



Tidbits

NDSD Resource Center
December 15, 2020 Volume 3-Issue 5



D e c e m b e r

Connie's Celebrations

The holidays are being celebrated many different ways this year. The North Dakota School for the Deaf has traditionally hosted a Christmas dinner to thank the parents, community members, legislators, and staff who work diligently to support the school throughout the year. Usually, 100 or more guests are invited to a banquet with great food prepared by the NDSD kitchen staff. We will not have a large group meal this year in order to keep all of us safe during these trying times. The kitchen staff will be serving a modified Christmas dinner for the students and their teachers with social distancing. I am sure the food will be great and the students will have a special time being served at tables decked out for Christmas. This is always a learning experience for our students who are not accustomed to formal dining.

We will sincerely miss our guests who come and cheer on the students as they perform a short program in sign language. This year the performance will be filmed and shared virtually on Facebook.

The rules for social gatherings have changed but the gratitude we feel for all the support we receive is as intense as ever. We wish you could join us in our Christmas celebrations but know that we are thankful for all you do and wish you a Blessed Holiday Season, good health, peace and joy in the New Year.

Inside this Issue:

- Connie's Celebrations
- Education
- Dorm Life
- Tech Corner
- Adult Services
- PIP/School Age Outreach
- What's Happening

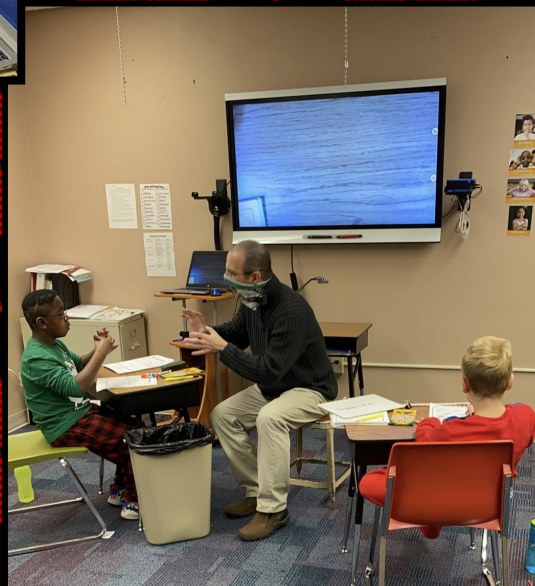
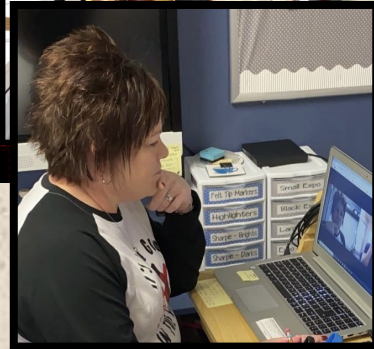
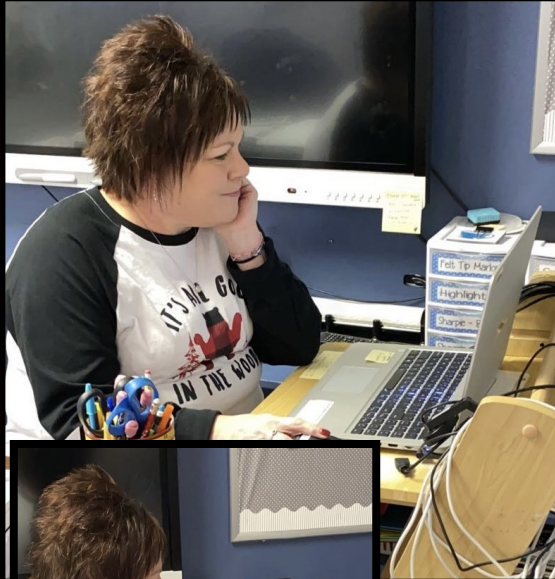


ND School for the Deaf Resource Center
for Deaf & Hard of Hearing
1401 College Dr. N
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Phone/TTY: 701-665-4400
Toll Free: 1-800-887-2980
Fax: 1-701-665-4409

We are on the web:
www.nd.gov/ndsd
Email: ndsd.school@k12.nd.us

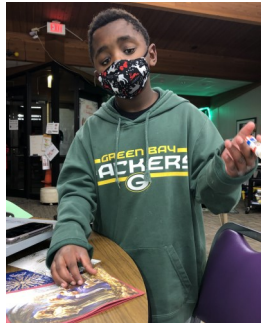
Either here or there,
we will teach you anywhere!



Community Involvement Was Tricky This Christmas Season



The NDSB dorm was not stopped by COVID-19 this season, but we had to get creative. Since we were unable to visit the nursing homes or ring the bell for the Salvation Army, we made cards for residents of two local nursing homes. Students increased the usual number of homemade Christmas cards from 24 to 130. We delivered our cards and candies and were happily greeted by Santa. Or maybe he was standing guard, not letting people in.



Big shout out to Linda Ehlers, from the Parent Infant Program, for the wonderful donation of Christmas bulbs to make these Christmas trees. The kids were so excited to have their own personal trees.



On our 1 snow day, we were able to sneak out and enjoy it. Who needs to use the stairs when you can have more fun struggling with the hill climb?

Tech Corner

Posting on Social Media

What you post on any social media can cause a serious threat to your reputation and even your security.

