

# The Deaf Child's ADVOCATE

Volume 47

Issue 2 Lutheran School for the Deaf - Detroit, Michigan

May, 1977



From left to right, Sandy Hirsch, Lisa Bradacs, Dean Bliss, Linda Vinup

## Confirmation

On April 24th, we rejoiced with four young people who confessed their faith in Jesus Christ through the Rite of Confirmation. The primary purpose of the Lutheran School for the Deaf is to help deaf children learn to know and love and accept Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. We rejoice that four of our students have voluntarily confessed that faith.

This year, we will readopt a custom of the Lutheran School for the Deaf that was practiced in the 1920's and 1930's. We have encouraged the students, if they would prefer, to be confirmed in their home congregation.

Mr. Allen Dean Bliss confessed his faith in Jesus Christ and was received into the Lutheran Church through the Rite of Adult Baptism. Dean lives with his family in Rochester, Michigan. He has been attending the Lutheran School for the Deaf for the past six years. We rejoice in all the blessings that God has poured out upon this delightful young man and pray God's richest blessings throughout the coming days.

Miss Lisa Anne Bradacs joined the Lutheran Church through the Rite of Confirmation on April 24th. Lisa lives with her family in Mt. Clemens, Michigan. Lisa has been attending the Lutheran School for the Deaf for nine years. We rejoice that the Holy Spirit has led this

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gracious young lady to confess her faith in Jesus Christ. May He keep her strong in that faith always.

Miss Sandra Elaine Hirsch of Country Club Hills, Illinois, was confirmed in her home congregation, St. John's Lutheran Church of Country Club Hills, on Palm Sunday, April 3rd. Sandy is fifteen years old and has been enrolled at our school for seven years. We rejoice that Sandra was able to be confirmed in her home church where her older brother and sister had earlier been confirmed.

Miss Linda Ann Vinup will confess her faith through the Rite of Confirmation at Hope Lutheran Church in Dearborn, on June 5th. Linda, who lives with her family in Dearborn, has been attending the Lutheran School for the Deaf for ten years. May God grant His grace always to this very lovely young lady.

Two years ago, these young people began their confirmation instruction under our former Principal, Mrs. Pauline Fenton. This past year, they have been instructed by the Rev. Clark Bailey who conducted the Rite of Confirmation in Our Savior Lutheran Church which worships regularly in the Chapel at the Lutheran School for the Deaf.

All four of these young people will be returning next fall to the Lutheran School for the Deaf for one more year of study. Part of their study next year will be a post-confirmation course in what it means to belong to the congregation and how a congregation works together effectively.

## Campbell's

### Labels

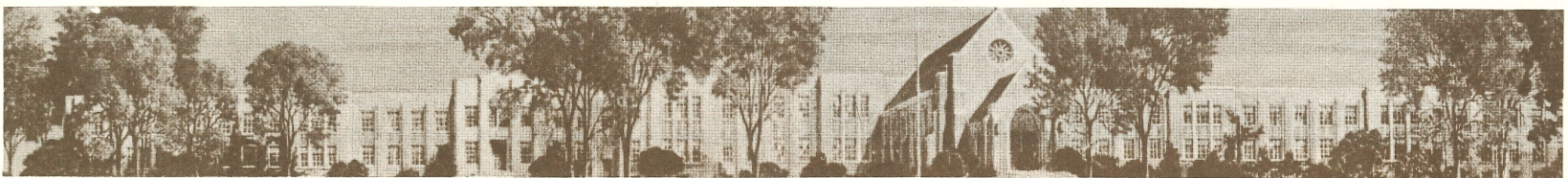
On March 29th, the Lutheran School for the Deaf shipped a total of 162,425 labels to the Campbell Soup Company. Of those labels, 88,675 were donated by individuals and organizations all over the United States.

Because of the large number of labels that we received, we won a contest sponsored by Farmer Jack's, a local grocery store, and they gave us 20,000 more labels.

In addition, as a service project, we have forwarded 53,750 labels which were collected by the Lutheran Social Services Agency of Greater Detroit for use in their program.

