

We remember our friend and advocate Betty Timon

We had to say goodbye to a dear friend, mentor and advocate on Oct. 3 when Betty Timon, or “JustBetty” as many of us knew her, passed away peacefully at the age of 82.

This woman was so much more than “just” a Betty! Betty Timon was a passionate advocate who worked tirelessly over 25 years for the equal rights of individuals with a hearing loss. It didn’t matter if the access in question regarded telephones, movie theaters, housing for senior citizens, nursing home accommodations, or any other public venue, she always gave her ALL. In her quarter-century of advocacy, she was a role model for thousands, and admonished many to “get off their butts” and DO something to change things.

Betty’s influence and support encouraged others within the community to find the courage to make a stand for whatever needed to be done right. She never backed down when faced with opposition, but held her ground with kindness in her heart and a smile on her face. Betty was a friend - a real friend; the kind who tells you what you need to hear, not necessarily what you want to hear. She always tempered those words with love. She was a devoted wife for more than 60 years, a mother, a grandmother and a very proud great-grandmother. She was beautiful inside and out, full of life, and fun!

As I contemplated the loss I was feeling, I looked up the word “just” wondering why she was “JustBetty.” There I found that “just” is described as: fair, decent, dependable, equal, ethical, evenhanded, fair-minded, good, honest, honorable, objective, pure, reliable, rightful, scrupulous, true, trustworthy, unbiased, upright, and virtuous. What a perfect way to describe the way our Betty lived her life!

Betty’s own hearing loss journey began when she was 35. Over the years, her hearing loss progressed to a profound level. After moving to Kentucky in 1990, Betty became heavily involved with the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and was appointed to the commission board in 1993, serving that body until 2011. Her recent advocacy has involved providing accommodations for deaf and hard of hearing nursing home residents in Northern Kentucky and the JustBetty Project, an initiative to explore the possibility of building a public housing community for individuals with a hearing loss.

JustBetty, you will be missed by all who knew you! Peace my friend, we will carry on your torch and continue your work.



Betty Timon
1932-2014
KCDHH Board Member 1993-2011

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "V. [unclear]".

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Technological advances help us, and serve 'the greater good'

Full is here, DeaFestival-Kentucky is in our rearview mirror, and I want to take time now to talk about "the greater good."

History is full of examples of technology that developed and took off because it served the most people. Text messaging, which the deaf and hard of hearing community latched onto from the moment it was available, did not become widely popular as a communications tool until the population at-large embraced it as well. Since then, it has developed into something more than it was, becoming a method by which we can not only share our words, but also images, videos, and other media. It serves us AND "the greater good."



*Virginia L. Moore
KCDHH
Executive Director*

Almost everywhere we look today we see individuals with a mobile communications device in their hands: a mobile phone like the iPhone or a tablet device like the iPad or iPad mini. These devices have become indispensable because of their ability to capture text, make phone calls, facilitate video communications and perform many other functions that make life a little easier.

This type of technology is exciting, especially to the deaf and hard of hearing community because it levels the playing field in the area of communications. With the right applications, like Dragon Dictation and FaceTime and so many other apps, smart phones and tablets can broaden the range of communications methods available and bring together the two different worlds of people with a hearing loss and people who can hear, with the mobile device serving as the "common ground" on which we both meet.

As many of you know, our Telecommunications Access Program (TAP) was approved to distribute iPads and iPad minis as telecommunications devices. We feel this is an excellent addition to the already outstanding assistive technology (mobile phones,



Stakeholder groups at the national and state levels are pushing hard for the implementation of Text-to-9-1-1

