



www.idhandsandvoices.org

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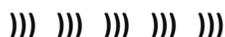
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## Register for Family Camp Soon, Get the “Early Bird” Rate

You may soon receive a Idaho Hands & Voices Family Camp flier in the mail (many thanks to IESDB for mailing it for us, once again!) We have special discounts for Hands & Voices members and those who register before July 1, so don't delay. We are also accepting applications for full or partial scholarships until June 1. You will find the registration forms and more information at [www.idhandsandvoices.org](http://www.idhandsandvoices.org); look under “events” to find “family camp.”

This was a wonderful experience for the families who came last year—lots of time to enjoy activities with your kids, to meet and connect with other families, and learn from each other and our speakers. This year's camp will be held September 5-7 near McCall, Idaho.



## Summer Camps and Play Groups

**IESDB Work Readiness Camp** -- Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind (IESDB) – IESDB Transition Services is excited to hold our Annual Work Readiness Workshop, “Ready! Set! Go To Work!!!” It will be held June 9, 10, and 11 at the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind Campus in Gooding Idaho.

This workshop is for high school students who are Deaf/Hard of Hearing (D/HH), who want to gain the resources that will lead them to successful long term gainful employment. The event includes presentations and “hands-on” sessions provided by IESDB staff, Deaf and Hard of Hearing College Mentors, representatives from the Idaho Department of Labor, and other resources from agencies, programs and materials serving deaf and hard of hearing youth as they transition into the world of work.

Students will learn how to find employment, secure employment, and keep employment. Students attending these workshops will also build a portfolio that will include their resume and other personal resources that will be important for their transition from high school to work, college, and community. For more information or an application for this event please contact Ann Flannery at [ann.flannery@iesdb.org](mailto:ann.flannery@iesdb.org) or Paula Mason at [paula.mason@iesdb.org](mailto:paula.mason@iesdb.org).

**Sawtooth Camp** -- The Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind (ISDB) is once again offering a summer camp; “Sawtooth Camp” for children who are deaf or hard of hearing, ages 12-16. This is a unique opportunity to experience the great outdoors, participate in fun-filled activities, and build lasting friendships.

Sawtooth Camp will be held at *Luther Heights*. The camp sits between Sun Valley and Stanley. Camp will begin on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 on the campus of ISDB and will end on Saturday, June 14, 2014 at ISDB. Check in on Wednesday will be at 10:00 a.m. and checkout on Saturday will be at 2:00 p.m. Transportation to and from camp will be provided by ISDB.

Our camp will provide four fun-filled days which will include canoeing, paddle boats, white water rafting, mountain biking, hiking and games of horseshoes, volleyball and basketball along with other exciting activities. This year will be slightly different than years past. The campers will be “roughing it” in cabins and eating in the rustic dining hall. We will have camp counselors who are seasoned campers and are experienced in working with deaf and hard of hearing children.

The camp fee is \$75.00 and includes a hoodie and a 5x7 group picture. Additional information on what to bring to camp will be provided once we receive your child's application. For more information and applications please contact Chris Allison at [chris.allison@iesdb.org](mailto:chris.allison@iesdb.org) or Charles Hunter at [Charles.hunter@iesdb.org](mailto:Charles.hunter@iesdb.org).

**Treasure Valley DHH Summer Play Group** Contact: Jill Muir 914-3728/ jill.muir@iesdb.org

**Wednesday, June 11- Zoo Boise** - 9:45 am-12:00 pm Meet at the park across from the zoo at 9:45. School discount is \$2.50 per person (ages 2 and under- free). If you want the discount please be there by 9:45 and bring exact change. We must pay and enter as a group! If you arrive after we have entered you will have to pay full price.

**Wednesday, June 25- MK Nature Center & Municipal Park** – 10:00 am-12:00 pm, 600 S. Walnut, Boise. Meet at the entrance to the Nature Center building at 10:00. We'll see the animals inside, then do the nature walk outside. After we're done we can picnic and play in Municipal Park.

**Wednesday, July 9- Kleiner Park-** 10:00 am-12:00 pm 1900 Records Ave, Meridian; splash park, playground and bring your own picnic!

**Wednesday, July 23- Idaho Aquarium-** 10:00-12:00, 64 N. Cole Rd, Boise. We will receive the group discount- \$4.00 children ages 3-11, \$7.00 ages 12-adult, 2 and under free. Please arrive at 10:00 if you want the discount!

**Wednesday, August 6- Jabbers-**10:00 am-12:00 pm, 1210 N. Galleria Dr. Nampa. Play center at Nampa Gateway shopping center. Owner Linda Rutledge used to work at ISDB! We can get a group discount of \$5.00 for ages 4 and up, \$4.00 ages 1-3, adults free.

