaf in Cincinnati, Ohio. The event was well attended, with over 110 attendees. Several of his friends were delighted to see him again and shared memories of his chalk drawing on the blackboard featuring the Lion, the school's motto.

Art was amazed to see the blackboard still preserved and remembered that he had drawn the Lion when he was in the 10th grade, while he saw a logo of Lion on the program book for the Senior football team. After the game, he wanted to draw it on the blackboard, he recalled that he used colored chalks. The drawing remained visible on the blackboard. He briefly, with Co-Navigialtor's guidance, touched the blackboard, noticing the details of the Lion's eyes, nose, mouth, ears, and overall size of the picture. Emotions welled up as he saw that, after 64 years, his artwork is still

preserved, and he felt deeply honored by the memory. It is in the St. Rita Archive room. He graduated in 1963 and enrolled at Gallaudet University. He graduated in 1968 with B.A. in Math.

On Saturday morning, they had a General meeting for the Alumni members. They had their new officers. Thanks to the June 2023-December 2025 Alumni officers: *Michelle Anthony, President, Liz Taylor, Vice President, Kimberly Hicks, Secretary and Steven Bright, Treasurer. Congratulations!*



OATH for the St. Rita Officers
Alumni: Jan 2026 to June 2028
President: Liz Taper
Vice President: Rayanna Fox
Secretary: Kat Mills
Treasurer: Toby Petrie (Temporary)

If you are interested in joining St. Rita School for the Deaf Alumni Association, find it on FB. Contact to SRAA President, Michelle Anthony at

srsdpresident2@gmail.com

35th Anniversary Americans with Disabilities Act

Video by Dawn Watts and Nadi Chinemezan *Video Summary by* Juanita Hall

Happy Juneteenth Day, which we celebrated recently on June 19th! Here is a short video message by Chinemazan Nadi and our ODFL President, Dawn Watts. To summarize, they apologized that things didn't go as planned for this year's Juneteenth celebration in Cincy (Cincinnati, Ohio) to support our Deaf Black. We had a great success two years ago in Cleveland, one that we truly enjoyed the event. Last year, we had another celebration hosted in Westerville. Next year, we, the Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library, want to express our support to host their next Juneteenth event in 2026 via a Zoom event, with hopes for more people to join in this celebration. We will begin to put together a committee, and anyone interested in being part of this committee to work on next year's planning, please contact Nadi Chinemezan at chinemezen@yahoo.com. We hope to see you in Cincy to celebrate with the Black Deaf's Juneteenth!

Messages to Black Deaf People! 2025



The Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library Board Members continue to support the Black Deaf People for next year's Juneteenth 2026 in Cincinnati, Ohio. If you are interested in being involved in the committee, please contact chinemezen@yahoo.com. Let's celebrate the Black Deaf People's freedom!

Westerville Public Library on July 16

Preschool Storytime Special: ASL Storyteller with Dawn Watts

Kids & families, celebrate American Sign Language with Dawn Watts, President of the Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library. Features sign language interpretation. If your child is ages 0-7, you or a caregiver (age 18+) must remain in.

The address is 126 South State Street
Westerville, Ohio 43081



Email address:

ask@westervillelibrary.org

[Westerville Library click](#)

18th Conference: Deaf Seniors of America

Over 490 people will attend the Deaf Seniors of America Conference on August 1 to 7, 2025 at Kansas City, MO. There will be 3 Keynote Presentations:

1. Together We Thrive: Shaping the Next Chapter for Deaf Senior of America
by Sherri Collins, Executive Director DSA
2. Aging Powerfully through Choice, Control, and Collaboration
by Dr. Alan Marcus
3. Bridge of Time: Caregivers and Care Receivers with Hearing loss in Alzheimer's
and Dementia by Dr. Jamie Wilson

Also, they provide over 40 different workshops on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. DSA meetings will be on Sunday, Thursday, and Friday.