Our labels were used to order 23 different items which includes projector carts; cassettes for tape recorders; many balls: footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, soccerballs; encyclopedias; some metric math lessons; all kinds of posters; and many other items. We hope to list and picture all the items in our summer ADVOCATE.

Our sincere thanks to all of you for your help.



## New Pupil



We welcome Lawrence (Lony) Eugene Schantz as a new pupil in our school. Lony's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schantz, live in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Mr. Schantz works for a steel company. Mrs. Schantz is a printer. In February, they wrote to the school asking for information about Christian Education and how they might enroll their son.

On March 1st, to our joyous surprise, Mr. & Mrs. Schantz came and brought Lony with them with the goal of enrolling him in the school. Lony is enrolled in Miss Domke's class. Pictured with Lony, is a beloved long-time friend of the school, Mr. Charles Schad. Mr. Schad is a forester for the City of Detroit. On April 18th, Mr. Schad presented to the school two trees in honor of Arbor Week. Lony and Mr. Schad stand by the new flowering plum tree which is planted in front of the building.

We began the year with 44 pupils. Michael Vannoy returned to us in early fall, so including Lony, our enrollment is 46 deaf students. May God continue to bless all of the students as they study here.

## Learning Disabled Classes

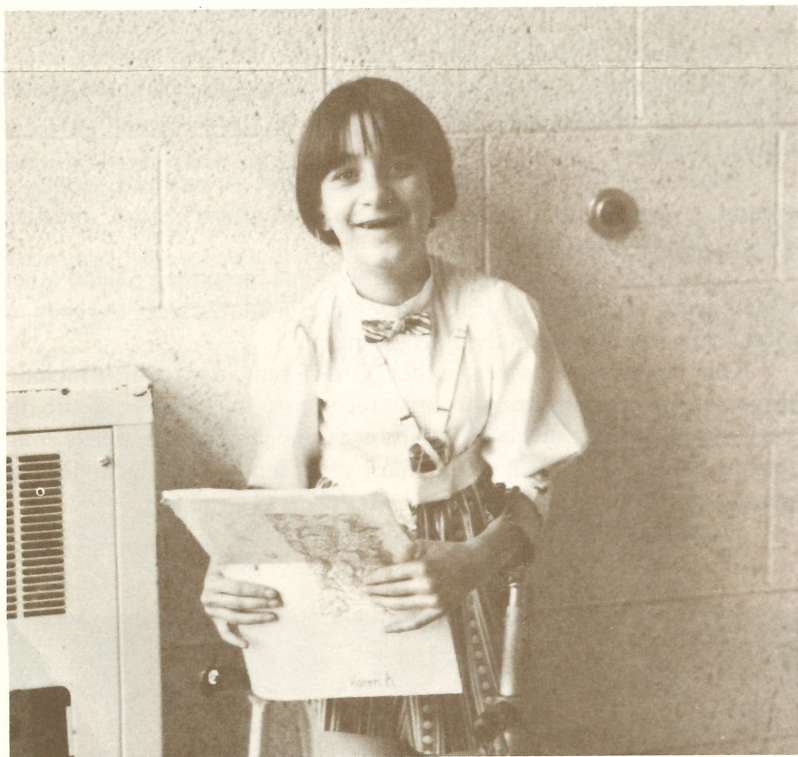


Pictured above, with the excited children as they plant the red oak tree, on Arbor Day, is our new teacher, Mrs. Christine Paganes. Christine is a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in St. Clair Shores. Christine is a 1972 graduate of Central Michigan University and is currently studying for her Master's Degree in Learning Disabilities at Oakland University. She has previously taught four years in other school systems.

Chris's beautiful smile which brings cheer everywhere is especially caused by her joy of her recent marriage to Richard Paganes. We pray God's richest blessings on their marriage.

On April 18th, we began the third phase of our program with Learning Disabled Children. In the first phase, Mr. Pagels was hired to do some research and to begin some diagnostic evaluation of referred children. In the second phase, Mr. Pagels began to visit parochial schools in the Detroit area and to work with children and teachers there. Now we have five children enrolled in a special class at the Lutheran School for the Deaf. May God bless these classes as we attempt to help these children fulfill their potential.

