



# BEAR TRACKS



A NEWSLETTER OF THE SCRANTON SCHOOL FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING CHILDREN



## *Annual Holiday Show*

This year, our annual holiday show was a huge success! All of our students participated in the program including our preschool students from the Prescott preschool program. Performing in front of a capacity crowd in our gymnasium and for many watching on our Livestream feed, our students brought Holiday cheer for all. Each class developed their own skits, some traditional and some with a Holiday twist! The Holiday Show has become an annual tradition that does not disappoint and we look forward to what cheer will be brought next year.



# Supervisions

## *A note from CEO, Don Rhoten*



Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find a tribute to Gregg Bowers, Chief Operating Officer at the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf who retired in December. Those of you who are familiar with The Scranton School and WPSD well know that Gregg was an invaluable part of our administration. His fingerprints were on every single program and project at both of our schools. Although we will miss him tremendously, WPSD and The Scranton School continue to move forward, full speed ahead, without skipping a beat. Let me explain why I feel so confident about our future.

During the past five years, WPSD has been experiencing a significant period of transition during which we've seen the departure of a number of key leaders. At WPSD, our Chief Fiscal Officer, Chief Operations Officer, Director of Human Resources, Director of Institutional Advancement, Director of Outreach Programs, Director of WPSD, and WPSD Principals have all retired or moved on to other opportunities. In Scranton, our Principal and Business Manager have done the same. Dedicated, talented and competent people held these positions and we were surely sorry to see them go.

But at the risk of offending our diehard Steelers Nation, I'm going to use the New England Patriots as an analogy. The Pats lose key players all the time and yet they never slow down in their ceaseless drive to vie for the Super Bowl. They are always on the lookout for the talent needed to fill any void.

We have the same winning strategy here at WPSD and The Scranton School. Thanks to "free agency" and our own ceaseless commitment to inviting the best talent onto our team, we've been able to add Matt Campion as Director of Institutional Advancement, Barb Manning as CFO, Dori Bachar as Director of Human Resources, and Marybeth Lauderdale, WPSD Director. These administrators were added to longtime stalwarts such as Principals Donald Mazreku and Kevin McDonough and Dean of Girls, Mary Ennis and Dean of Boys, Tom Halik. Linda Burik, who has worked at WPSD for 36 years, continues in her outstanding, all-star role as the Director of our Learning Center.

At The Scranton School, we've just added Cyndy Ward as our Principal and Lou Vitale as our Business Manager. Cyndy has many years of faithful service in deaf education and is committed to helping the school reach its full potential. Lou, an knowledgeable administrator and former Chief of Police, served as Head of Security on The Scranton School campus before taking on this demanding new position.

In addition to "free agency", WPSD and The Scranton School is deeply proud of our administrators who have risen through the ranks of our own "farm system". Carrie Rain begin her career as a teacher in our preschool program, earned her Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision, served as Principal of our Children's Center and Elementary School until she was appointed to her current position as Director of Early Childhood Programs, which includes The Children's Center and Choices For Children Program.





Our new Chief Operating Officer, Aaron Noschese, who is taking the reins from Gregg Bowers, was born and raised on the WPSD campus. Aaron's parents lived on campus, in the boy's dorm for many years. He was part of the summer help crew for many years and my very first recollection of Aaron is of him diligently pulling weeds around campus in the summers during his high school years. He rose to the heights of leadership on that crew and eventually supervised my sons when they were part of the summer work group. After graduating from college, Aaron worked in the WPSD dorm as a houseparent, was promoted to Dean of Boys and then Dean of Students, a position he held until assuming the interim COO position.

Jessica Marks, Director of Outreach in our Camp Hill Office, did an internship in our Development Office when she was in college. Upon graduation, she worked as Receptionist/Switchboard Operator and was then promoted to Administrative Assistant in the Development Office. After earning a Master's Degree, Jessica was promoted to her present key position.

Mary Ann Stefko began her career at WPSD many years ago. She's been a jack-of-all- trades serving as a teacher, outreach teacher, coordinator and teacher of sign language classes, interpreter, and parent-infant teacher. When The Scranton School was founded, Mary Ann, who was born and raised in Scranton, requested the opportunity to move home. At The Scranton School, Mary Ann continues to juggle her roles as Assistant Principal and early intervention teacher.

Jon Konzelman, Director of The Scranton School, graduated from the Baptist Bible College and was immediately hired at the Scranton State School for the Deaf as a Physical Education teacher. When SSDHHC was established, we hired him in our PE department. While serving in that role, JK worked to complete his Master's Degree and was then promoted to Assistant to the Principal and Director of Development. JK's passion for excellence and seemingly endless energy will serve our students very well.