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### **Other Upcoming Events**

*For fast-breaking news, "like" our Facebook page. Some events just don't make it into our inbox before the newsletter goes out.*

**North Idaho "Deaf Day at the Zoo"** Cat Tales Zoological Park, 17020 N Newport Hwy, Mead, Washington, May 31, 10 am to 4 pm. Free admission for family members who are deaf or hard of hearing; visit [www.cattales.org](http://www.cattales.org) for other admission fees. Signed tours available, presented by an ITP student/zookeeper. For more information, contact [Melissa.Pilant@spokanefalls.edu](mailto:Melissa.Pilant@spokanefalls.edu).

**Magic Valley Hands & Voices:** We plan to have the usual two picnics, at Dierkes Lake in July and Story Book Park near the end of August. However, neither organizer (Beth nor Lorna) knows enough about her summer schedule to set dates yet. We'll spread the word when we know, and the dates should be in the July issue of "Wavelengths." If anyone in our area would like to take the lead for another activity, please let Lorna (324-7544) know.

**Idaho Parents Unlimited Webinars** are offered the 4th Tuesday of each month, at three different times of the day. You can just listen in, or join the discussion and ask questions, all from your home computer. The May 27th topic is "The Journey to Adulthood: What Parents Need to Know (Sexuality)" --parents will learn basic information they can use to help their child with a disability understand the physical, emotional, and social changes of puberty and adolescence. Pick the time that works best for you and go to the corresponding link to register:

10:00 - 11:00 am <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/147744982>

1:00 - 2:00 pm <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/247155358>

6:00 - 7:00 pm <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/348959758>

**Parent Education Series:** Elks Hearing & Balance Center monthly workshops for parents, teachers and care providers of children with hearing loss are held on Tuesday evenings, 6:30-7:30. Please RSVP to 489-4999; interpreters available on request. The topic for May 20 is Sensory Processing Disorder, presented by Trish Barnes, an occupational therapist who specializes in working with children with sensory processing differences, at the Elks Hearing & Balance Center, 510 N. 2nd Street, Boise. Is your child irritable? Inattentive? Has difficulty keeping still or keeping his hands to himself? Does he chew on nonfood items? Appears overly sensitive or lazy? If these problems sound familiar then your child may have sensory needs. Learn more about sensory integration, how to identify red flags, when to seek help, and how to manage unwanted behaviors at home.

**"Educational Interpreting: It's not Just a Job...It's an Adventure"** Summer symposium June 9-11, at the ISDB Campus in Gooding. Registration \$35 before May 16, \$50 before May 30, cottages \$15 per night if needed. The presenter is Melissa Smith, professor in and director of the interpreting program at Palomar College. For more information, contact Joelynn Ball (joelynn.ball@iesdb.org)

**Idaho Shakespeare Festival** - Call the box office at 208-336-9221 and request seats in the Deaf/Hard of Hearing section on nights below for great seats at a huge discounts for your party! These particular performances are interpreted into American Sign Language. Whether you are a signing family or not, these are optimal seats for up-close understandability of dialogue. While Signing Shakespeare started out as a "signing" set of annual events, it has been embraced by a wider Deaf/Hard of Hearing audience, and welcomes families with cochlear implants, and families who communicate orally.

*As You Like It* - Wednesday, June 11th (for all ages)

*Death Trap* - Tuesday, July 16th (for all ages)

*Les Miserables* - Tuesday, August 5th (for all ages)

*Merry Wives of Windsor* - Tuesday, August 19th (for all ages)

*Steel Magnolias* - Wednesday, September 10th (for ages 14 and up)

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**A New Magazine for Kids:** *Hearing Our Way* is an educational magazine for children and teens with hearing loss designed with language, listening, self-advocacy, and cognitive skills in mind. Independent readers will enjoy the magazine on their own, though students of all ages and reading levels can benefit from using the magazine as a classroom reader guided by a teacher or parent. Articles and features are great discussion starters, and content can be easily implemented into current curriculum, IEP goals, and Common Core standards. Check out the website: [www.hearingourway.com](http://www.hearingourway.com) for directions to get a free subscription.

*This publication seems to be primarily for children who are using hearing and listening in mainstream educational settings; we'd love to have a review from a parent or student (hint, hint.)*

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## Setting Goals, Facilitating Change

*"We really need everyone – educators, VR staff, parents, community agencies, and students – to be involved in transition planning. How can we do this?"* This is part of a conversation pn2\* staff shared with us. In January at its third Building State Capacity Summit in Denver, Colorado, these conversations filled the hotel gathering spaces and the conference room meetings. Fifty state teams worked sharing and building on their state's specific resources, focused on their state's specific needs and made a plan for their state. Since its return from the Denver Summit, your Idaho State Team has been busy meeting deadlines and creating connections as the foundation for the work ahead.

