

**Special Points of interest:**

- UWGM  
Community Heroes
- Workshops  
January-April 2010
- SEDHHS  
Christmas Open House
- Maritime News
- Community News & Memorials

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*South-East Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services Inc.*

## United Way Honours Community Heroes, Dec 21, 2009

Brunswick News: Times & Transcript



*Tobie Martin with her family, Guy, Peter, & Vianna Martin*

Tobie Martin is the Community Events Coordinator for the South-East Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services Inc. In her role, you might say she has her hands in everything...literally!

This hearing-impaired mom of two is responsible for programming and scheduling monthly workshops for deaf and hard of hearing clients, bringing in guest speakers, and organizing other annual events and fundraisers. She's good at what she does. She's also one heck of a teacher. She teaches baby and toddler sign language, pre-kindergarten and kindergarten programs to deaf children, and parenting programs for deaf parents with hearing children and hearing parents with deaf children.

"I like to teach sign. There are so many benefits for adults, children, special needs children, and babies," explains Tobie. "For special needs children, it helps prevent their language delay, their frustration. It is also good for late talkers. It encourages them to open their doors to our world. For babies, it helps them to communicate with parents before they learn to talk."

According to Laurie Vincent, the organization's Executive Director, the role that makes Tobie really stand out is as a teacher of the Baby and Toddler Sign Language program. The program is one of the most popular and successful programs offered. "She has tons of experience to share with parents," says Laurie. "After class is over, we often get emails from moms who say it helps reduce frustration, helps communication, etc."

The Baby Sign classes were first offered in spring 2007 to both hearing and hearing impaired parents with babies up to one year old. In the fall of 2007, the Toddler Sign program was added. Tobie feels that many parents come because they want to develop their child's language, motor, cognitive, and social skills. "You might be surprised by how long signing can be of use. The fine motor skills necessary for writing and printing take longer to mature and it is more age-appropriate for children to fingerspell than to print with a pencil on paper," she says. The benefits for babies who learn sign include learning to speak earlier, having larger vocabularies, and better spelling and reading skills. Parents benefit too. "Parents are less frustrated, because they spend less time in the guessing game trying to figure out what their baby needs," Tobie explains. "It makes them happy knowing that their babies can tell them what they want before they learn to talk."

While Tobie teaches the rest of the world the real value of signing, she's recently been able to experience some of the hearing world. Raised as an oral deaf child, Tobie recently had implants and now has some hearing.

"It is amazing to hear my children's voices. I love hearing "Mommy" and "I love you." "My son understands the difference between being deaf and wearing a cochlear implant. When my battery dies, he says "Mommy, your ears are broken, put your CI (cochlear implant) on and fix it!"

- **Community Heroes is a weekly feature contributed by the United Way of Greater Moncton and South Eastern New Brunswick.**

## Executive Director's Message

Well here it is April already....half the year has already gone by. Thank goodness its spring now and the winter blues & chills are past us.

2010 has been a busy year for SEDHHS. We continue to offer sign language classes, Baby and Toddler Sign classes, as well as, our parenting program. We continue to offer our monthly workshops and partnered with the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association-Moncton Branch (CHHA) in April to offer an extra workshop on the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) with a

presentation by Service Canada.

Be sure to mark on your calendars that our Community Picnic will be on Saturday June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1:00pm, at Centennial Park as long as the weather is fine on that day (hopefully no lightening like last year). If we have to cancel the picnic then it will be rescheduled for early September.

We are still planning our annual roast beef dinner for sometime in late May or early June. Once we confirm the date I will let everyone know when the

dinner will be. We had a large number last year and we hope to have the same or more this year. We are very grateful to the Bethel Presbyterian Men's Club for volunteering to do the dinner for us every year. I hope to see all of you there.

As always, thank you everyone for your continued support of SEDHHS. We are always happy to see you and feel free to contact the office at any time if you have any questions, concerns or new ideas to put forward for continued growth of SEDHHS. **Laurie V.**



## SEDHHS Community Workshops

January to April, 2010



January Workshop: Dispute Resolution Process (Pic # 1 Interpreter interpreting poorly; Pic # 2 Deaf student could talk to friend about problem with interpreter; Pic # 3 Deaf student and interpreter meet with IRP: Internal Resource Person, to talk about and try to resolve problems).