I am clearly quite proud of our administrative team. I especially enjoy seeing "kids" who begin their careers at our schools, work so hard to work their way up through the ranks. In the past five years, the average age of an administrator at WPSD/ The Scranton School has changed from late 50's to mid 40's (44.5 years of age). It is very rewarding to see that we have created a unique environment that nurtures leadership skills and rewards genuine commitment to the cause we all share. We are very fortunate to possess such a depth of talent at our schools who will be able to fill future vacancies, wherever they may be.

Because we all devote our own individual strengths and talents to the cause of serving our students, their families and our community, the future of our team looks exceedingly bright!

Best Regards,



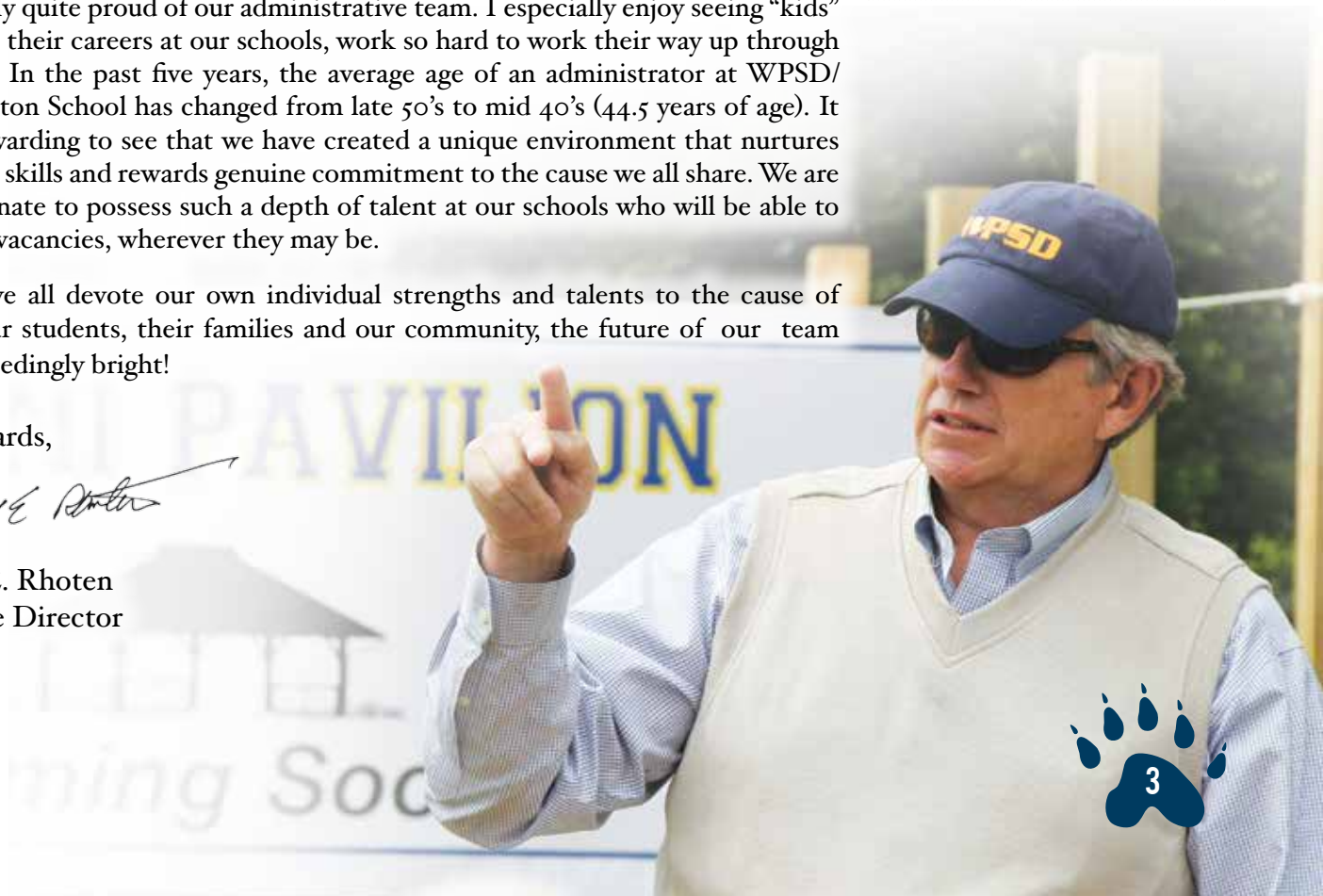
Donald E. Rhoten  
Executive Director

Bear Tracks is a publication of The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children. It is one source of communication with parents, alumni, teachers and friends of the School and other schools for the Deaf.

