RSD Building Bridges Newsletter - March 4, 2020

**RSD Building Bridges e-Newsletter (BBN):** A digest of news and information for families and friends of [Rochester School for the Deaf](https://www.rochdeaf.org), about our school and the Deaf community.

Find a PDF file version of this edition of Building Bridges and past issues in the RSD Website [Media Center](https://www.rochdeaf.org/media-center).

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**IMPORTANT LINKS, DATES, AND INFORMATION:**

- [March 2020 Lunch Menus](https://www.rochdeaf.org/lunch-menus)

- [RSD Employment Opportunities](https://www.rochdeaf.org/employment)

- [RSD School 2019-2020 Academic Calendar](https://www.rochdeaf.org/academics)
WHAT'S NEW?

- **NEW!** This week's Nibble:  **Helping Your Child Make New Friends**

- **TODAY!** Help support  **Deaf Rochester Film Festival by eating at Chipotle, 640 Jefferson Road, Rochester** from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.  **Bring a copy of this flyer** on paper, on your phone, or just mention to the cashier that you are supporting Deaf Rochester Film Festival, and 33% of all food sales will be donated to the film festival.

- **NEW!** The NAD has announced an exciting  **Congressional bill that will recognize American Sign Language** (ASL) and other sign languages used in the U.S. through ensuring that English Language Learning opportunities are equally available to deaf and hard of hearing students, along with hearing children of deaf adults (KODAs/CODAs).  **Click here** to view the video and to sign your support.

- **NEW!**  **ROC THAT! Friday, March 13, 2020; Rochester Recreation Club for the Deaf, 1564 Lyell Avenue Rochester.**  **ASL Improv Comedy for ages 18+**  **Click here** for the show theme for this month and to get tickets. Seating is limited.
- **NEW!** "What You Need to Know About Marijuana" Tuesday, March 24, 2020; 6:00 p.m. light refreshments provided; 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. presentation by Mistie Munton, Counselor, Substance & Addiction Intervention Services for the Deaf (SAISD); Rochester View Apartments, 4365 W. Henrietta Road, Henrietta. Hosted by Rochester Deaf Rotary Club.

- **NEW!** DEAF Circle is accepting applications for financial support towards summer camps. Our grant program fosters children (K-12) to participate in learning and enrichment programs when they are not in school. Scholarships are currently available to residents of greater Rochester area and surrounding cities such as Syracuse and Buffalo. Application deadline is May 1, 2020.

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**ONGOING!**

- Signs for All (SFA) Spring 2020 Community Member and RSD Student Family Member class dates, registration and payment deadlines, and printed registration form are now available for participants on the SFA web page. **Online registration is now open.** Early registration and payment is highly encouraged.

- Want more Deaf Community ASL and interpreted events? Follow: [https://www.facebook.com/groups/deafeventsrochester/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/deafeventsrochester/)

- St. Paul's Episcopal Church Community, 25 Westminster Road at East Avenue, Rochester: **Starting March 1, 2020, ASL interpreted service** at
10:00 a.m. on the 1st, 2nd, 4th (and 5th) Sunday and every 3rd Sunday of the month at 3:00 p.m.

- **Irondequoit Public Library ASL Storytime** with Rochester School for the Deaf: Saturdays - **March 7**; April 4; May 2; June 6 starting at 11:00 a.m. **1290 Titus Avenue, Rochester**. Recommended for ages 1-5. Voice interpreter provided for families learning ASL.

- **Deaf actor Joshua Castille** (Broadway: Spring Awakening; Regional: Hunchback of Notre Dame, Romeo and Juliet) is making his Rochester debut on Friday, March 6, 2020, at 7:30 pm at the **Kodak Center, 200 West Ridge Road, Rochester**, for his one-man cabaret-style show! **More information and tickets.**

- **Open Forum with the Monroe County Sheriff and the Deaf Community**, Thursday, March 19, 2020, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Henrietta Town Hall building Main Meeting Room, 475 Calkins Rd, Rochester. We The Deaf People - Rochester Committee on Law Enforcement Relations is hosting an open forum to discuss policing issues and how to improve Monroe County Sheriff relations with the Deaf community. All are welcome!