## Karen Louise Anderson



Karen is a twelve-year-old young lady with a bubbling smile and continuous laughter who has been enrolled in our school for two years. Karen, in addition to being deaf, has some Cerebral Palsy and requires the use of crutches.

Unfortunately, as can occasionally happen, when Karen was young, someone misunderstood her and mis-diagnosed her. For awhile, it was thought that she was mentally retarded and so she was sent to a school for mentally retarded children.

However, it became apparent that Karen's major problem is deafness and, because of her deafness, the tests were incorrect.

Karen has above average intelligence and is an eager young lady. Our many steps prove no hindrance to her as she gladly goes on her way.

Because of a birth defect, muscles in Karen's legs are not strong enough. Recently she received surgery at Shriner's Crippled Children's Hospital in Chicago and this past week, her braces have arrived which enables her to walk much better. The hope is that, with some physical therapy, during the next year, she might be able to walk without her crutches.

Karen and her family live about four miles from the school and are members of Our Savior Lutheran Church on the East side of Detroit.

The Ephphatha Chapter of the Ladies Auxiliary for the Deaf, has been sponsoring Karen for two years by providing a Scholarship for her education. Our thanks to our ladies from the towns North of Detroit for their continued support of Karen. With them, we rejoice that she now has her braces and can walk better.

## Service Clubs



Mr. Walter Wilson, Chairman of the Grosse Pointe Lions Club crowns Sandra Hirsch as the 1976 Circus Queen.

Each year, Service Clubs in the Greater Detroit Area, provide many helpful services and gifts to the school to help the children in their educational program. Listed in alphabetical order.

Each year, Denby Kiwanis Club provides two very valuable programs for the Lutheran School for the Deaf. Dr. Owen Dueweke, one of their members, comes every Monday to help test the eyes of our children and to adjust their glasses. Because the children must depend so heavily upon their vision, it is absolutely important that their glasses be correct. Dr. Owen, and his father, Dr. Jerome before him, have been providing this service to the school for over forty-five years.

Secondly, the Denby Kiwanis Club, together with the Northeast Burbank Kiwanis Club, continues to provide funds for the athletic program held every Friday at the Northeast Y.M.C.A.

The Warren Kiwanis has provided the food, as well as the lockers and many other items.

The Eastside Lions Club continues to support the school with its gifts. Recently they again invited all their members to a tour and to see the children. One of their members, Mr. Freddie Meyer, has been active over the years supplying flowers to the school.

The Grosse Pointe Lions Club each year sponsors the Circus Day events. In the morning they bring clowns to the school. They participate in the crowning of the Queen which this year was Miss Sandra Hirsch of Country Club Hills, Illinois. They provide chartered buses and free tickets for the children to attend the Shrine Circus. While there our Queen was introduced in center circle by the leader of the Shrine Circus. In addition, they provide many delicious treats for the children while they are at the Circus.

The Grosse Pointe Woods Lions Club, the Nortown Lions Club, and the Northeast Lions Club have both for many years included the Lutheran School for the Deaf as one of their projects.

In addition to all of the clubs which are normally called Service Clubs there are a number of organizations which provide great service to the school and ought also to be included in this list.

### FORM OF BEQUEST

I give, devise and bequeath to the Lutheran School for the Deaf, 6861 Nevada Ave., Detroit, Michigan 48234, a duly organized and incorporated, non-profit corporation, the sum of \$ . . . . . and/or the following described real estate and/or stocks and bonds. The receipt of the Treasurer or Executive Director of said corporation shall be sufficient discharge to my executor for same.

Again in alphabetical order they are:

The Detroit Review Club.

The Eddie Stinson Post of the American Legion who recently gave us a new flag.

The Fraternal Order of Police in Ferndale who provide our children with tickets to entertainment events.

The Midtown Business and Professional Women's Club.

The Optimist Club of Livonia.

The Telephone Pioneers who supplied us with a stuffed animal whose eyes blink in response to our children's voices, some metric converter slide rulers and maintain our telephones for the deaf.

