



Hear Fayette Program
St. Vincent de Paul
Uniontown Conference
PO Box 195
Uniontown PA 15401
724-439-9188

www.stvincentdepauluniontown.org

<https://www.facebook.com/HearFayetteSVdP>

May/June 2017



Hear Fayette's Plant Sale is on for
Saturday, May 20, 2017.
Starts at 10 and ends at 2 or 3.
It will be set up at the parking lot of
St. Vincent de Paul Store
90 N. Mt. Vernon Ave. Uniontown, PA.

We'll have bunches of annual flowers in flats, pots, and baskets. And we'll have vegetable and herb plants, some perennials, homeless houseplants, and someone even donated a horseradish plant in a pot! Watch for announcements on our Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/HearFayetteSVdP>

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month. Celebrate your hearing, protect your ears and hearing ability, enjoy the technology that helps you hear better, and thank the people who are committed to improving communication.

One great group is the Communication Disorders Department at California University of PA (CalU) who has been providing speech therapy without cost to one of our volunteers. Being unable to hear well at birth may delay speech for many persons who have hearing loss or are Deaf. Thanks to Dr. Sam and student/therapists!

Try a Little Kindness! We folks with hearing loss struggle and use all our wits to understand what you are saying. Instead of enjoying all of your message, we may hear only certain sounds, and then we use our eyes to read your lips, and use our intelligence to understand what you may be saying.

We usually take our time to understand or ask you to repeat—and repeat—and maybe repeat again. Some of us do that.

Many people cannot afford hearing aids, so the kindness you show by speaking clearly and getting nearer and facing us is a blessing.

We truly appreciate the person who takes the time and patience, and who provides the respect entitled to all humans. Thanks, nice person.

Norma Accepts the Challenge!



Our good friend and volunteer, **Norma Luketic**, lost her hearing as a child due to spinal meningitis, so she naturally has a compassionate heart for others who have challenges in communication.

She began teaching sign language skills to the staff and individuals at Fayette Resources.

The sessions began three weeks ago, and Norma is happy to report progress already. Norma, we are proud to know you.

Do Callers Understand Your Voicemail Recording?

Your voice and message are important especially if you are employed at a business.

Here are a few tips: Most importantly: **Speak slowly. Say each word clearly and entirely from the first sound to the last sound. Do not rush or your message will be garbled.**

Write and rehearse your message before you record. Identify yourself or business name. State what information you want the caller to leave in his/her message (name, number, etc). Limit background noise as you record your message. Smile as you speak!

If you include a list of numbers, extensions, or departments, slow down even more and repeat. For most persons, a deep voice is easier to understand than a high-pitched voice.

Informational Workshop

Parents of Youth ages 14 to 21 in Transition

Join [Disability Options Network](#) on Friday, May 19 for an informational workshop on planning for transition from high school to employment, further education and independent living. Parents and guardians will learn how to use the student's individual education plan (IEP) for transition into adulthood and independent living, as well as learn about transition services that begin at age 14.

Location

Community Care Connections
114 Skyline Drive
Butler, PA 16001

Hosted in conjunction with [Lawrence County Community Action Partnership](#)'s Aspiring Young Professionals session for youth. Lunch will be served.

The Miracle Worker (the life of Helen Keller)

Hosted by [The Geyer Performing Arts Center](#)

May 18 – May 21

May 18 at 7:30 PM to May 21 at 2:30 PM

The Geyer Performing Arts Center

111 N Pittsburgh St, Scottdale, Pennsylvania 15683

Sign Language Greene County PA

Mary Golden wants to know who might be interested in sign language sessions in Nemacolin, Greene County.

They would meet on Monday and/or Wednesday from 1 till 3. Please contact Mary at fallenangel21922@yahoo.com if you are interested or need more information.

Service Paws of Central PA

HELP US FIND someone in Clearfield County who needs a service dog OR help with the service dog they own. We received a grant from the Clearfield County Charitable Foundation and we want to help someone living there. Please refer to our website: servicepawsofcentralpa.org for the application or we can be contacted by calling 814-940-0270.

The Good Samaritan, the pope said,
behaves with true mercy and compassion,
and acts with an authentic love of neighbor,
by “suffering with him” without
discrimination.

We are not just a thrift store!

Although many people recognize “St. Vincent de Paul” as a thrift store, it is much, much more. In fact, SVdP is a Society, an international one, found throughout the world. St. Vincent de Paul Society exists to provide help and hope to those in need.

Who are the people that need assistance? Some may be people over 62 who cannot make ends meet living on SS. Women especially who did not “work” at outside employment are severely limited in income. Some may be persons who have had a tragic occurrence in their lives: an accident, job loss, loss of a decent place to live, a disability, or death of a loved provider. There are many situations that simply are sad.