- **Deaf Rochester Film Festival 2020 (DRFF)** The festival week is April 14 - 18, 2020. **Click here** for more information.

- **Deaf Rochester BBQ**, Saturday, April 18, 2020, Westgate Shelter, 1489 Howard Road, Gates, NY 14624 from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. **Click here** for further details, costs, deadlines, and more.
- "Sign Your Art: Introduction to Watercolor Painting" by retired RIT/NTID ASL Professor Donna Gustina - Saturdays; April 18, 25 and May 2. $75/participant. Classes conducted in ASL for adults & teens who are fluent in ASL. Mill Art Center & Gallery, 61 N Main St, Honeoye Falls, NY. Click here to register. Select "Intro to Watercolor with Donna Gustina" in the classes drop-down box.

- Save the Date: Rochester Red Wings Baseball Deaf Culture Night is scheduled for Thursday evening, September 3 at 7:05 p.m. vs. Pawtucket Red Sox. Get ready for a 2nd successful day/night of Deaf Culture celebration with our beloved Rochester Red Wings, including an all-new specialty jersey, t-shirt, baseball cap, Rochester Deaf Community representation, ASL & Deaf Culture activities & games, and much more.

- It's the 75th Anniversary of the Rochester Recreation Club for the Deaf & the RRCD is hosting a luncheon celebration on Saturday, October 24, 2020, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Red Fedele's Brook House, 920 Elmridge Center Drive, in Greece, NY. Delicious luncheon buffet then awards and prizes. $60/person before August 30; $75/person after Aug. 30 until Oct. 14. No admission at the door!

- Camp Mark Seven (CM7), situated on the Fourth Lake in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York, offers an array of recreational, educational, leadership and spiritual programs for deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing individuals of all ages. CM7 has several employment opportunities including Summer Camp Director and Deaf Film Camp Director. Apply today!
Hello! I am Aileen Aldalur a Deaf graduate student working towards my Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Gallaudet University. I am conducting research on the stress and pressures Deaf and hard-of-hearing people feel as they develop their identities within the Deaf and Hearing worlds. I would like you to consider participating in this study by completing the following survey. It is hoped that the data gathered from this study will be used to understand Deaf cultural stressors and their impact on mental health, develop a structured scale to assess Deaf acculturative stress, and allow researchers to identify the conditions that lead to Deaf acculturative stress. More about my survey by me in ASL is available to view on YouTube. Thank you.

- **DEAF NATION Expo & Conference September 19, 2020** - Gordon Field House at Rochester Institute of Technology, 1 Lomb Memorial Dr., Rochester, NY 14623 Free Admission - Open to the Public.

- **Deaf Women of Rochester (DWR) Fall Getaway**, September 25-27, 2020 Camp Mark 7, Old Forge, NY. [Click here](https://www.cityofrochester.gov/rocyourrefund/) for details, costs, deadlines to register.

- The City of Rochester is launching a pilot program that will help eligible city residents save more money and reach their financial goals. This tax year eligible city residents have the opportunity to have their taxes filed for free, save more of their money, and be eligible to receive matched payments throughout the year! To learn more about this program, Deaf City of Rochester residents can call VP: 585-900-1006; Watch this ASL video - [https://youtu.be/S1QVJZQQtQ4](https://youtu.be/S1QVJZQQtQ4); or go to: [https://www.cityofrochester.gov/rocyourrefund/](https://www.cityofrochester.gov/rocyourrefund/)
- RIT College of Liberal Arts and NTID Performing Arts Joint Theatrical Season 2020-2021 schedule of performances.

- **ECC ASL Storytime Videos** playlist on the RSD YouTube Channel has added brand new stories recently, complete with color illustrations, ASL narration, classifiers, vocabulary, and ASL chants! **38! ASL Storytime Videos** to learn from and enjoy! Check them out today!

- **Gallaudet University ASL Connect** provides free ASL learning videos organized by topic. New videos, such as Outdoor Activity signs, are posted to the top of the collection. These short videos are an excellent refresher for advanced signers and a great introduction to new ASL students. Check them out today and practice with your family and friends.

