



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

[www.stvincentdepauluniontown.org](http://www.stvincentdepauluniontown.org)  
<https://www.facebook.com/HearFayetteSVdP>

## September/October 2017

### ***We love this event!***

**Afternoon of Reflection for individuals with disabilities  
or life-challenging illnesses**

**Sunday, October 29, 2017 from 1 till 6:30 p.m.**

**Our Lady of Grace R.C. Church**

**1001 Mt. Pleasant Rd. Greensburg, PA**

**It is an awe inspiring day of learning, sharing, and blessings. In the past we have enjoyed the company of persons who are blind, mobility impaired, have developmental disabilities, neurological disorders, behavioral health problems and people like us who are deaf or have hearing loss.**

**Being there gives you a sense of belonging, and it gives you a sense that you're not the only one struggling,**

**The Afternoon of Reflection is important because people who have unique disabilities don't often get a chance to participate in spiritual services that deal directly with them.**

**Monsignor Larry Kiniry is moderator.**

**This year Cindy Hanzes and Hila Saxer return to interpret for those who need American Sign Language!**

**On page 6 of the following link, you can get info about registering and cost:**

**<http://www.mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?i=435975#>**

### **Signed and Captioned Mass**

When you have hearing difficulties, listening in a huge church, synagogue, mosque, or other meeting place can be frustrating. Even sitting in front is not always effective if you cannot read lips, or if the celebrant moves during the services and sermon.

We found several sites on youtube that have Roman Catholic Mass, some signed and others captioned and are including some here.

To find, search under the words "Holy Mass captioned" (and include the Sunday's date). There will be many such sites in different languages, so you may have to choose a favorite. Here are three.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StKhGL2rlcM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PabV2sCquho>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gxXJexyywxw>

**Signed Mass takes place at Our Lady of Grace RC Church,  
Mt. Pleasant Rd. Greensburg Sundays 10:30 a.m.**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZdA2WCbeh8>**

### **Sign Language Saturday Beginners Class**

The Beginners Class started September 16, 2017 with 14 new students, and what an enthusiastic group this is! A group of four work together, a mom and daughter, two sisters, two guys who want to be able to sign to their families, and some who just want to learn.

Lessons begin at 9:30 and end at 11 a.m. each Saturday

Saturday Signers Practice group meets from 11 a.m. till 12:30. p.m.

### **Wednesday Classes**

Betsy Kipila teaches American Sign Language (ASL) Structure class from 5 till 6 p.m. each Wednesday. If you feel you have a good knowledge of ASL and want to learn more, please join us in the red brick building, Samaritan's Well at the St. Vincent de Paul site.

**ASL Classes** will be taught at The Western Pennsylvania School For The Deaf - four levels of classes, from beginner to advanced. They will be taught from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesdays. The cost is \$60 for eight weeks. To sign up for classes at the school: [www.wpsd.org/asl-classes-2015-16/](http://www.wpsd.org/asl-classes-2015-16/) or call 800-624-3323 and ask for registrar Crystal Davis.

### **A special fundraiser! In memory of Toby Stern**

#### **Thursday, September 21**

A fund raiser will be happening at Anthony's Coal-Fired Pizza, 2740 Stroschein Rd in Monroeville.

It will benefit the St. Vincent de Paul in Uniontown.

People must mention they are "Dining for Toby Stern" when they enter or phone the order. Then 20% of the sale will be donated to SVDP.

## **Christmas Gathering!**

Once again we are inviting anyone who has hearing loss, deaf, Deaf, and families and sign language students to enjoy a great time with us! This is our fourth year, and we will be at the Perryopolis Moose on Saturday December 2, 2017 starting around 5:30 p.m.

Plans are incomplete but we can promise our very lowest entrance fee, very best food, great games and prizes, and a lots of fun. Check our Facebook page or email for invitations. <https://www.facebook.com/HearFayetteSVdP>

## **CERTIFIED PEER SPECIALIST TRAINING FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE DEAF AND AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE USERS**

The Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) is recruiting qualified individuals who are deaf, use ASL, are seeking employment and want to take Certified Peer Specialist (CPS) training to learn how to use their personal experience in mental health recovery to help other individuals who are deaf and have mental health needs.

OMHSAS is offering this training opportunity to individuals from other states who are deaf and ASL users and meet their state/territory training requirements to become a CPS. Priority will be given to Pennsylvania residents.