Continued on Page 3

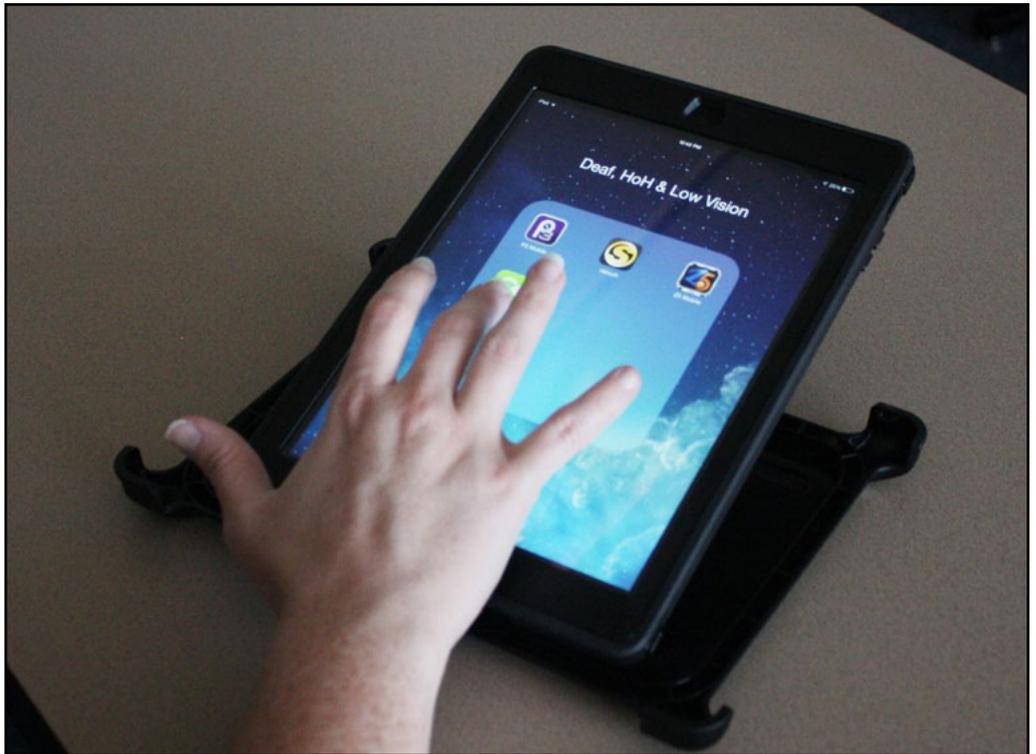
Continued from Page 2

Text-to-9-1-1 one of many advances to benefit all people

amplified phones, captioned telephones, signaling packages) we already offer through TAP. These iPads come preloaded with apps tailored to your particular communications needs. Consumers can select from four options, depending on their needs: deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-low vision, or speech-impaired. The same qualifications for participating in TAP to receive other devices apply to the iPads. A list of apps available in the four groups is on page 3 of this newsletter.

I mention the app package for speech-impaired individuals, because this is a historic offering from KCDHH. We are proud to say that we are able to provide accessible communications options not only for the deaf, hard of hearing and deaf-blind, but also for individuals who are speech-impaired. It is just another example of how technology branches out from the population at-large to find homes with the people who need it.

Another purpose of this program is to allow individuals to have access to emergency preparedness. The Federal Communications Commission has recently ruled that all telephone carriers are to be able to provide text to 9-1-1 capability, which the service providers have done. Now it is up to the 9-1-1 call centers across the country to upgrade their equipment to allow for this valuable service. KCDHH is working closely with 9-1-1 officials



The iPad is one of several helpful telecommunications devices KCDHH offers through its Telecommunications Access Program (TAP). Contact us for more information and start enjoying your communications options.

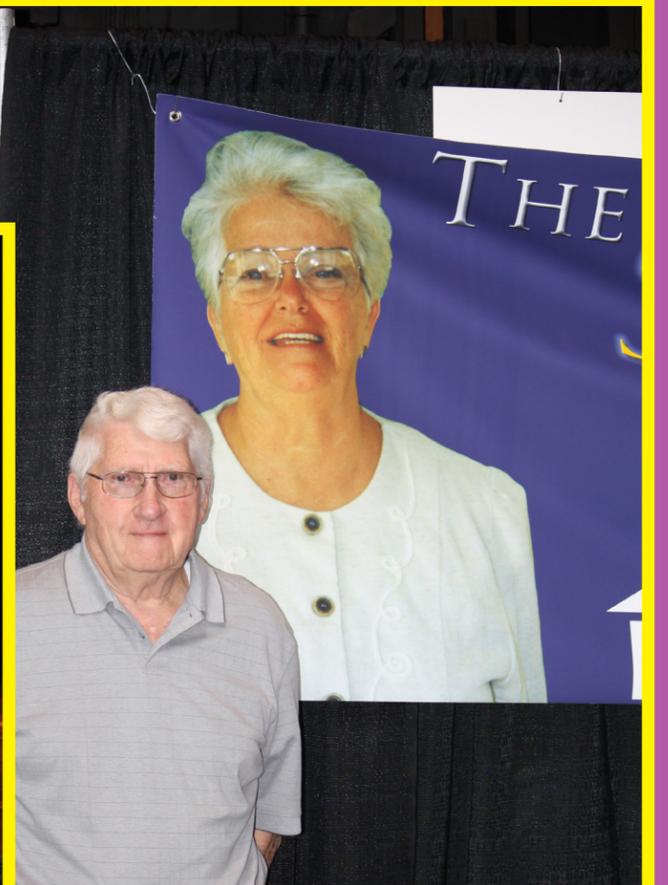
and the various stakeholder groups to get this to happen in Kentucky. Early this month, California Gov. Jerry Brown signed a law mandating that his state would begin the process of transitioning to Next Generation 9-1-1, the system required in order for text-to-9-1-1 to work. Individual counties in several other states have also signed on to Next Generation 9-1-1 and text-to-9-1-1, and we anxiously anticipate joining them.