**Editor**  
Don Rhoten

**Managing Editor**  
Vicki Cherney

**Managing Editor**  
Jessica Marks





# Our *vision*

It is the vision of our school to be a ***Total Learning Environment***

for our students. The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children is a special place where...

- Our students achieve at the same levels as other children in our society.
- Our students reach their highest potential in academics and citizenship.
- Our students achieve independence, high personal aspirations, and pride.

**The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children**

537 Venard Road  
Clarks Summit, Pa 18411  
(570) 585-1000 V/TTY  
(866) 978-1886 VP  
[www.thescrantonsschool.org](http://www.thescrantonsschool.org)



## ***Breakfast with Santa***

The smell of breakfast, the sights of Christmas trees and Holiday decorations combined with the squeals of excited children can mean only one thing...Breakfast with Santa! This yearly tradition continued as children from the Choices For Children and elementary programs gathered to wait for the arrival of our special friend, jolly St. Nick!

After a delicious breakfast and a special story about Santa's favorite reindeer Rudolph, students had the opportunity to tell Santa what they wanted under the tree. Santa distributed presents to each of the children before he returned to the North Pole to finish preparing for his special night!





# *Signing Santa*



For decades, the mere mention of Santa's arrival has made children's eyes sparkle with excitement - and this year was no different! Nearly thirty community children and students from The Scranton School arrived with their parents and awaited the annual arrival of Signing Santa at the Abington Community Library. As expected, Mr. and Mrs. Claus arrived, to the delight and cheers of all the children.

After greeting the children and getting settled, Mr. and Mrs. Claus read the story of Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and then each child had a turn to tell Santa the items on their Christmas list before enjoying a delicious cup of hot chocolate. Before leaving, each child also received a small gift from Santa and a coupon for a free book from the Abington Community Library.

This annual event was made possible through the cooperation and generous support of our community partners: The Abington Community Library and Cabot Oil and Gas Corporation.

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## *Community Connections: Dorm and School*

Throughout the school year, The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children strives to raise student community awareness through participation in a variety of events, activities and community organizations. This exposure helps our students to better understand the various components that make up a community.

Each year, we say thank you to our Civil Servants in South Abington Township and Clarks Summit Borough by delivering a delicious Thanksgiving Dinner catered by our very own Food Service chefs. Students set the table and lay out the food before taking time to meet with the Township/Borough managers and some of the dedicated individuals who serve our school each day. Employees from the Department of Public Works, Police Officers, and Office Staff members each tell us a little bit about their job serving the community. It is a truly eye-opening experience for our students as they get a great glimpse "behind the scenes." We always take the time to thank these wonderful people for their service and commitment to keep our community safe and looking great (we even thank them for keeping the roads clear so we can get to school in the winter!)

This year, the Dorm chose to be a part of the annual Clarks Summit Fire Department's "Cookie Walk" fundraiser. Dorm students and staff, along with some volunteer teachers baked more than twelve dozen cookies to donate to this annual event. A tour of the Clarks Summit Fire Department is being planned to see some of the new equipment that our donation has helped to buy. Students were very excited to be able to be a part of helping our community in this way!



# *PSAD Trip*

Our 7th and 8th grade classes recently had the opportunity to attend the Pennsylvania Society For The Advancement Of The Deaf (PSAD) Youth Program. They saw presentations by three Deaf professionals and were treated to an afternoon of team building activities where they could focus on developing their interpersonal skills. Students had a chance to attend two presentations, "A Journey of Life Experiences" presented by Sofia Seitchik as well as "Ladders to Success" presented by Mark Drolsbough and Lizette Ramos.

These presentations reached our students in a way that very few lectures have and our students will remember the advice given to them always. After the workshops our students had a chance to work with students from various programs around Pennsylvania through a team building exercise. The day was wrapped up with a presentation from Gallaudet University displaying the many opportunities that await students who choose to attend there.

While driving back to campus the van was filled with conversations among our students about what their futures held for them. Topics ranged from: which college is the best to what kind of job would each person have. Seeing our students actively engaging one another and deciding how their lives would be led as they change from children to adolescents was a moment in an educator's career that will always be remembered.

## *Annual Door Decorating Contest*

Congratulations to Mrs. Swank and the High School Applied Studies Class on winning this year's contest!





