



Newsletter

January - February Edition

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Miss Deaf Kansas Pageant

By Leonard Hall

Olathe, Kansas - At the Miss Deaf Kansas Pageant at KSD on Saturday January 7th, Pamela Siebert was crowned Miss Deaf Kansas. Pamela will represent Kansas in the Miss Deaf America Pageant to be held at the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Conference in Desert Springs, California this summer.

The first runner up was Tanna Jo Kolb from Wichita, Kansas. She is a KSD graduate now attending Gallaudet University.

Pamela performed an interesting talent show based upon a well-known folklore from India called Panchatantra. It is a collection of 5 volumes of stories written by a teacher to educate different aspects of kingdom to the princes.

Panchatantra is like Aesop's Fables, where every story has a moral. Pamela performed a Panchatantra story about hard work, greed and getting what one deserves.

A co-worker at IBM had her mother in India buy a sharara (dress) that highlights the story being told. Pamela has many talents. Pamela graduated as the class valedictorian from Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD) at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.

She graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) in New York in 2003 with a degree in Information Technology. At RIT, she was involved with the theater as a stage electrician, light designer, and assistant stage manager.

She was on the NTID College Bowl teams in 2000 and 2002 at the NAD Conference. NTID College Bowl team won the national academic bowl event in 2002 in Washington, D.C.

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Miss Kansas, Pamela Siebert with Runner Up Tanna Jo Kolb

Captioning for NEW Programming

(Information from Federal Communications Commission)

As of January 1, 2006, all new English language programming must be closed captioned, with some exceptions. The FCC has set separate schedules for analog TV programming existing before January 1998 and digital programming existing before July 2002, and for programming in Spanish. (more down below)

Complaints for Failure to Provide Closed Captioning

If you have a complaint for failure to provide closed captioning during **non-emergency programming**, the FCC requires that you first try to resolve your complaint with your video programming provider, i.e., News Channel 13. Your complaint must be in writing, provide the specifics and evidence of the failure, and be filed no later than the end of the calendar quarter following the calendar quarter in which the failure occurred. For example, if the alleged failure occurred on May 3, 2005, your complaint must be filed by September 30, 2005. The video programming provider must respond in writing to your complaint within 45 days after the end of the calendar quarter in which the failure occurred, or 45 days after receipt of your written complaint, whichever is later. Your complaint should include:

- the name of the video programming distributor (i.e., ACME Cable of Maplewood) against whom the complaint is alleged;
- the date and time of the failure;
- details about the failure so that the distributor may correct or otherwise respond; and
- your contact information.

You may mail a copy of your complaint to: FCC, Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau (CGB), 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554, fax it to: 202-418-0232, or e-mail it to: fccinfo@fcc.gov. You can also fill out an online complaint form at: www.fcc.gov/cgb/complaints.html.

Analog programming first shown before January 1, 1998, and digital programming first shown before July 1, 2002, are called "Pre-Rule Programming." Pre-Rule Programming must be captioned as follows:

- January 1, 2003, to December 31, 2007: 30 percent of programming per channel per quarter.
- January 1, 2008, and thereafter: 75 percent of programming per channel per quarter.

KCDHH Gets RID of Code of Ethics

KCDHH Adopts RID-NAD Code of Professional Conduct replacing the KOAS Code of Ethics as shown on KCDHH web site.

Effective January 1, 2006 KOAS through the KCDHH's Board of Directors formally adopted the RID-NAD Code of Professional Conduct. It is a nice change as the KAI recognizes and accepts the NAD-RID Code of Professional Conduct. The new code of professional conduct doesn't vary too much from the "old" KOAS code of ethics, it is basically the same concept. However the adopted Code of Professional Conduct includes Illustrative Behaviors for Interpreters which is designed to help those new to the field of interpreting, also expands on the tenets which sets up the parameters for interpreters. Copies of this can be found on the KAI web site <http://kai4terps.tripod.com/> as well as the RID's website www.rid.org.

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"Deaf & HH Day at the Capitol"

KCDHH and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Resource & Referral Agency in Hays is planning "Deaf/Hard of Hearing Day at the Capitol". This is a great opportunity to meet with the Kansas Legislators to discuss any issues that concerns you.

When: Tuesday, February 21, 2006

Where: 2nd Floor in the Capitol

Time: 10:00am to 3:00pm

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More on Almost 100% Captioning on TV

By Leonard Hall

Another wonderful gift for the deaf and hard of hearing community is the FCC new rule, starting on January 1st, 2006, that almost 100% of new television programs, both analog and digital, must be closed captioned. There are a number of exceptions, particularly rerun or older television programs, where the programs may not be closed captioned.

Closed captioning on television programs have been one of the major technology advance in the past 15 years. All televisions with 13" or larger screen have a small built-in chip to allow the viewer to turn on the captioning.

The impact of closed captioning has been tremendous, such as improving the reading level of deaf children and children who second language is English (i.e. Spanish). In watching captioned television shows, deaf children are motivated to read better.