The interviewers at SVdP listen with understanding, and then encourage and find ways to best assist each individual. Sometimes all that is needed is a bag or two of food, new clothing, kitchen wares, or medical goods.

Sometimes, individuals just need to know how other agencies or organizations are able to help them, so we share knowledge of resources.

And often, we simply cannot help with the major requests that are brought here. At best when this happens, we pray and offer encouragement in many ways.

At times, some of us take for granted things that are very important to someone in need.

“Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to those who are needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, and patron, St. Vincent de Paul

As a reflection of the whole family of God, members, who are known as Vincentians, are drawn from every ethnic and cultural background, age group, and economic level. Vincentians are united in an international society of charity by their spirit of poverty, humility and sharing, which is nourished by prayer and reflection, mutually supportive gatherings and adherence to a basic Rule.

Organized locally, Vincentians witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. The Society collaborates with other people of good will in relieving need and addressing its causes, making no distinction in those served because, in them, Vincentians see the face of Christ.”

<https://www.svdpusa.org/About-Us/Mission-and-Values>

Tech Day Guest

Tech Day centers on nifty devices that help you understand sounds and voices in person, on TV, and through phone lines. Many assistive listening devices, especially phones, are free if you are eligible. And according to John Flaherty, our guest in April, you may borrow devices to try before you decide which one is best for you!

On April 20, John set up a display of the special phones that amplify or have captions, or are designed for persons with mobility or visual problems. He showed how they are used, and explained that they are available through PIAT Pennsylvania Initiative on Assistive Technology Program through the TDDP Telecommunications Device Distribution Program.

Contact John if you or someone you know needs one of these terrific phones. A very savvy expert, he has the knowledge to help people get the devices that they need.

Here's his contact information. Counties Served: Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Somerset, Washington

Contact: John Flaherty

69 East Beau Street
Washington, PA 15301
724-223-5115 Voice
724-228-4028 TTY
724-223-5119 Fax

Email: jflaherty@tripil.com

www.tripil.com Tri-County Patriots for Independent Living

Tech Days first Thursday of each month 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. unless otherwise advertised. Tech help includes Hear Now free hearing aid (application fee is necessary), better TV listening, phone info, and even computer and smartphone assistance.

At St. Vincent de Paul, 90 N. Mt. Vernon Ave., Uniontown. Enter the double glass doors at the side of the building, Samaritan's Well.

SIGN LANGUAGE CLASSES*

Saturday Beginners Class

Congratulations to the lively, lovely students who were so enthusiastic at learning sign language this past semester! Good people! Good times! Three younger people attended! We welcome people of all ages.

Teachers we love you: Cindy Hanzes, Elisha Stender, Norma Luketic, Kim D'Angelo, Steve Kovscek, and Jeff Martz.

Thanks to our awesome teachers and dedicated students!
Next Beginner's Class starts September 9, 2017.

Tuesday & Wednesday Classes

Betsy Kipila teaches Intermediate Sign for those who know basic sign language. You are welcome to come from 5 till 6 p.m. on Tuesday for that class. Betsy also teaches ASL Structure Class on Wednesday from 5 till 6 p.m.

*If it's necessary for us to cancel class for any reason, we will post a notice on our page and send emails as well.

<HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HEARFAYETTESVDP>

Summer Hours for Saturday Signers Practice from 10 till noon on Saturday.

Drop in and keep your skills from disappearing!

ANNOUNCEMENT: NO SIGN LANGUAGE OR CLASS MAY 27, 2017.

RESOURCES

Hands & Voices is dedicated to supporting families with children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing without a bias around communication modes or methodology.

<HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/HANDSVOICESOFPENNSYLVANIA/?FREF=HOVERCARD>

Office for Deaf and Hard of Hearing. This is the place to find all sorts of services: <http://www.dli.pa.gov/Individuals/Disability-Services/odhh/Pages/default.aspx>

Discover assistive technology through PIAT TDDP—devices that can help you hear, speak, and more. Learn how you can borrow, try, and keep them and how to finance purchase if necessary. Contact John Flaherty at TRPIL 724-223-5115 Voice 724-228-4028 TTY

One great source for persons who are Deaf or have hearing loss is **healthbridges**. Take a look. All videos are signed and captioned. <http://healthbridges.info>

Noisy Planet: How to help save your hearing and your children's precious ability to hear. <https://www.noisyplanet.nidcd.nih.gov>

SayWhatClub can be described as online friends with hearing loss. You are welcomed to join in and communicate and commiserate with people who have similar problems: Deaf, hearing loss, Meneire's, balance difficulties, cochlear implants and more. Check them out. They are a great group. <http://www.saywhatclub.com>

Free Captioned phones and captioning for iPad <https://captioncall.com>

We send our news every other month. If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please let us know. hearfayette@gmail.com