Ohio Chapter of Registry of Interpreter of the Deaf

New Officers:

<https://ocrid.starchapter.com/>

President: Bill Mair

Vice President: vacant

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Dawn K Watts

Deaf Member at Large: Sara Bernholtz

Member at Large: Gregory Lawson

If you are interested in the meeting, you are welcome. Look up in the ocriid.starchapter for the zoom meeting. Congratulations!

American with Disabilities Act: Ohio Service Dog Awareness week on July 20-26 in Columbus, Ohio

Come out and join us! Bring your Service Dog along with you!

Friday, July 25 at 5:30 pm for Social and Games

Tabletop Game Cafe

4316 N High Street

Columbus, OH 43214

Saturday, July 26

Awareness Walk at 10 am at the corner of Broad Street and High Street. After walking, we will go for lunch at Chocolate Cafe, 1855 Northwest Blvd, Columbus OH 43212

At 6 pm, Howl at the Moon Columbus, 504 North Park Street, Columbus OH 43215 More questions, contact Christopher Cooley at Facebook.

Ohio Association DeafBlind Retreat on August 14-17

The OADB will be holding its statewide DeafBlind Retreat on August 14-17, 2025 at the Heartland Conference Retreat Center in Marengo, Ohio. Our Theme is “Stomp! Stomp! Stomp! DeafBlind Rocks”. The venue offers various indoor and outdoor activities.

The primary focus of the retreat is to educate DeafBlind individuals by providing them with the tools they need to successfully navigate in today’s hearing/sighted society.

They need more SSP/CN for the retreat. If you are interested to attend, please contact Donna Schultz at donna.schultzdb@gmail.com

New Officers: OADB June 2025 to June 2027

President: Bryan Grubb

Vice President: Jason Judy

Secretary: Dawn K Watts

Treasurer: Donna Schultz

Member at Large: Shirley Rybarski, Linda Denny, and Vicky Emerson

Congratulations!

Website:

<https://www.einpresswire.com/article/826967160/summer-is-the-perfect-time-to-get-an-id-for-your-kids>

Summer is the Perfect Time to get an ID for Your Kids

(COLUMBUS, Ohio) – Summer break is in full swing and the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) and the Ohio School Safety Center (OSSC) are reminding parents that this season is an ideal time to get a state-issued identification card (ID) for children and teens. The BMV operates the ID R Kids [program](#) as a safety resource for parents and local law enforcement agencies.

“Summer brings a lot of activity and movement for kids,” said Ohio BMV Registrar Charlie Norman. “An ID card not only provides a layer of security but can also be critical in emergencies or travel situations.”

The ID includes important information such as the child’s name, date of birth, and address. It can assist law enforcement in the event your child goes missing and can help confirm identity if a child is traveling alone or needs medical attention. For teenagers, the ID can be helpful for job applications, opening bank accounts, or signing up for summer programs.

“Having a state-issued ID for your child is a smart step every parent can take to support their child’s safety,” said OSSC Executive Director Emily Torok. “It’s a simple tool that can make a big difference.”

In its recently released [report](#), the Ohio Missing Persons Working Group recommended that the OSSC and BMV work together to increase awareness about the ID R Kids youth identification card program. In addition to this news release, the two Ohio Department of Public Safety divisions will be highlighting the program on social media, incorporating mentions of the program in speaking engagements and at conferences, and contacting Ohioans directly to ensure they are aware of the program.

An Ohio ID is easy to obtain. Visit any Ohio BMV license agency and provide the child’s proof of name, date of birth, proof of residency, proof of legal presence, and Social Security number (if ever assigned).

Any child under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian, who must also provide proof of name, date of birth, proof of residency, proof of legal presence, and Social Security number or their Ohio driver license or state ID.

The ID is \$10, but free if a child is permanently disabled.

For more information on the ID, visit bmv.ohio.gov

National Deaf Therapy

Written by Megan Erasmus, CEO

My name is Megan Erasmus, and I'm the CEO of National Deaf Therapy (NDT) — a virtual mental health practice dedicated to serving Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard-of-Hearing, and Late-Deafened individuals through a team of Deaf licensed therapists.