- Did you know that residents of New York State with disabilities can gain free or discounted access and admission to state parks, historic sites, and recreational facilities operated by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation? Click here to receive details on how to apply for a New York State Access Pass. Proof of citizenship may include a valid NYS Driver's License or New York State Non-Driver Photo ID. For applicants under age 21 or for parents of children under age 16, a Statement of Identity by Parent/Guardian (pdf) (MV-45), birth certificate and Social Security Card. Apply for a New York State Non-Driver Photo ID at any NYS Department of Motor Vehicle office.

- The American Society of Deaf Children (ASDC) is constantly seeking diverse families with Deaf and hard of hearing children and young adults
who are empowered to embrace full access to language-rich ASL and English environments. Individual and family memberships to ASDC are free and include: The Endeavor news magazine, information about conferences for families, free Described and Captioned Media Program membership, website and social media channels with links and resources, monthly e-mail blast for members, and more. RSD families who are not yet members of the ASDC can click here for a free, membership. RSD member families of ASDC can also use this form to extend your free membership yearly. Please join or renew today!

- Parent Advocacy App has been developed for families with deaf and hard-of-hearing children and youth in preK-12 programs. In collaboration with Gallaudet University, American Society of Deaf Children, Hand & Voices, and the NAD, the Parent Advocacy App is a free tool for families attending Individualized Education Program (IEP) meetings, 504 meetings, and other types of meetings. The app helps families to understand their child’s rights and to prepare them to work with the school/district in the best interest of their child.

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- The Wayne C. Mnich Leadership Scholarship Fund honors the individual whose charismatic nature as a dedicated teacher, loyal colleague, and genuine friend to all, touched the lives of nearly everyone in the RSD family during his time as our long-term substitute High School Science Teacher. Your gifts to this fund will help support RSD 10th & 11th-grade students who want to attend the NAD Youth Leadership Summer Camp. Click here to learn more about this special fund and how you can contribute to it. Thank you.
- **iGive.com** is donating $3 for each new person supporting Rochester School for the Deaf through [iGive](https://igive.com). No purchase necessary. Supporters shop at over 1,900 great stores. An average of 3 percent is donated to RSD via [iGive](https://igive.com), and when you shop often that adds up quickly. The $3 donation to RSD offer ends November 30. Thanks!

- If you give to the **United Way of Greater Rochester** consider directing your gift to support students at Rochester School for the Deaf. The Designation Number for RSD is **1162**. Thank you for your generous and thoughtful support.

- **TOPS in Education!** Shop at TOPS Friendly Markets and support RSD. Simply [register](https://www.topsmarkets.com/) your TOPS Bonus Plus card or key tag, select Rochester School for the Deaf as your school to support, and TOPS will contribute up to 5% of your TOPS brand items purchased to RSD. The more you buy, the more TOPS supports RSD.

- **Introducing eScrip.com** where over $400 million is given back to schools and nonprofits like Rochester School for the Deaf. [Sign up securely today](https://www.escr.com/sb), get the app and start shopping. As you shop locally or online or dine out you make a difference when you choose to support Rochester School for the Deaf. [Watch this quick video](https://www.escr.com/video) to learn more.

- Shopping on Amazon Smile can also be a bonus to RSD, and we have made it easy. [Just click here](https://www.amazon.com/s?k=shopping+rds) to go to the "Shopping Supports RSD" page and shop through Amazon Smile or eScrip. You get what you want easily and conveniently and RSD gains additional funds to enhance and enrich educational programs for our students.
- To honor the life and volunteer service to RSD of the late Gilman Perkins, great-grandson of RSD's founders, Gilman and Caroline Perkins, Gil's children have established The Gilman Perkins Fund for RSD Student Needs. This fund is intended to help RSD students overcome financial obstacles that may impede them from achieving academic, social or career success. Click here to learn more about The Gilman Perkins Fund and how you and others can contribute to it towards the success of all RSD students. Thank you.

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- Follow RSD on Twitter: @RSDeaf

- Follow RSD on Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/rochesterschoolfortedeaf/

- RSD Photos & Videos on flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/rsdeaf/sets

- http://deafrochy.com/ Events - Calendar - Job Postings - Advertising! Check it out!
- To join the Building Bridges distribution list, update your e-mail address or to opt-out, click on the Google Group link below or contact Lauren via e-mail: lashworth@rsdeaf