# *After-School Activities*



Whether you are into athletic activities, recreational play, or looking for academic support, the After-School programs at The Scranton School have something for just about everyone! Our Bears Soccer team played a terrific Fall season against opponents from the Abington Youth Soccer League. Once again, our opponents remarked on how beautiful our campus is and how much fun they had playing against our determined and hard-working team.

Some students have opted for a less-physical, but still-competitive environment by heading to Idle Hours Lanes in Dickson City to test and hone their bowling skills in our monthly bowling league. Expert staff from Idle Hours stop by to offer technical tips and pointers to our budding bowlers – improving our scores dramatically.

Two after-school clubs focusing on academic support and achievement are also being held throughout this school year. Our Homework Helper sessions provide supervision and assistance in completing homework while teachers in our Learning LAB develop extra learning activities and help students in academic areas where they may be struggling or may benefit from additional 1:1 time working on a specific subject with a teacher. Together these programs aim to help our students reach higher levels of academic accomplishment.

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## *First Quarter Merit Activity Rewards Positive Behavior*

Each quarter students who demonstrate consistent positive behavior receive a reward for their behavior. All middle school and high school students who earned the reward congregated in the cafeteria to enjoy a healthy snack activity. With the help of our chef Bryan Carey, the cafeteria was turned into a smoothie cafe! Students were able to pick between 3 different stations and were given a recipe to follow to make the perfect blend. Our students worked together to measure out the different ingredients while staff supervised the blenders.

This was a great time for our students to reap the “fruits” of their hard work and to enjoy interacting with one another. We want to send a special “Thank You” to Bryan Carey for setting up the stations, as well as to the middle school and high school teachers for their help with this fun event! The students are looking forward to more fun activities as they continue to work hard in the classroom.



# Cory Spangenberg

During Red Ribbon Week The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing had a very special visitor. Clarks Summit native, Cory Spangenberg, a professional baseball player from the San Diego Padres, came to deliver a positive message to our students. He emphasized to the children that anything is possible with hard work and dedication. He encouraged them to always follow their dreams, and to never let anyone tell you that you can't be successful. Cory told our students the importance of staying drug free and focused on their goals.

During Cory's visit he spoke to the entire school, and then he had some fun with the kids. Our middle school had the opportunity to hit off of him in the gym and many of the students were able to play catch with him. The students also convinced him to join us for lunch. Cory was very impressed with our students and staff and said that he loved his experience here with us.





# Red Ribbon Week 2014



Students and staff at The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children celebrated Red Ribbon Week in a big way with something special each day of the week. We kicked off the theme of the week, “These Paws Don’t Use Drugs”, on Monday by explaining the meaning and having all students sign a “pawprint” with their name on it pledging to be drug free and tape it to a poster made by our talented art teacher, Jenna Mancini. After doing so, they were given a Red Ribbon sticker to proudly wear. Anti-drug, tobacco, and alcohol activities were incorporated into all health and physical education classes.

On Tuesday, we had close to 100% participation by staff and students who each wore their favorite team jersey or SSDHHC apparel for “Team Up Against Drugs Day”. There sure are a lot of Steelers fans in this part of the state!

Wednesday was the highlight of the week when professional baseball player for the San Diego Padres, Cory Spangenberg, made a guest appearance and spoke to our students about making good choices. He even threw a few baseballs around with them. He then handed out “These Paws Don’t Touch Drugs” bookmarks to all students and even autographed a few of them!! Before leaving, Cory gathered with all staff and students for a group picture. Everyone wore red in honor of Red Ribbon Week. The media was on campus to capture this great event.

On Thursday, we had Crazy Hat and Sock day to “put a cap on drugs and sock it to drugs”. Again, almost 100% of students and staff participated and we saw some very interesting hats and socks on parade. Friday we had our Halloween Parade and Party with a drug-free theme “Drugs are Scary..Be drug free.”

All in all the week was a great and fun way to promote awareness of the dangers of drugs, tobacco, and alcohol and to encourage our students to make smart choices. Throughout the school we had many great visual reminders of our pledge to be drug free and keep our paws off drugs not just for a week but for life!!