### **Certified Peer Specialists:**

- Are trained to offer support and assistance in helping others in their mental health recovery
- inspire hope and share their mental health recover story to help others
- Promote empowerment, self-determination, understanding, coping skills and resiliency

### **Training dates and location:**

- The 75 hour (10-day) training is scheduled for December 4-15, 2017. The training will be held at:

Hyatt Place  
440 American Ave  
King of Prussia, PA 19406

**To complete an online training application:** email PJ Simonson at [PJ.Simonson@riinternational.com](mailto:PJ.Simonson@riinternational.com)

**One of our news subscribers wrote to tell about his hearing loss. Thanks for sharing, Jack!**

“High tones are missing completely without an aid. Speech is terrible unless the person looks at me where I can read their lips and speak slowly and plainly. Any other sources of noise is competition. I can’t understand several people talking at once or a TV blaring or music like in a restaurant. Conversing with a group is impossible unless one can hear in both ears and I cannot tell where sound is coming from. In Church we have a loop system, and our Pastor wears a microphone so with a Telecoil built in to my hearing aid and the microphones on my hearing aid are turned off. No trouble in Church but Bible Studies are a different problem.”

**Senior Citizens Expo sponsored by  
State Senator Pat Stefano and Representative Ryan  
Warner**

The event will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2017,  
from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
in the auxiliary gym in the Community Building  
at Penn State Fayette, The Eberly Campus,  
[2201 University Drive,](#)  
[Lemont Furnace, PA 15456.](#)

**We will be there to provide our Highway Hearing Safety  
visor cards, info about hearing aids, phones, and other  
assistive devices. Stop by for a smile or two!**

## **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.

<http://disabilities.temple.edu/programs/assistive/tddp/equipment.shtml>

For helpful information, please contact John Flaherty in Washington, PA 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>

**Hearing Loss Association of America** (HLAA) has a chapter that is active in Pittsburgh. Here's the link to their Web site!

<http://hlaa-pa.org/index.php/chapters/pittsburgh>

**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>  
CaptionCall trainers deliver and install the phone and train you in it's use. It requires a landline phone line, high speed Internet, and a hearing loss.

There are phones available that are captioned through Captel that do not require Internet. Check with John Flaherty at TRPIL 724-223-5115 Voice 724-228-4028 TTY

### **Your opinion is requested!**

Please contact us at [hearfayette@gmail.com](mailto:hearfayette@gmail.com) with your ideas or opinions about this law.

A law recently passed in Kentucky seems like a great idea for persons with hearing loss or deafness. Do we need a similar law in Pennsylvania? We already have received encouragement from several police officers, but we need to know what the Deaf Community thinks about this. Here is the law and the link to the story.

“Two weeks ago, a new law in Kentucky was signed that would allow deaf people to voluntarily show that they are deaf in the vehicle registration system — so if police pull them over or look them up, they'll see a clear alert on the system database (probably on the police laptop) that they are deaf.

To be clear, it is an electronic record on the system's database — it is not a “deaf sticker” on a license plate or a “Deaf status” printed on the drivers license. The “deaf designation” appears to be confidential and only available to be seen by police or KY officials.”

<https://www.dailymoth.com/single-post/2017/04/10/Kentucky-Passes-Law-to-Allow-Deaf-Motorists-to-Alert-Police-they-are-Deaf>

## **St. Vincent de Paul Uniontown Area Conference**

Call 724-439-9188 and ask for information on any of these services.

Hear Fayette is an idea, a place, and people that exists to help others cope with hearing loss and deafness. Located within the Samaritan's Well Building at St. Vincent de Paul Uniontown Area Conference, volunteers are there to help others each Thursday from 10 a.m. till 1 p.m.

Hear Fayette is just one of the many different happenings at St. Vincent de Paul. This past year a group, Mat Makers, began crocheting strips of plastic shopping bags with the end product being large, thick, plastic sleeping mats which are given to homeless in the community. This group willingly accepts helpers and provides the knowledge needed to make these mats.

The Emergency Food Pantry at St. Vincent de Paul is a busy place where people are welcomed, encouraged, and given supplies of necessary food. Elderly people on limited incomes often need "just a bag of food to get by till the check comes." Without transportation, many visitors must walk several blocks to obtain a few bags of food.

Volunteers recognized the need to become more 'green' and began dismantling broken small appliances and other items of metal. The metals are separated and then taken to local recyclers. Money earned through sale of metal enables us to help those who find that St. Vincent de Paul is their best last hope for assistance.

Beside the thrift store, St. Vincent has a furniture department,

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

and within it, is the Vintage Vinny's Shop that sells older items of interest to collectors.

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

***We send our news every other month. If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please let us know. [hearfayette@gmail.com](mailto:hearfayette@gmail.com)***

(NOTE: The links in some of the articles are intended to take you to websites for a specific story, page, function or program. We do not accept responsibility for, or grant approval of peripheral advertising or stories that may be on those Web sites. Mention of goods, services, or articles in our newsletter does not mean endorsement, nor should exclusion suggest disapproval.)