We began the New Year, in January, with a workshop on the Dispute Resolution Process presented to our community by AVLI-NB and the two IRP representatives for NB, Wanda Berrette and Sharon Fitzpatrick. The skits that volunteers performed really helped us to better understand the whole process. The workshop was very informative and entertaining. If you would like to learn more about the Dispute Resolution Process there are DVDs and pamphlets available at SEDHHS or go online to: [www.avlic.ca](http://www.avlic.ca) and click on "services" tab.

Our February workshop had to be cancelled because of the weather. CCRW an employment services agency for persons with a disability will do their presentation in the fall. We will keep you updated after the summer months.

In March we were able to have Peter Ford of Ford's Apothecary give a presentation on diabetes. Many of you seemed to enjoy having Mr. Ford back again. In April we had Robert Gregan (Tobie's brother) who is a lawyer speak to us about several different legal issues and he answered all of your many questions. Next month, May, is our last workshop before the summer starts and the topic is "Money Management."

## SEDHHS Christmas Open House Wednesday, Dec 16, 2009



We had a great turn out for our Christmas Open House on December 16, 2009 at the Lewisville Lions Club in Moncton. Thank you to the Board of Directors and staff members who made the food and beverage contributions and a **Big** thank you to Tobie for all the hard work she put into making the event a success.

SEDHHS would also like to thank the local businesses that contributed door prizes and items for the gift bags. Businesses who contributed include: Home Hardware Riverview, Costco, Metalium, Price Choppers, Susan Davis, Oulton's College, Dr. Levesque, Dr. Bowser, Pizza Delight Riverview, and Tanya Bowie.

We look forward to the Christmas Open House every year. It is a great way to celebrate the holiday season together and ring in the New Year a little early. We hope to see all of you in December 2010.

### Other events...

- Sunday, May 2, 2:00 to 4:00 pm Gerry Buchanan's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Open House, Senior's Centre on St. George Street. All are welcome. Hope to see you there.
- Saturday, May 8, 10:00am AVLI-NB AGM, at SEDHHS office, 1690 West Main Street
- Saturday, May 15, 1 to 3pm, SEDHHS Community Workshop, Topic: Money Management, Location: To Be Announced.
- Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> First day of Disability Awareness Week, Upcoming events to be announced.
- Friday, June 4, 12:00pm Walk & Roll Event, Moncton City Hall
- Saturday, June 26, 1:00pm SEDHHS Community Picnic, Centennial Park (weather permitting)

## News Across the Maritimes

### Inter-provincial School for the Deaf Amherst NS 34 years of Memories October, 1961 – June, 1995.

**Where:** Amherst Regional High School, 190 Willow Street, Amherst, NS

**When:** Friday July 16 and Saturday July 17, 2010

**What Time:**

*Friday evening:* 7pm to 11pm

Opening Night, Reception, Wine, Cheese & Crackers, Display Pictures

*Saturday:* 10am to 7pm

10:30 Cutting the Ribbon

O Canada, History Presentation

Noon – Snack

1:30-4:30 Stage, Drama, Reflection on King and Queen

5:00-6:30pm Supper (light buffet)

7:00pm Cutting Cake

*Evening:* Master of Ceremonies, Skits, Rap Music, What are friend for ?, Door Prize.