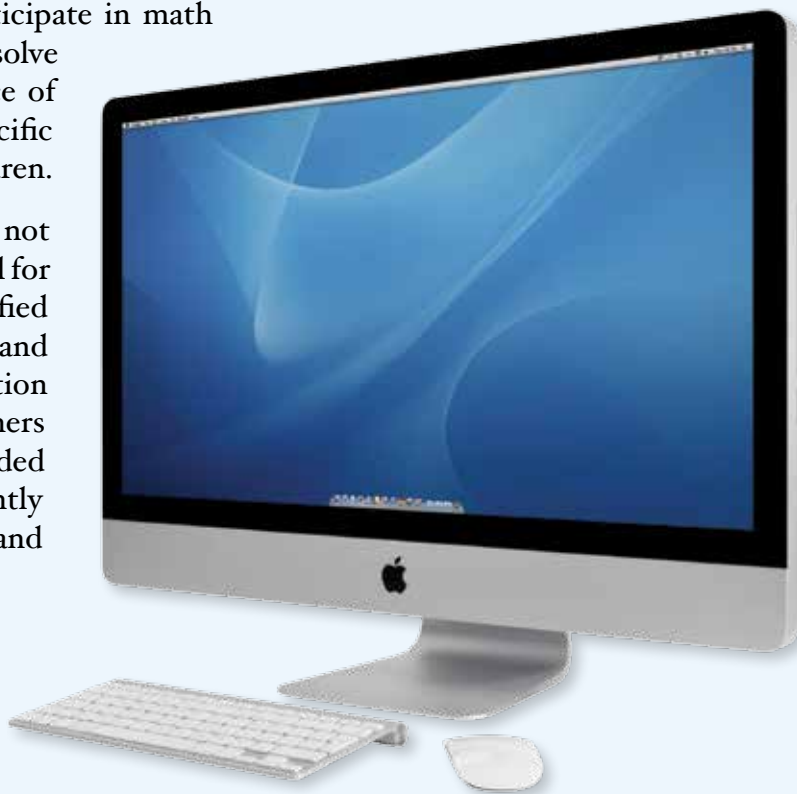
# *Technology Providing New Avenues of Learning for our Students*

Technology has forever changed the way the world communicates with each other and provides limitless ways to acquire information in the classroom. The deaf and hard of hearing communities have significantly benefited from advances in technology such as cochlear implants, hearing aid improvements, and videophone accessibility through companies and cell phone use. The Scranton School has seen the benefit from this and seeks to provide top quality, state of the art technology access to our students. The educational benefits provided as well as training students how to use and incorporate technology into their daily life has become part of the academic programs offered at the school.

Each classroom at The Scranton School is equipped with technology to meet the individual and unique needs of deaf and hard of hearing children. SMART board technology allows students to experience interactive lessons. iPad and MacBook access is a daily part of many students' lives. One of the most integral uses of technology is Redcat sound systems. Each classroom is equipped with a Redcat system that produces a clear sound to allow our students that benefit from audio and spoken English access to spoken English. Teachers wear a microphone that transmits to a speaker and directly into student's cochlear implants and hearing aids, thus allowing them the best possible access to acquire information through auditory means. At The Scranton School, we desire to meet the needs of each child whether through American Sign Language, Spoken English, or Sign-Supported Spoken English. Whatever our students need to succeed, we provide!

The most recent addition to our classroom technology was a SMART table in elementary classrooms. The SMART table allows up to four students to interact with a lesson and material of the teacher's choice. Students are able to manipulate objects for language development activities, participate in math activities, or work in groups to solve problems. It truly is an amazing piece of visual technology that appeals the specific needs of deaf and hard of hearing children.

Technology is a great tool, but it does not replace great teachers. We are thankful for the work put in by our skilled and certified teachers. They love our students and work tirelessly to make their education the best possible. Efforts by our teachers to learn and use the technology provided are commendable and most importantly our students will reap the benefits and maximize their potential!





# PSO Sponsors Halloween Party

There were plenty of treats in store – no tricks – for pre-school and elementary children when The Scranton School for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children’s Parent Staff Organization sponsored the annual Halloween Party on Oct. 31.

Thanks to the generosity of parents and staff, the school children, as well as our Choices for Children families, enjoyed Halloween morning with a parade to show off their costumes. From there, Spidermen, Batman, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles and Disney princesses proceeded to the gym for fun and games. Children played “pumpkin bowling,” “pin the smile on the skeleton” and tossed rings around a witch’s hat. Each child also received a bag of treats and prizes.

The celebration also brought story time as parents signed and read Halloween-themed books to the children. Children finished the day with a healthy Halloween-themed school lunch.

In November, PSO families gathered at the YMCA in Carbondale where nine families enjoyed two hours of swimming, play time and pizza. The PSO plans to visit the YMCA regularly with another get-together set for February.

The PSO is currently conducting a Gertrude Hawk candy sale as a fundraiser. Proceeds will be used to sponsor upcoming PSO events, such as the Easter Egg Hunt in the spring.