We've seen a growing need for accessible and culturally affirming mental health care within the Deaf community, and we would love to explore ways to work together to bridge that gap.

At NDT, we provide:

- *Individual and group mental health therapy
- *Wellness subscription packages
- *Mental health education, trainings, and workshops
- *EAP enrollment and partnership options for organizations

We are in-network with most major insurance providers, including Medicare, to make our services as accessible as possible to the community.

We are currently building relationships with healthcare providers and hospitals who serve Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing patients, and we'd love to explore a formal referral partnership with your organization.

Additionally, we'd be grateful if you would consider including www.nationaldeaftherapy.com in your internal referral resources or public-facing materials.

To support awareness, we've attached a flyer you're welcome to share on your website, social media, or by email with clients and community members who could benefit from Deaf-centered mental health support.

Please feel free to reach out to us at connect@nationaldeaftherapy.com if you're open to discussing partnership opportunities or have any questions about how we can support your work.

Thank you for your time and commitment to inclusive care.

Warmly,

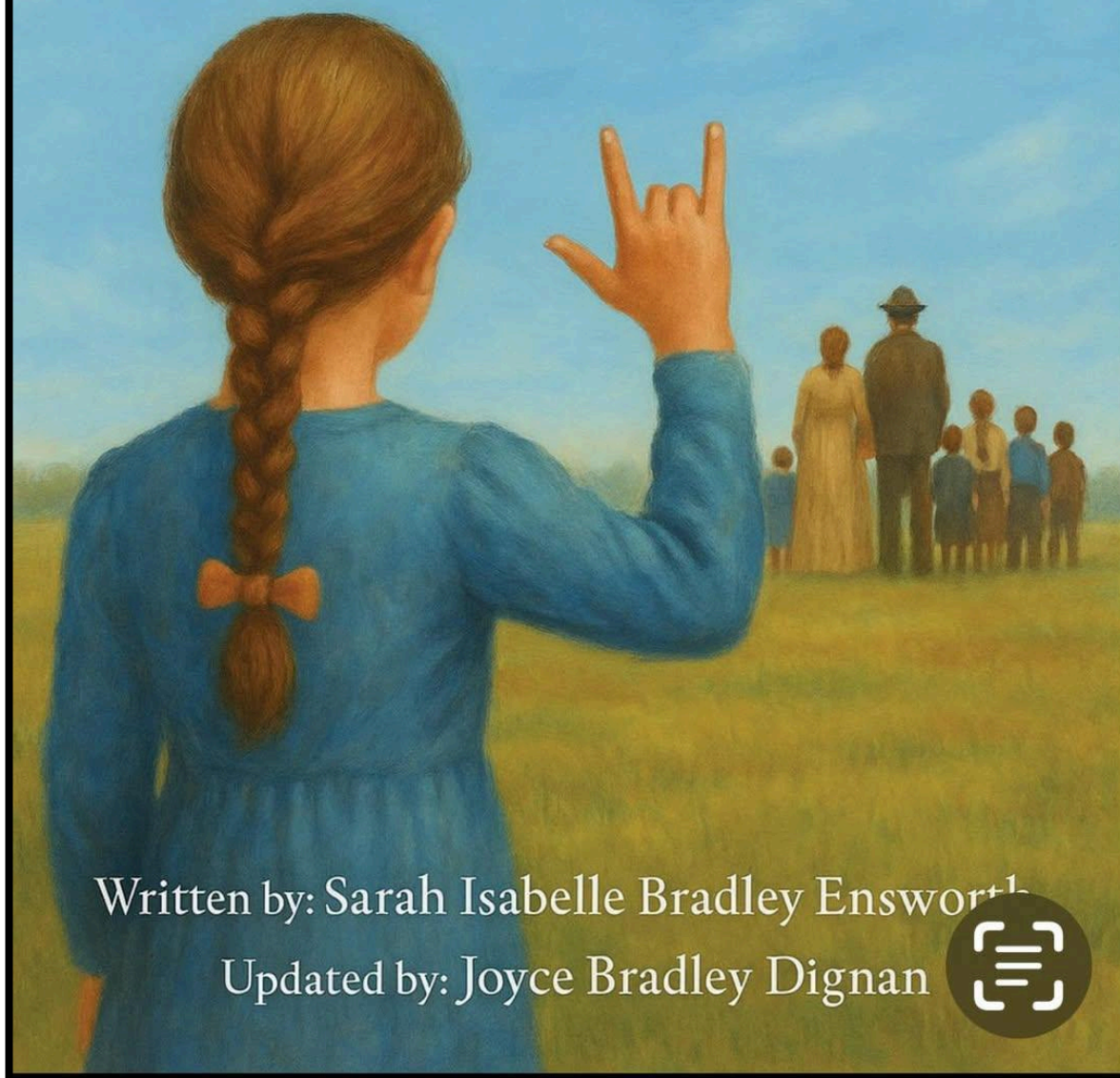
Megan Erasmus

CEO, National Deaf Therapy

www.nationaldeaftherapy.com

THE SILENT HERITAGE

BOOK ONE: ROOTS OF RESILIENCE

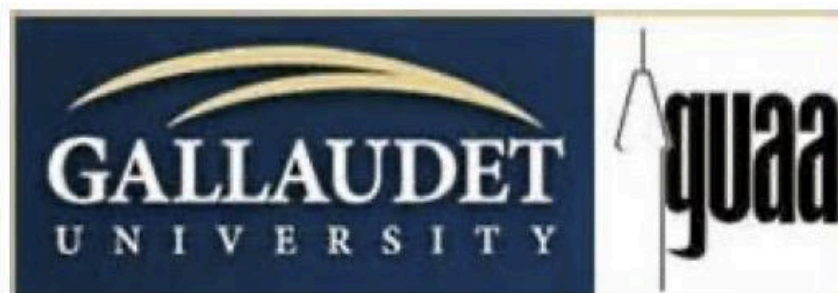


Written by: Sarah Isabelle Bradley Ensworth

Updated by: Joyce Bradley Dignan



Buckeye Chapter of Gallaudet University Alumni



