The first annual Deaf Tech Fair at the Charleston Civic Center on May 21, 2005 attracted over 200 people from all over the state. Exhibitors included Sorenson VRS, Deaf Mart, MCI.IP Relay, West Virginia Assistive Technology, West Virginia Division of Rehabilitation Services, Greenbrier Audiology and Hearing Aid, Inc., Fair Shake Network, ADA Coalition, Deaf Camp, Miss Deaf West Virginia, Fairmont State Sign Language Interpreter Program and West Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind. Participants attended workshops throughout the day and children enjoyed a variety of activities and storytelling.

More pictures from this event are on pages 4 and 5 of the newsletter.
### Happenings Around the State

#### Sign Language Classes

The West Virginia Rehabilitation Center in Institute will offer a fall session of sign language classes. Classes begin in September. To register, please call the Rehabilitation Center at 746-4600. The schedule includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beginning 101</td>
<td>9/12-11/14</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>6:30-8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning 102</td>
<td>9/19-11/28</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Thursday</td>
<td>1-2 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate 103</td>
<td>9/20-11/22</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4-6 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced 201</td>
<td>9/19-11/28</td>
<td>Monday &amp; Thursday</td>
<td>2:30-3:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced 202</td>
<td>9/15-11/17</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6:30-8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**August 20**  Fairmont Association of the Deaf Social Club, 4-10 p.m., Winfield Community Center, Fairmont. Contact: Michael Losh at fmtdeaf@yahoo.com.

**September 2**  Deaf Coffee Chat, Rendezvous House of Coffee, #7 Liberty Square, Teays Valley, 5-10 p.m.

**September 10**  Fairmont Association of the Deaf Social Club, 4-10 p.m., Winfield Community Center, Fairmont. Contact: Michael Losh at fmtdeaf@yahoo.com.

**September 19**  Mt. Clarksburg Association of the Deaf Social Club, 4-10 p.m., Kuz’s Korner. Contact: Robyn Guzzi at RGuzzi7@aol.com.

**October 7**  Deaf Coffee Chat, Rendezvous House of Coffee, #7 Liberty Square, Teays Valley, 5-10 p.m.

**October 15**  Mt. Clarksburg Association of the Deaf Social Club, 4-10 p.m., Kuz’s Korner. Contact: Robyn Guzzi at RGuzzi7@aol.com.

**November 5**  Fairmont Association of the Deaf Social Club, 4-10 p.m., Winfield Community Center, Fairmont. Contact: Michael Losh at fmtdeaf@yahoo.com.

**November 12**  Parkersburg Association of the Deaf Social Club, 6 p.m., SW Resources Building, 1007 Mary Street, Parkersburg. Contact: Liz Leisure at lizleisure@verizon.net.
Forman attends SHHH Conference

Roy Forman, WVCDHH Deputy Director, attended the Self Help for the Hard of Hearing (SHHH) conference at the Omni-Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C. on July 1-2, 2005. He also attended the State Government Agency and Commission Employees Gathering on July 1. This meeting was held to determine the amount of interest in establishing a statewide association. The majority of the 12 states in attendance were interested. Information has been sent to those states that could not attend.

Roy attended a session called, “Emergency Alerting Devices for People who are Hard of Hearing or Deaf.” Many devices to assist people either at home or traveling were on display. One concern that was raised was how to alert the hard of hearing about terrorist warnings.

He also attended a session on “Captioning Hollywood.” A panel of people explained about the ongoing communications with theater owners. Rear Window Captioning seems to be the option that is being lobbied for because it can be offered at any time and on any day of the week.

The final session Roy attended was “Self-Help through Peer Mentoring.” This is a project developed for the hard of hearing to better understand how to use the contacts, equipment and resources available. Gallaudet University has gathered 12 students to participate in the first cycle of mentors. Many of the people who attended this session wanted to volunteer to be on the next list of students.

If you have questions or would like to find out more about the topics from this conference, please contact Roy Forman by email at royforman@wvdhhr.org or by phone at 1-866-461-3578 (v/tty).
First Annual Deaf Tech Fair

May 21, 2005
Charleston Civic Center

Photos by Paula Forman
Commission Board Members Take a Break

The West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Board members spent a fun evening at the home of J.D. and Linda Corbin in Romney, West Virginia, following the board meeting on Thursday, June 23. J.D. Corbin is the principal for the Secondary School for the Deaf and a Commission board member.