10:30 to 11:00pm Farewell Candle

**What For:** School reunion to reflect our memories, meet old & new friends, staff & families.

**Tickets:** Fri & Sat events: Single \$25/Couple \$40

Fri night event only: \$15/person

Sat all day & evening: \$20/person

**Money order or cash only**

**RSVP:** Before June 30, 2010

Contact: Beverly Morse

([beverlymorse@eastlink.ca](mailto:beverlymorse@eastlink.ca) or VP 765-4654) or Heather Kaulbach ([heatherkaulbach@eastlink.ca](mailto:heatherkaulbach@eastlink.ca) or VP 665-5267

### 40<sup>th</sup> Annual EBAD Mixed Bowling Tournament

May 21 & 22, 2010

Fredericton, NB

**For more information:**

1<sup>st</sup> Contact: Wally Jenkins-Host  
Chairperson

[Paula\\_jenkins35@hotmail.com](mailto:Paula_jenkins35@hotmail.com)

or TTY/VP 1-506-738-2239

2<sup>nd</sup> Contact: Helen McIntosh –  
volunteer

[Helenmmc@hotmail.com](mailto:Helenmmc@hotmail.com)



### 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Sign Language Immersion Program August 9 to 13, 2010

**Where:** APSEA Centre, 5940 South Street, Halifax, NS

**Time:** Mon to Fri, 9 to 4 daily

**Topics:** Fingerspelling & numbers, verb directionality, and ASL story telling.

**Fee:** APSEA staff: free  
Non-APSEA staff: \$200.00

**Accommodations:** are available upon request (\$100.00)

**Deadline to register:** June 18/10

For more information and a registration form go to  
[www.apsea.ca](http://www.apsea.ca)

### Disability Awareness Week May 30<sup>th</sup> to June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010 "Yes we can!"

Disability Awareness Week (DAW) continues the tradition of National Access Awareness Week first established in 1988 to promote better community access for people with disabilities. This campaign happened in response to a request from Rick Hansen following his Man in Motion World Tour.

For ten years, a national committee coordinated planning for the Week in communities all over Canada. In 1998, a decision was made in New Brunswick to continue celebrating an annual awareness week but with a new name to ensure that all issues related to persons with a disability could be promoted. 2010 will mark the 23rd consecutive annual Disability Awareness Week in New Brunswick.

Activities for Disability Awareness Week are coordinated at the provincial level by the Premier's Council on the Status of Disabled Persons supported by a provincial Executive Committee. Local groups will also organize community projects across the province. Disability Awareness Week covers all types of disabilities and all age groups in partnerships with any interested supporters.

For more information about DAW 2010 go to [www.gnb.ca/0048/DAW2010/indexdaw2010-e.asp](http://www.gnb.ca/0048/DAW2010/indexdaw2010-e.asp) or call the toll free number 1-800-442-4412.

**Other contacts include:**

Christyne Allain: [Christyneallain@gnb.ca](mailto:Christyneallain@gnb.ca)

Randy Dickinson: [dicker@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:dicker@nb.sympatico.ca)

Lui Greco: [Lui.Greco@gnb.ca](mailto:Lui.Greco@gnb.ca)

Events planned in your community can be found on the Premier's Council website  
[www.gnb.ca/0048/index-e.asp](http://www.gnb.ca/0048/index-e.asp)



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 A United Way Agency

*We are a non-profit, charitable agency. We serve and advocate on behalf of the Deaf, deafened, and hard of hearing community in South Eastern New Brunswick.*

**Our Mission:** *is to provide services, programs and advocacy to individuals who are Deaf, deafened or hard of hearing and their families.*

**Our Goal:** *is to empower our clients to live independently and productively with full access to all opportunities.*

## Community News & Memorials

SEDHHS would like to thank the Town of Riverview, NB for their generous operational grant donation of \$200.00. Their generosity enables us to continue to serve our deaf and hard of hearing clients and their families.



SEDHHS would also like to thank the City of Moncton for their generous operational grant donation of \$1, 275.00 for 2010. SEDHHS enjoys enhancing the lives of our clients and donations like this one gives us the ability to do just that.



### SEDHHS T-shirts for sale

Now available at the agency are white t-shirts with the SEDHHS logo. The cost is \$10.00 each and all money from the sale of the t-shirts will go into the continuation of programs and help to develop new programs for our clients.

If you would like to purchase a t-shirt please contact the office or stop by to see the shirts and try on to be sure it fits!!

The t-shirts would make a great gift or Christmas stocking stuffer (Christmas is only 8 months away ☺)

Help support your community & SEDHHS. Thank you!