30% of senior citizens have substantial hearing loss and some watch the captioning on television.

Educators and parents have been using captioned programs to encourage slow readers or students with reading difficulty to read the captioning while watching their favorite shows.

In going to a noisy bar or restaurant, the captioning on the television is on as hearing people cannot hear the sounds on television due to the noisy environment.

The following kind of programs may not be captioned:

- Most programs shown from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.
- Locally-produced non-news programs such as parades, school sports events and other local events.
- Commercials of five minutes or less.
- Programs in languages other than Spanish and English.
- Instructional programs produced locally by public TV stations for use in schools.
- Public service announcements or promotional ads of less than 10 minutes.
- Programs by providers with annual gross revenue under \$3 million.

The local new stations in the top 25 television market must provide real time caption. Unfortunately, the Kansas City area barely missed being in the top 25 television market.

In the Kansas City television market and other smaller market, the news programs are allowed to caption with electronic newsroom technique meaning that the captioning is pre-scripted. There will be gaps where there are live news updates, breaking news, ad libs, live interviews, sports, weather reports, and field reports.

The announcers tended to read these scripts while doing the news. The problem with this technology is that the announcers tended to add a few comments during the show causing a mismatch in the captioning and what the announcer is saying.

FCC rules on 100% captioning on television is a big gift to the deaf and hard of hearing people across the country.

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

This is an excerpt of KCDHH Code of Professional Conduct for interpreters. Please log onto www.rid.org to read the entire handbook.

1. Interpreters adhere to standards of confidential communication.
2. Interpreters possess the professional skills and knowledge required for the specific interpreting situation.
3. Interpreters conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the specific interpreting situation.
4. Interpreters demonstrate respect for consumers.
5. Interpreters demonstrate respect for colleagues, interns, and students of the profession.
6. Interpreters maintain ethical business practices.
7. Interpreters engage in professional development.

Congratulations!

Pamela Siebert
Miss Deaf Kansas 2005-



Miss Deaf Kansas (con't from page 1)

Siebert has been a software engineer with IBM in Lenexa since 2003 and works primarily on Informix and DB2 software.

When she moved to Kansas in 2003 and was the only deaf employee at IBM, she became active at work joining the Women In Technology club and volunteered for the GROW (Girls Researching Our World) project at KSU, which is to influence girls in middle school to be involved in science and technology.

Siebert was involved in a similar program at the career workshop at KSD.

Siebert's goals as Miss Deaf Kansas is to be an excellent role model for the deaf community and represents Kansas deaf people in programs across Kansas. She wants to see more deaf students become involved in professional world which she is doing now.

Siebert is busy with the Director of the Miss Deaf Kansas Pageant, Tammy Waddell, in scheduling appearances and fundraising to attend the Miss Deaf America Pageant.

Unlike other winners in similar pageants, Miss Deaf Kansas and her committee will need to raise \$6,000. If you are interested in meeting Miss Deaf Kansas or donating fund, you can contact Tammy at tlwfour@sbcglobal.net. Siebert will do well as Miss Deaf Kansas over the next two years.

Deaf & HH Day at State Capitol

By Leonard Hall

On Tuesday, February 21, 2006, the State Capitol in Topeka will be the site of "Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day at the Capitol." The event will be from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and will be open to the public.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing people will have a chance to tour the State Capitol, watch the House of Representatives and Senate in session, and meet their legislators. They can visit the Secretary of State office, Governor's office and other offices at the capitol.

Kansas Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH) will be coordinating the event and arranging for interpreters to assist the deaf people wanting to meet their legislators.

As part of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day, eleven organizations will set up exhibit booths to provide information about their programs for deaf and hard of hearing people. Statutes of famous Kansans and murals highlighting Kansas history will be on the walls behind the booth.

The original idea for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day at the Capitol came from the Western Kansas Deaf and Hard of Hearing Resource and Referral Agency, which has been advocating for services and programs for deaf and hard of hearing people in western Kansas.

The idea was to bring a busload of deaf people from western Kansas for them to meet their area legislators and provide a wish list of services and programs. The concept grew to include organizations from the state, including Kansas Association of the Deaf, Inc., and invite deaf and hard of hearing people from the rest of the state to attend the event.

There is a wish list that several deaf organizations and deaf people want to discuss with their legislators:

1. Funding to provide culturally sensitive services for deaf and hard of hearing people through community based organizations;
2. Access to affordable broadband services so deaf people can use Video Phones to make calls using sign language (our native language);
3. Access to wireless services in rural areas so deaf people can use pagers to communicate through text messaging;
4. Funds restored to KCDHH budget to pay for sign language interpreters and real time captioning in situation that don't fall under the American with Disabilities Act (AA meetings, weddings funerals, civic activities); and
5. New funds to provide school to work transition programs for Sign Language Interpreters. The State of Kansas does not have enough qualified interpreters; we only have 280 qualified interpreters for the entire state of Kansas. More than half of the qualified interpreters work in the Kansas City area.