BUCKEYE CHAPTER GUA Meeting

Saturday, September 20, 2025

11 am to 12 pm General Meeting

12 pm to 2:30 pm Picnic/Social

Columbus Colony Housing I

1165 Colony Drive

Westerville, Ohio 43081

RSVP by September 15, 2025

Buckeye Chapter will provide Hamburgers/Hot Dogs with buns
and bottle water.

If you last name begins with the following letters, please bring cover dishes:

A-E-G-L-Q-V Any kind of salads

C-F-I-N-P-S-X Casseroles

B-J-K-M-R-W Side/Desserts

D-H-O-U-T-Y-Z Fruits/Vegetables

Welcome non-members of the Buckeye Chapter for \$5.00 for a meal. For more
information and RSVP, please email to Julie Levine at laurelburch21@icloud.com

Annual

Membership: \$10.00 March 13, 2025 to March 13, 2026

For more information, contact buckeyechapterofguaa@gmail.com



OHIO DEAF ASSOCIATION

Ohio Deaf Association

Written by ODA President, Dr. Marsha Moore

A new Trademark Progress

ODA has officially submitted our logo trademark application to the Ohio Secretary of State as of June 23, 2025. We'll keep you updated as the process unfolds-this step is key to strengthening our brand and identity. .

Website & Domain Update

We're proud to announce that the Ohio Deaf Association now has its own dedicated domain name: www.ohiodeaf.org. Make sure to bookmark it and check in regularly for updates, events, and news.

We've launched a Centralized Calendar on our website to help reduce scheduling conflicts and better promote community events. You can find it at www.ohiodeaf.org/event. We encourage all organizations and individuals to send us their events so we can help boost visibility across Facebook and Instagram as well. Please send in your news, articles or events to ODA today.