This is just another good example of how technological capabilities that can benefit the deaf and hard of hearing will also benefit the population at-large. The same text-to-9-1-1 system that will help a deaf person who has been in a car accident call an

ambulance will also help a battered woman who is afraid her abusive boyfriend or husband will overhear her on the phone. We must never forget that our needs overlap; that we are all connected by the common bond of the need to communicate, no matter what form it takes. I would encourage you, if you are interested in advocating for text-to-9-1-1 in your individual communities, to reach out to other groups in your area who also would benefit from that service. Rather than making it a hearing loss issue, make it a community issue.

We're all in this together.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. L. ...'.

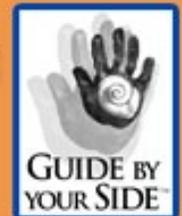


On the calendar...

- Nov. 7-8** **Kentucky Storytelling Conference** **Holiday Inn University Plaza and Sloan Convention Center Bowling Green**
- For more information,
www.kystory.org/conference/intro.shtml
- Nov. 29** **“Tribes” an ASL interpreted play** **316 W. Main St. - Louisville**
4 p.m. **presented by Actors Theatre of Louisville**
- For more information,
www.actorstheatre.org
- Dec. 7** **“Tribes” an ASL interpreted play** **316 W. Main St. - Louisville**
2:30 p.m. **presented by Actors Theatre of Louisville**
- For more information,
www.actorstheatre.org
- Dec. 13** **KSD : “Save the Days” - Christmas Tour** **303 S. Second St. - Danville**
 of Jacobs Hall - Jacobs Hall Museum
- For more information,
ww.kcdhh.org/bulletin/KSD-ChrsitmasTour&Tea.pdf



Kentucky Hands & Voices



2nd Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser

Saturday, November 1, 2014

St. Martha Catholic Church Gymnasium

2825 Klondike Ln. Louisville, KY

7:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.



Suggested donation of \$25 per person

RSVP with the number of people in your party and interpreter needs

monique@kyhandsandvoices.org or 502-376-5470

Desserts & drinks provided!

Beer/wine coolers will be available for purchase

COME HAVE FUN AND SUPPORT A GREAT CAUSE!!!

We're coming to Northern Kentucky!

**Join us for a
TOWN HALL MEETING
Friday, Oct. 24
6-8 p.m.
Newport on the Levee
1 Levee Way, Suite B
Newport, Ky.**

***Take part in a community conversation about public housing for
people who are deaf or hard of hearing!***

For more information on this event or about KCDHH, please contact us:
(800) 372-2907 (v/tty) • (502) 416-0607 (vp) • www.kcdhh.org.



THE *"Just Betty"*
PROJECT
LET'S MAKE IT OUR HOME!





KCDHH

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The screenshot shows the homepage of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (KCDHH). At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for "KY Agencies", "KY Services", and a search box. The main header features the KCDHH logo and the text "Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing". Below the header is a row of buttons for "Bulletin", "Vlog", "Communication Cards", "Publications", "Public VP", "Library", "DeaFestival", "Contact Us", and "Sitemap". A secondary navigation bar includes "Home", "About Us", "Hearing Loss", "Interpreter/CART", "Information & Advocacy", "Equipment", "Public Relations", and "Español". A search bar is located below the navigation bar. On the right side, there is a "Find us on Facebook" link. The main content area features two video thumbnails. The left thumbnail shows a map of Kentucky with the text "Did you know? There are nearly 700,000 deaf and hard of hearing people in Kentucky! [Learn more.](#)". The right thumbnail shows a top hat on a table with a "DeaFestival" logo on the tablecloth. Below the right thumbnail, there is a call to action: "Click the image above to watch the video now! Also, have a look at the [DeaFestival 2014 pictures!](#)"