Officers for the 2014-15 school year are: Denise Locker, president; Nicole Miller, vice president; and Maureen Manzano, secretary.



# Science Fair

This year our Scranton Middle School had a new opportunity to step outside of the Science Classroom. We were invited to the beautiful city of Pittsburgh to compete in WPSD's annual Science Fair. Our students spent countless hours preparing their projects and their project boards to be brought in front of a panel of judges. This work paid off when our own David Harclerode was awarded 2nd place for his investigation to determine if an athlete's shoes affect jumping height, and as it turns out, they do make a slight difference.

Beyond our students learning the scientific method and preparing experiments they got to enjoy some of what Pittsburgh has to offer. We were invited to join WPSD's dorm in exploring PPG Square, seeing the beautiful holiday lights, and an ice rink set up around a giant Christmas tree. During the day of the Science Fair our students were able to join morning classes where they got to spend time with WPSD's teachers and students. As we drove back to Scranton our students were chatting about their new friendships and seeing familiar faces from Scranton's past. It was a wonderful sight to see our Scranton students doing so well there as high school students. They enjoyed everything from being on the Honor Roll to the WPSD Basketball Team.

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## Cyndy Ward Named Principal of The Scranton School



The Scranton School for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children started the New Year with a new Principal. Donald E. Rhoten, Chief Executive Officer of the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf and Jon Konzelman, Director of The Scranton School for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children are proud to announce that effective February 2, 2015, Cyndy Ward became the Principal of the School. Cyndy Ward most recently served the Virginia School for the Deaf as the Director of Clinical and Educational Support Services. She has over 30 years of experience in Deaf Education including experience at the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind, and the Vermont Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing/Austine School for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

"We are gratified to have an educator of the caliber of Cyndy Ward serving our students," Mr. Rhoten stated, "She is widely respected in the field of deaf education and brings to our students a wealth of experience, passion and academic excellence. We look forward to seeing our students continue to thrive under her leadership.

"Our school is deeply committed to meeting the individual needs of our students and supporting our families through the exceptional services our faculty and staff provide," Mr. Konzelman stated, "We are confident that Cyndy Ward will challenge our students to meet and exceed our expectations for academic success."

Cyndy Ward is a member of the National Association of School Psychologists and recently had the opportunity to present to the Virginia House of Representatives Education Sub-Committee regarding the Least Restrictive Environment for educational placement of deaf and hard of hearing children. Cyndy will reside in South Abington Township with her son.



# Honoring Bill O'Neill



Bill O'Neill began working at The Scranton State School for the Deaf in 1984 as the Business Manager. At the time, Bill had no idea that for the next 31 years he would find a home in Deaf Education. After working 31 years, Bill decided to retire effective December 31, 2014.

Over the span of his career, Bill proved himself to be dependable, capable of handling leadership roles, and a constant source of support for many. Bill's first 25 years in Deaf Education were at the former Scranton State School for the Deaf (SSSD) where he served as the Business Manager primarily, but also in the absence of leadership stepped in as Interim Superintendent on a number of occasions over a number of years. When SSSD closed, Bill was the first person to be hired by The Scranton School

for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children. "From day one, Bill cared first and foremost about the students" stated Donald E. Rhoten, Chief Executive Officer, "When we arrived in Scranton and began establishing The Scranton School, Bill greeted us with open arms and provided valuable support that made the transition process happen."

Serving as Business Manager at The Scranton School for five and a half years, Bill oversaw the move from the Scranton campus to the current Clarks Summit campus, two major renovations on the Clarks Summit campus, and was a constant source of commitment and leadership. "Many weeks and nights when our leadership was in Pittsburgh, we depended on Bill to give us accurate information and to put the students first" stated Rhoten, "It didn't matter what time of day or night it was, Bill was committed to our mission and seeing the job done right."



Looking back, Bill fondly remembers his time at The Scranton School. "I'm so thankful that Don and Cathy Rhoten, and Gregg Bowers allowed me to be a part of establishing The Scranton School. It was a perfect capstone to my career. The leadership of the school is strong, the students have a beautiful school that they deserve, and I expect great things to continue."

Bill was honored at his retirement party in December. Now that he is retired and has more spare time, he plans to spend more time with his wife on vacation in one of their favorite Caribbean vacation spots. He also plans to spend more time with his children and grandchildren and hopefully log some miles on his Harley Davidson motorcycle.



Thanks for all your years of dedicated service to deaf and hard of hearing children in Northeastern Pennsylvania Bill. The Scranton School is in a better place for having known you and being blessed by your hard work and commitment!