Legislative Liaison Update

Please join us in welcoming Dawn Watts, our new Legislative Liaison! Dawn brings experience and passion to her new role, where she'll monitor legislation impacting the Deaf

Community-including SSP/CN, Ohio LEAD-K, and national initiatives. Stay tuned for more updates on ODA's advocacy and education in the legislation arena.

ODA Deaf/KODA Youth Camp - July 17-20, 2025

The countdown to this summer's Deaf/KODA Youth Camp is officially on! Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, we've meet our fundraising goals to support camp programming and scholarships-*Waving Hands to all who donated?* We're excited to offer family-friendly pricing this year: \$70.00 for the first camper and just \$45 for each additional sibling. Scholarships are also available upon request-please reach out to TheOhioDA@gmail.com if you need support. As of June 24, we only have a few spots left so please register your child today! It is a first come, first serve basis.

Behind the scenes, our dedicated camp committee continues to meet monthly to plan fun, safe activities. We've also partnered with Fast Fingerprints to ensure that all staff and volunteers complete background checks. We can't wait to see our campers at Camp Mary Orton! Look at the flyer, page 19.

Pickleball Fundraiser-September 13, 2025

Mark your calendars! We're thrilled to team up with ASLIN and DWAVE for the Ohio Deaf Pickleball Fundraiser. This exciting event supports all three organizations and will be held on September 13. Register now at pickleballtournaments.com! Look at the Flyer, page 20

As always, thank you for your ongoing support of ODA's mission. Your energy and involvement keep our community connected, informed, and thriving.

Warm regards,

Dr. Marsha Moore,
President, Ohio Deaf Association
www.ohiodeaf.org



DEAF/KODA KIDS SUMMER *Camp*

Join Us for a Summer Long Weekend of Fun and Adventure!



JULY 17–20, 2025

Camp Mary Orton - 7925 N High Street, Columbus, OH

ADVENTURES

GAMES

ARTS & CRAFTS

- All Staff Background Checks Completed and Trained to Support Kids of all Abilities and Age Groups
- Family Discount for multiple campers registering (\$70 first child, \$45 second)

Registration: [CLICK HERE](#) | Questions: TheOhioDA@gmail.com



OHIO DEAF PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

8:00AM TO 6:00PM

BILLY MAULDIN, TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

HOSTED BY:

OHIO DEAF ASSOCIATION
EVOLVING SINCE 1961

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE
ASLIN
INSTRUCTORS NETWORK

DWAVE
Deaf World Against Violence Everywhere
DEAF WORLD AGAINST VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE

\$60 Per Player

LINK: [CLICK HERE to Register](#)

PADDLE TAPS

**535 Lakeview Plaza Blvd.
Worthington, Ohio 43085**

**3.0, 3.5, 4.0+
MEN, WOMEN & MIXED DOUBLES
ROUND ROBIN - MEDAL ROUND**

MEDALS AWARDED FOR 1ST, 2ND & 3RD IN EACH CATEGORY AND LEVELS

All proceeds go to
ODA, ASLIN & DWAVE

For more information, email:
TheOhioDA@gmail.com

ViaQuest, Inc

Behavioral and Mental Health

We specialize in mental and behavioral health treatment for nursing facilities, individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities; those who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf/low vision or deafblind; those with CODAS; families and couples, and the aging population.

Counseling Services:

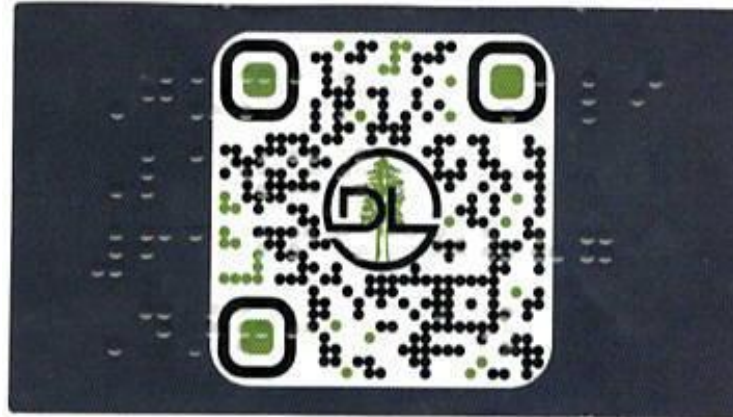
Our licensed signing and deaf counselors and social workers help clients deal with abuse, trauma, anxiety, depression and other mental health disorders through talk therapy. We can provide individual or group counseling in our office or in the community. Counseling focuses on digging into the root causes of behaviors. Our counselors provide a goal-oriented approach to help clients understand unhealthy and harmful thoughts and beliefs and focus on replacing them with positive ones. Our counselors will provide an assessment and customized treatment plan that is tailored to each individual to achieve their goals.

Website: viaquestinc.com/contact-us/

Upcoming Events

If you need an attorney for an American Sign Language Access lawsuit, use this QR code below.

Darr Law: Jumana M. Ali
Attorney
JMA@Darr.law
www.Darr.law
614-653-7887



If you have any issues regarding this newsletter, please contact the Director, Editor, or Co-Editors at TheDeafReader@gmail.com

The Next Deaf Reader Newsletter [July 2025](#)

COMPUTER

If you need someone to fix your PC or Apple computer, Justin Watters, a Deaf Computer technician, can help and support you. You can contact him at jwwatters3@gmail.com. He will charge you for the service.

DINGO

Senior Citizens for the Deaf at the Columbus Colony Housing II, Multi-Purpose Room 1105 Colony Drive, Westerville, Ohio on the first week and third week every Thursday at 11 am to 3 pm.

Columbus Deaf Club at the Columbus Colony Housing II, Multi-Purpose Room, 1105 Colony Drive, Westerville, Ohio on the third week on Saturday at 5 pm to 9 pm.

Bingo Game at the Columbus Colony Housing I, Cafe Room, 1165 Colony Drive, Westerville, Ohio on Tuesday every other week.

Contact Information

The Deaf Reader

Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library
(ODFL) website:

<https://www.ocdclibrary.org/>

ODFL email:

thedeafreader@gmail.com

ODFL mailing address:

P.O. Box 917
Worthington, Ohio 43085-0917

Standing Committees

Library Advisor

Nancy Levin

Librarian for Deaf

Ben Gulyas

Coventry Village – Heights Public Library

Ben Gulyas

Deaf Mentor Program

Danny Lucero

Specialist DeafBlind

Bryan Grubb

Webmaster

Mike Homko

Bylaws

Angie Potosky

Bylaws Parliamentarian

Bob Donaldson-Pirc

President

Dawn Watts

Vice President

Angie Potosky

Secretary

Christine Stepien

Treasurer

Debbie Brown

WE STRIVE FOR ALL
LIBRARIES TO BE
MADE ACCESSIBLE
TO ALL THE DEAF
COMMUNITIES IN
THE STATE OF OHIO

Northwest 1 Representatives None

Allen, Auglaize, Crawford, Defiance, Eric, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Mercer, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wyandot, Wood

Northeast 2 Representatives Liliana Arsean-Pokorny, Regis Gilchrist, Jenny Jaske and Chuck Williams

Ashland, Ashtabula, Carroll, Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Hamison, Holmes, Huron, Jefferson, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Wayne

Southwest 3 Representative Juanita Hall, Scott Van Nice, and Melissa Kelly

Adams, Brown, Butler, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Champaign, Darke, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, Union, Warren

Central 4 Representatives Brad Race and Danny Lucero

Coshocton, Delaware, Licking, Fayette, Fairfield, Franklin, Knox, Marion, Madison, Morrow, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Union

Southeast 5 Representative Chris Cooley

Athens, Belmont, Gallia, Guernsey, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, Washington

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The Deaf Reader newsletter editors reserve the right to review and make any necessary edits in the enclosed articles.