The event is free. There will be a busload of deaf people coming from western Kansas. A car pool for those deaf and hard of hearing people living in the Olathe area will leave from the Deaf Culture Center back parking lot at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 21st.

Please send an email to Legalnetwk@aol.com if you want to join the car pool and to Rebecca at rja@srskansas.org if you plan to attend and will need an interpreter to meet your legislator.

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Day at the State Capitol is another wonderful event being organized by KCDHH.

A Word from the

2006 NAD Conference – Everything you need to know!

Dear NAD members and friends,

The 48th Biennial National Association of the Deaf (NAD) Conference will be held at Desert Springs J.W. Marriott Resort, in Palm Desert, California from June 29-July 3, 2006. The 2006 NAD Conference information is now available on the NAD website at: <http://www.nad.org/2006conference>

"We have an action-packed week in a spectacular location," said Andrew J. Lange, NAD President. "All we need is you! Come Change Today for Tomorrow," he continued.

Why You Should Go!

Attending NAD Biennial Conferences, for some, is a tradition... yet everyone who attends does so for different reasons:

- Speak out, provide feedback and make recommendations
- Enhance your professional and career skills
- Improve your personal skills and knowledge.
- Learn more about the newest gadgets, products and services
- Catch up with old friends and make new ones
- Cheer for your favorite College Bowl team
- Witness the crowning of the new Miss Deaf America
- Celebrate ASL and Deaf Culture
- Commit to the future of the NAD
- Explore the Palm Springs, CA area!

Who Will Be There?

Parents and family members; retirees; federal employees; youth; administrators, educators, support providers and product/service providers, and more.

Desert Springs-JW Marriott Resort

The entire 2006 NAD Conference program will take place in a sophisticated and unforgettable resort with a legendary golf course, rejuvenating spa, gourmet restaurants, shops and first class attractions. This fabulous resort was recognized by Conde' Nast Traveler 2005 Gold list as one of the world's best places to stay!

No more long walks to big, cavernous convention centers! All NAD Conference meeting space is located in one area of the resort!

You will stay in elegant guestrooms with luxurious amenities with the majestic Santa Rosa Mountains and spectacular desert landscape beckoning you from your room window.

The Desert Springs Resort features two exceptional 18-hole championship courses, designed by acclaimed architect Ted Robinson, "King of Waterscapes," and set against the towering backdrop of the Santa Rosa Mountains. On both courses, drive in one of the resort's new golf carts with state-of-the-art navigational and computing systems. Try your best to get a hole-in-one on these beautiful courses.

The Spa in the Desert Springs resort promises to give you a refreshing and memorable experience. The Spa offers massages, facials, body treatments, and more. The therapies will help relax and rejuvenate you from head to toe. A state-of-the-art, 3,000 square foot fitness facility, complete with a full range of fitness classes, personal training sessions and an outdoor heated lap pool is ready to help you break a sweat.

Events

The 2006 NAD Conference officially begins on Thursday, June 29 with forums and workshops starting that afternoon and Opening Ceremonies and a Welcome Reception that evening. Friday evening, June 30 will feature a Tribute to ASL & Deaf Culture. The NAD College Bowl Competition is on Saturday, July 1. The NAD 125th Anniversary Celebration Banquet is scheduled for Sunday evening, July 2, and the NAD Miss Deaf America Pageant finals will be held on Monday evening, July 3, the last night of the conference week. The basic 2006 NAD Conference schedule is now on the NAD website at: <http://www.nad.org/2006confschedule>

Tournaments

The NAD will host a Golf Tournament prior to the official start of the conference. Interested in chess? Chess tournaments are a tradition at NAD Biennial Conferences, and this conference is no exception

Exhibit Hall

Learn about the latest technology, find that very special and unique gift or souvenir or get in touch with family, friends (and even your office) through the most current telecommunications technology or Internet Café. This is the perfect place to network with businesses and service organizations and to test out new products. The NAD Exhibit Hall, is the oldest and one of the largest exhibit halls catering to deaf and hard of hearing people.

Call for Workshops

The NAD is seeking proposals for creative, exciting, and informative workshops. The workshop program will be broad-based with emphasis on acceptance of those proposals that provide practical applications to every day life. Topics could include, but are not limited to: Career and Workplace; Financial Planning; Healthcare; Deaf Culture; Deaf Humor; Parliamentary Procedure; Grant Writing; Grassroots Advocacy; Youth Leadership; Telecommunications; Civil Rights; Interpreting; Parenting; or International Rights.

Keep up with Conference News

To keep up-to-date on 2006 NAD Conference news, please subscribe to the NAD Conference eNews at: <http://www.nad.org/eNewsletters>

Don't Forget These Deadlines!

- Early Bird Conference Registration - April 10, 2006
- Pre-Conference Registration - June 1, 2006
- Accessibility Requests - June 1, 2006
- After June 1, 2006, registration will be on-site and only Non-Combo tickets will be sold.



! Happy New Year !
From the KAD Board



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