# Hear and Now

*This year's Bear Tracks will feature a 4-Part Series called "Hear and Now." Dr. Denise Prislupski will author the series that will focus on hearing loss in adults, children, and what types of technology are available for those with a hearing loss. This edition's article focuses on Hearing Aid technology. Part 3 will focus on cochlear implant technology.*

Hearing aids are like most other forms of technology in that they are always changing and adapting to meet our ever-changing needs – even those we didn't know we had! These aren't your grandfather's hearing aids. In fact, today's hearing aids routinely win "best-in-show" awards at the International Consumer Electronics show, even when in head-to-head competition with



all other electronic devices. There are a variety of features available in modern hearing aid technology

that can offer a much improved hearing experience. In thirty years, hearing aid circuits improved from making 3 judgments per second to 300 million judgments per second! Rather than the older analog technology, digital processing speed enables the audiologist to simultaneously raise the volume for speech and lower the volume for noise, all with no echo. Faster processors make circuit noise inaudible, amplify the telephone, and selectively reduce sound

from the sides and behind you. Before you begin a trial period with hearing aids, it's important to have realistic expectations for how the devices can address your hearing loss even with all the new advancements available. Avoid frustration and discouragement by understanding the level of benefit hearing instruments can and cannot provide.

Hearing aids will not restore your hearing to normal. The devices will "aid" your remaining hearing ability. You should expect properly programmed hearing instruments to make soft sounds audible, loud sounds comfortable, and speech clearer than you may normally experience in difficult listening environments. It may take some time to adjust to hearing sounds you haven't heard in a while! As the brain begins receiving new auditory input, it might seem a little overwhelming. In fact, your own voice may sound different. Stick with it! The brain adapts quickly to once-familiar as well as new sounds.



So how do these wonderful technologic advancements in hearing aids assist us in our hearing journey? The following is a list of some of the more prominent new changes that are assisting the hearing impaired individual, whether a new born who is a few months old to an older individual who is 90 years old, to hear to their maximum capabilities.



Visit us on [www.facebook.com/thescrantonschool](http://www.facebook.com/thescrantonschool)



- *Waterproof, dustproof, shock-proof casing*  
Enjoy an active lifestyle without the fear of damaging your hearing aids
- *Wireless connection to telephones, TVs, computers, tablets, and iPods®*  
Hear a smartphone or handheld device in both hearing aids for greater speech understanding  
An advanced noise reduction program promotes the clarity of the television as the audio is wirelessly streamed to both hearing aids



- *Tinnitus Programming*  
Experience relief from the symptoms of tinnitus and decreased hearing
- *Personal access to adjust hearing aids using iPhones, iPads,® and Android™ powered devices*  
Adjust the hearing instruments using iPhone, iPad, or Android powered devices
- *Wind Noise Reduction*  
Golf and enjoy outdoor activities without the distraction of wind noise in wind speeds ranging from 10 - 30 mph
- *Automatic programming for car travel*  
Reduce car and traffic noise to pick up voices from any location within the vehicle (including the back seat)
- *Hearing the caller's voice in both ears while conversing on a land line phone*  
"Duo-Phone" technology sends the caller's voice to each ear when conversing on the phone

- *Automatic volume controls*  
Teach the hearing aid personal listening preferences
- *Frequency Compression*  
Shift and compress high frequency energy to promote speech intelligibility and natural sound quality
- *"Invisible" Hearing Aids*  
Discreet solutions for those reluctant to purchase hearing aids for cosmetic reasons
- *Binaural processing*  
Hearing aids now talk to each other, even behind our backs! This allows them to improve your hearing and understanding in noisy situations where older hearing aids amplified too much background noise and left you grasping for words.
- *Remote controls and streamers*  
These devices act as cell phone transmitters, assistive listening devices, media streamers, and hearing aid remotes all rolled into one
- *Feedback Control Circuits*  
This circuit has the ability to manipulate how aggressively it performs, so feedback elimination can be personalized to the specific product and patient. It's designed to identify, classify and eliminate annoying whistling and buzzing in all environments, so the hearing aid user can experience feedback-free listening from crowded restaurants to quiet parks.

Current digital hearing aids are certainly exciting, and the future possibilities are endless. Digital hearing aids have replaced their analog counterparts almost completely. We must, however, present this technology to patients in an informative and educational manner. Like many other high-tech devices, high expectations often accompany digital hearing aids. Counseling patients about appropriate expectations will continue to be more--not less--important as technology continues to advance. There are different levels of digital technology -- ranging from entry level circuitry to high-end technology. The hearing loss, listening demands and individual preference will be taken into consideration. Your audiologist will work closely with you in this decision process. They will explain things in detail so that you have clear understanding of the technology to help make the most appropriate decision for you.