Below are **five very important tips** about posting on Facebook and other social media:

- (1) Avoid posting sensitive personal information such as a social security number, financial accounts, and data that ties you to your personal identity such as your home address, phone #, DOB.
- (2) Avoid posting information and pictures from your vacation. Wait until you get home to do that. If you post during the vacation, it tells others that you are NOT home, leaving your home vulnerable.
- (3) Avoid sharing your current location. Again, this lets people, including burglars, know you are not at home.
- (4) Keep work-related rants off Facebook. Even if you delete a post, screenshots can make their way back to your box and could cost you your job.





CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS



Finding just the right gift for everyone on your list can be a challenge.

This year, you may want to consider giving a gift that can provide a sense of comfort and well-being.

Here are some Christmas gift ideas that would make this holiday season merry and bright for your loved ones.

Echo Show

This Alexa device with a 10" screen makes it easy to stay in touch. Make video calls to loved ones with either another Echo Show or with the free Alexa app on your iPhone/iPad. Another feature called "Drop In" allows you to immediately see how they are doing & start a conversation with them. Plus, when not in use, it can display photos of loved ones.



Calendar Clocks

Calendar clocks are an excellent tool for a loved one who experiences cognitive impairments, memory loss or who has impaired vision. These digital clocks clearly spell out the day, time, month and year with no abbreviations used. This makes a great gift for all ages.



TV Soundbox

Bring the sound to the listener! The TV Soundbox attaches to the television and sends sound via Bluetooth to the speaker, which can be placed anywhere in the room. No more blaring television across the room.

Bonus: you can even use with standard headphones if you prefer to mute the sound to others.



Hearing Aid Dryer

Purchasing hearing aids is a huge monetary investment. Cleaning and drying is vital to ensuring that your hearing aids stay in top shape for as long as possible. There are all kinds of dryers available in a range of prices.



Happy Holidays!

From the Adult Hearing Outreach Team:

Pam Smith, Kathy Frelich, Kristen Vetter, Dawn Sauvageau

MAY
your days
BE
MERRY
AND
Bright



Parent-Infant Program/ School Age Outreach Specialists (Statewide Services)

Christmas carols are a traditional highlight of the holiday season, no more so than for those with a hearing loss. Give your child access to these songs by pre-teaching and/or learning them in sign language. The repetition of familiar songs helps with recall, memory, cognitive development and also promotes language, speech and listening skills as well.

Jingle Bells

Jingle bells, jingle bells,
jingle all the way

Oh what fun it is to ride
in a one-horse open sleigh, hey!



JINGLE

Palm-down 9-hand strikes vertical palm and shakes to side.

REPEAT
TWICE



BELLS

Dominant S-hand hits vertical palm, then shakes to the side.



JINGLE

Palm-down 9-hand strikes vertical palm and shakes to side.



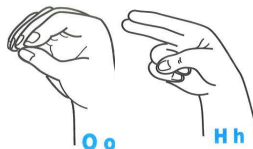
ALL

Palm-out A-hand slides sideways, changing to L-hand.



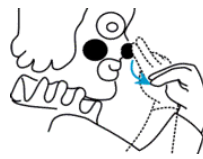
THE WAY

Parallel flat hands move forward, weaving slightly side-to-side.



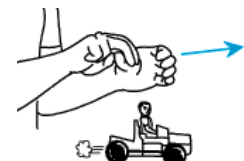
OH

O-hand then twist to H-hand.



WHAT FUN

Palm-in U-hand on nose strokes downward to palm-in N-hand.



IT IS TO RIDE

First two fingers of dominant hand sit on thumb of horizontal C-hand, both moves forward.



IN A

Fingertips of dominant flat-O hand enters horizontal O-hand.



ONE HORSE

Thumb on temple, flat-H fingers waves forward.



OPEN SLEIGH

Palm-in 1-hands circle forward to palm-up X-hands that pull back.



HEY

Throw your arm up in a cheer.

Repeat Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle All the Way

Put together by Linda Ehlers Signs pasted from Gustason & Zawolkow's Signing Exact English.

For more information, contact Carol Lybeck at (701) 665-4400 or Carol.Lybeck@k12.nd.us

Banner Flashback, Christmas—1894

Submitted by Lilia Bakken, Communications

Banner 1894 – Our pupils stayed at School for the Deaf over the holidays. Our Matron, Mrs. Rowell, gave a Christmas present to the pupils in the form of a letter. On the blackboard near the Christmas tree she wrote, *“My Dear Children, I wish that I could express here all that I would freely bestow upon you were it in my powers to do so. I know that the path of life has for all, many thorns as well as roses of joy. I wish that you might be guided through it safely; firmly grasping the right and shunning the evil all the way through. Merry Christmas to you all.”* Miss Halvorson, our teacher, planned a Christmas party for all to enjoy. The entertainment, given by the pupils in sign language, elicited applause from everyone. Our Christmas tree was prettily decorated with colored candles that burned brightly. Here and there, hanging from its branches, were dolls with their chubby hands stretched out, as if waiting to be taken into the arms of their future mistresses. Under the tree was a pile of packages and books. Nearby was a bushel-basket filled with apples, candies, and nuts. Promptly at 7:30 P.M., Santa Claus rapped on the window. The children’s faces were aglow with anticipation and what followed can only be imagined. It was a merry event and everyone was happy!



FOOD DRIVE

NDSD/RCDHH Health & Wellness Team hosted a November food drive.

NDSD Staff never seem to disappoint in the time of need. We were able to donate 154 pounds of non-perishable items to our local Hope Center.



HAPPY
HOLIDAYS

SAVE THE DATE!



Mark your calendars! The Midwest Conference on Deaf Education is scheduled for **June 7, 2021**, via **Zoom!**

Keep checking our website for further information:

MWDeafConference.org

Facing the Future - TOGETHER!