And last, but certainly not least, the U.S. Army Garrison on Sherwood which for many years has been actively involved in helping the school.

All thanks to all of these organizations through whom our children receive many blessings.



Dr. Owen Dueweke, Optometrist and member of Denby Kiwanis helps Cecil Bowman with his glasses.

## ADVOCATE READERS

Return address postage will now cost us 25 cents a piece. Please help us. Inform us of any correction, deletion, or duplications. We need the following information.

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## Alumni News

We rejoice that many of our former students continue to correspond with their former teachers and we thank Mrs. Jane Daniels for sharing with us the following information.

*Nancy Pletcher* (Class of '70) after two years at NTID in Rochester, has transferred to Gallaudet College, where she is rooming with *Alana Daws* (Class of '71). Also at Gallaudet in his preparatory year is *Norbert Irion* (Class of '74), working hard and enjoying the challenge of it all. Norbert recently was pictured on the front cover of the BISON BANNER, a publication from Gallaudet College.

*David Mills* (Class of '70), after graduating from the Illinois State School for the Deaf, is now studying carpentry in St. Paul, Minnesota.

*Kim Hurdelbrink* (Class of '70), with a very fine academic record and some prizes in art competition, will graduate this year from high school in Sebawaing, Michigan. He has been inducted into the National Honor Society.

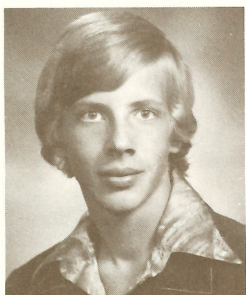
*Peggy Nearing* of Birch Run, Michigan recently traveled through Virginia and the Eastern part of the United States with her family.

*Diane Sowle* of Mt. Pleasant, will graduate, together with Kim and Peggy, this June. Diane has been accepted at Central Michigan University where she will pursue a major in Special Ed.

*Judy Manik* (Class of '74), now a 10th grader at West Bloomfield Township High School, recently returned from a trip to Hawaii.

Judy and *Jennifer Freed* (Class of '74), a 10th grader in Houston, Texas, have both received art awards for their outstanding work. A delightful visit from both of these two young ladies last summer is recalled with joy.

*Bonnie Kaufman* (Class of '74), of Fort Wayne, Indiana, is having a very good high school experience with her many friends. *Barbie Stanz* (Class of '74), of Glen Arbor, Michigan, enjoys driving a car and going on ski trips to Colorado with her family. She was the maid-of-honor for her sister Nancy's wedding in November.



Kim Hurdelbrink



Diane Sowle

## The Spring Festival

You are invited to the annual Spring Closing Festival on June 12th. The schedule for the day includes:

- 11:00-2:30 Roast Beef Dinner served by the ladies
- 12:00-2:00 Open House of the School
- 2:30- Combined Children's Program and Festival Service
- 4:00-6:30 Refreshments and relaxation on the grounds, softball game, etc.

Our speaker for the Festival Service this year will be the Rev. Dr. Robert Preus, President of Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. We rejoice that he will be able to be with us and we invite you to join with us in these activities.

Come and enjoy God's blessings. There will be delicious food, an opportunity to visit with Christian friends, a chance to see a delightful program presented by the children, an opportunity to thank God for all the blessings He has poured out upon the school throughout the past year.

Circle SUNDAY, JUNE 12th, on your calendar. We will look forward to seeing you then.

## The Appeal

We finally made it. Last week, our secretaries were able to catch up with the thanking process for the Appeal.

This year, between November 15th and February 28th, there were over 6,900 individuals and organizations who responded to our request for financial aid. The gifts this year averaged a little over \$11.00 a gift and the total was 14% above our last year's gifts.

We thank all of you for your patience in this process. We know that you are giving the money to help the children. Because of your desire to help the children, we decided again this year that we would not hire extra staff to quickly get your receipts back to you. Our thanks to you for being so patient while our two regular secretaries and their volunteer helpers completed this process.

As we said, in the last time's ADVOCATE, well over half of our money for operating expenses comes from individuals and congregations in response to our various appeals. We greatly thank God for leading all of you to help us continue this ministry of Christian Education with the children.