*Dr. Denise Prislupski Au.D. completed her undergraduate studies at Marywood University where she received her Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Disorders. She furthered her studies at Bloomsburg University where she received her Masters of Science degree in Audiology. She completed her post graduate studies at SALUS University formerly PCO in 2002. She practices at Audiology and Hearing Centers of NEPA and is the audiologist at The Scranton School for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children. Dr. Prislupski was named a Top 25 woman in Business in Northeast Pennsylvania.*



# Outreach

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## *Update from our Hershey Preschool*

The months between Halloween and the New Year are full of fun events. We learned words focused on fall and winter and all the activities in between. We loved exploring pumpkins and enjoyed the weather.

In early December we participated in a holiday program with our friends at Fishburn Flock. We were on stage, in full costume, and loved our songs. Our families particularly loved watching us. After the program we enjoyed some cookies and milk with all of our friends.

As the weather turned cold we created a winter wonderland inside with fake snow of all sorts. We dressed up in gloves and hats and read stories about the snow and sledding. We are ready for a healthy new year at preschool in Hershey!





# Outreach

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## *Toddler Group in Camp Hill*

We started our session with many familiar faces on January 8th. With the toddler group meeting once a week, we have become quite the little family. The families have created friendships and we enjoy our time with them. Each session consists of a children's book that is read and signed, an activity that relates to the book, a craft with the book in mind and a snack that is associated with that book of the morning. We welcome anyone who would like to attend. Please contact Jessica Marks at [jmarks@wpsd.org](mailto:jmarks@wpsd.org) or 717.909.5577 for more information.



# Hooked on Books!

## About Amazing Experiences



### ***FAMILY LITERACY & SIGN LANGUAGE WORKSHOP***

**FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES THROUGH 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE  
AND THEIR FAMILIES!**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2015  
10:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.**

**WPSD CENTRAL PA OUTREACH OFFICE  
3820 HARTZDALE DRIVE  
CAMP HILL, PA**

**SHARE A SPECIAL DAY WITH YOUR FAMILY  
AND GET FREE BOOKS!**

**CONTACT JESSICA MARKS FOR MORE INFORMATION: [JMARKS@WPSD.ORG](mailto:jmarks@wpsd.org) OR 717-909-5577**



# TODDLER GROUP

FOR CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS

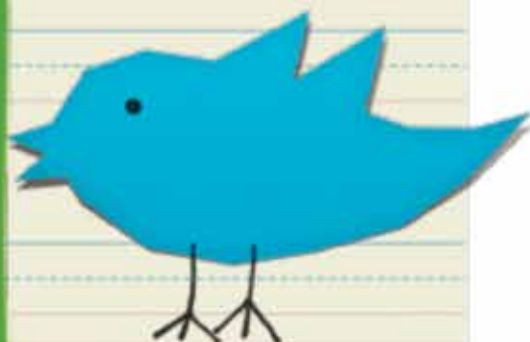
**Who:** Children ages 12-35 months and their parents

## Spring Session

Thursdays, April 16 - June 4, 2015  
from 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m

**Where:** WPSD/Scranton School Outreach Center  
3820 Hartzdale Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

**Cost:** \$20 registration fee per session, per family



abcde

### TO REGISTER

SEND \$20 REGISTRATION FEE TO:

Toddler Group

3820 Hartzdale Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011

payable to WPSD

*A parent-toddler group focused on listening, language, learning and fun.*

*The WPSD/Scranton School Outreach Center will present a parent & toddler group for deaf and hard of hearing children, age 12 to 35 months, who have hearing loss.*

*During weekly sessions, parents/guardians will have the opportunity to participate in learning activities WITH their toddler. They will dance, sing, and laugh together as they learn silly rhymes and perform rhythmic movements.*

CONTACT FOR MORE  
INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER

Jessica Marks 717-909-5577  
jmarks@wpsd.org



**Pittsburgh Main Campus**  
Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf  
300 E. Swissvale Avenue  
Edgewood, PA 15218  
412.371.7000 (V/TTY)  
1.800.624.3323 (V/TTY)

**Central PA Outreach Office**  
3820 Hartzdale Drive  
Camp Hill, PA 17011  
717.909.5577 (V)  
717.909.5588 (TTY)

**The Scranton School for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children**  
537 Venard Road  
South Abington Township, PA 18411  
(570) 585-1000 (V/TTY)  
(866) 978-1886 (VP)  
thescrantonschool.org