*The overall goal of the Summit Series is to enhance successful transition outcomes for students who are deaf or hard of hearing when they leave high school, whether it is successful matriculation in a postsecondary setting, or satisfying/rewarding employment.*

by Ann Flannery

\*pn2, aka pepnet2, aka PEPnet, supports postsecondary educational services for students who are deaf or hard of hearing; their mission is to increase education, career and lifetime choices, and improve post-secondary outcomes. To learn more, go to [www.pepnet.org](http://www.pepnet.org).

Idaho's State Team [Alison Lowenthal, Idaho State Department of Education; Jayne Womack, parent of two youth in transition; Steven Snow, Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Kent Ireton and Rose Pabon, Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation; Paula Mason and Ann Flannery, Idaho Educational Services for the Deaf and the Blind] have set their sights on a goal of statewide collaboration in an effort to effect positive change in how services are provided for deaf and hard of hearing youth in transition. Toward this end, your team has identified a change of practice, set goals and drafted a plan of action:

**Team Goal:** Increase the post-school success of persons who are deaf and hard of hearing in competitive employment by increasing the collaboration between IESDB and LEAs to support students' and families' use of interagency services.

**Outcome Statement:** By June 2015, 5-7 agencies throughout the state that serve people who are deaf and hard of hearing will come together in a collaborative initiative to leverage resources and share a common agenda.

**Outcome Measure:** Demonstrate that the agencies have a common agenda through the development of 3 products/activities.

The work has begun and agencies are responding positively to our invitation to be part of this effort. As together we build capacity statewide, the Idaho State Team works to ensure that our youth will find partners across Idaho who are more aware and prepared to be the 'guide on the side' on the transition path toward their future goals.

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## Book Nook

by Andrea Amestoy

"Mom, mom, mom, moooooomm" says the child. "Please don't interrupt me, I'm talking to my friend right now" the mom sweetly states. If that urgent protest of inquiry sounds all too familiar, then reading Interrupting Chicken by David Ezra Stein is for you and your child. I love books that discreetly teach social skills just as much as I love cookbooks with recipes that miraculously hide pureed kale in brownies without any notice. Interrupting Chicken is a sweet tale about a daddy chicken who gently reminds junior to not interrupt during bedtime stories. Can little chicken do this? Read it tonight to find out! With pragmatics often being an area to work on for our children with hearing loss, this book is a venue to introduce the subtleties of social norms in a fun and enjoyable way.

Speaking of books with a purpose, I found a great blog called "Books that Heal Children". You can find it here: [www.booksthathealkids.blogspot.com](http://www.booksthathealkids.blogspot.com). This is a thorough and all-encompassing website that showcases children's books for a variety of what ails our children (and us.) Topics range from acceptance to gender expression to frustration, peace to swearing. There is a book in here for everything and everyone. Written by an elementary school counselor, she shares her passion for "Bibliotherapy" on this blog. As a mother of two children with Usher's Syndrome and as a former high school teacher and current teacher of boys and girls puberty, I appreciate the power a book holds in connecting on a deep and intrinsic level with the human spirit. It can often capture our children in ways that hearing similar advice from a parent won't. I could spend hours on this website and plan on reading many of these books to my children. Free therapy in the form of books at this blog!

*Another item from Andrea, now wearing her Idaho Sound Beginnings hat:*

## Shout out to Northern Idaho parents! We want to hear from you!

Are you a parent of a child with hearing loss living in the panhandle? While you arguably enjoy the most captivating and breathtaking beauty Idaho has to offer, it comes with a lack of pediatric audiology services for your children. Please let us know of your hardships, frustrations, concerns and comments regarding this. This summer, there will be a pediatric audiology conference in Coeur d'Alene as well as newborn hearing screen trainings at hospitals. Information you give us will help with trainings. Let your voice be heard! Please email Andrea with comments at [amestoya@dhw.idaho.gov](mailto:amestoya@dhw.idaho.gov) Thank you!

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Do you have a story to share? Please send newsletter submissions (we welcome book and product reviews, helpful hints, personal stories, amusing anecdotes, links to resources, etc.) to Lorna Irwin at [niwri2@msn.com](mailto:niwri2@msn.com). She can't do this newsletter without you! Have writers' block? She will interview you, write your story, and send it to you for review.

*If you missed the Spring "Communicator," your membership may have lapsed. Check the label on a recent "Communicator" (surely you don't throw them away?) if you're unsure when your membership expires--if it reads 2014 or later, your membership is still active. Contact us if you're not getting your copy and we'll fix it.*