

## Interpreter for deaf shares her experiences

by Carole Hussey  
Feature Editor

Connie Allen has been an interpreter for the deaf for most of her life.

Both of Allen's parents are deaf. "A hearing child of deaf parents often acts as their interpreter to the 'outside' world (the hearing world)," she explained.

The first time Allen was paid as an interpreter, she was 19 - she was asked to interpret a divorce case. Since then she has had much experience. She has interpreted on television for the League of Women Voters, done interpreting work in courtrooms, for the police and in medical emergencies. Allen has also translated job interviews and counseling sessions.

Allen has been at CCC fall and winter term and is currently interpreting for Gary Holt, a drafting and autoCAD major who has been invited to try out for the Deaf World Olympics as a wrestler.

"A good interpreter needs to be immersed in the (deaf popula-

tion's) culture, they have to be skilled in reverse translation, the ability to read sign, they have to be able to interpret a lecture to a client in their native hand," commented Allen.

"For many years, the deaf population was isolated. Up until 20-30 years ago, deaf people's jobs rarely dealt with the public, they only associated with other deaf people, interpreters were unheard of," stated Allen. Consequently, deaf people developed their own culture. They have their

**"I believe in total communication, sign and oral."**

own communities, newspapers, churches and clubs. They've even developed their own language.

American Sign Language, or ASL, is used all over the U.S. in informal conversation. English Sign Language, or ESL, is more academic, it's what hearing peo-

ple use. In ASL, a noun, verb and adjective is sufficient, different syntax is used, one creates

a picture. "ASL is a conceptual language, a very complicated language, one uses body language," said Allen. Even though ASL is used nationwide, there are different signs used in different parts of the country, similar to accents.

There are students who don't require the services of an interpreter. How do they manage? "It depends on how well they communicate orally, which means reading lips. They get along well, but some instructors turn their backs or walk around the classroom. Statistics show that in lip reading you only get about 40% of what is being said. I believe in total communication, sign and oral," expressed Allen

If you know someone who requires the services of an interpreter or other related services contact Dave Campbell or Pat Fontaine, the directors of Handicapped Services.

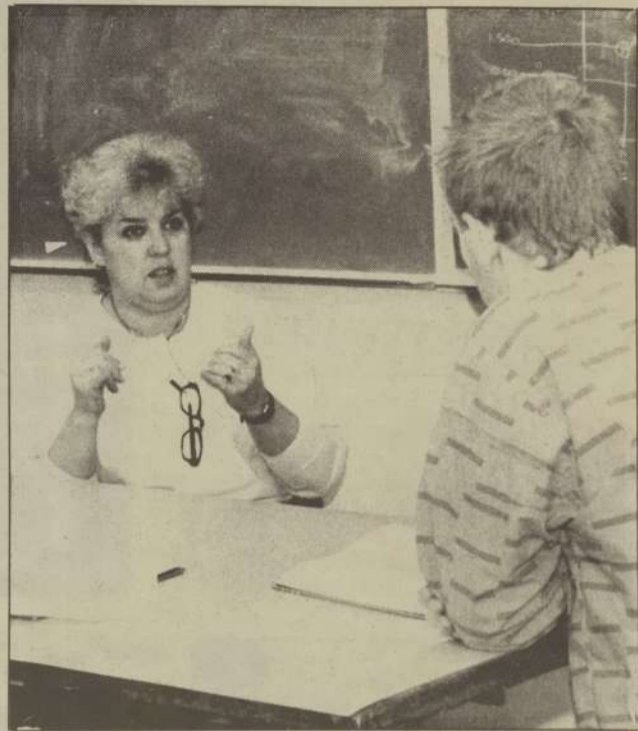


photo by Beth Coffey

Connie Allen translates a lecture into sign language.

### Ski Club to view movie

Ski Club meets on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at noon in room CC101 to view the Warren Miller movie and the "Ski Maintenance Clinic."

### Literary luncheon

A luncheon will be held on Wednesday, Feb. 24 at noon, for the purpose of forming a literacy coalition and to discuss possible goals.

To pre-register and for more information, call Nancy Hettman at ext. 315.

### News Briefs

#### Myers-Briggs testing offered

Join counselors Bernie Nolan and Donna Ford for the brown bag luncheon covering "Introduction to Myers-Briggs."

The Myers-Briggs is a test that can tell you more about yourself, how you make decisions, and how you interact with others.

Meet in room CC-101, Thursday, Feb 25 at 12:30 p.m. It is free.

For more information please contact Nolan or Ford at ext. 266.

### First aid kit sale

The Clackamas Womens Services Board members will be selling First Aid Kits as a way to raise money for the program. Call 654-2807 to order one now. Cost is only \$5.

### Parenting skills needed

Parents Anonymous is helping Parents Succeed. Put your parenting experience or problem solving skills to good use by volunteering to be a Child Care Specialist. Special training on Play Development scheduled for Saturday, March 26 from 9:30-2:30 p.m. Call us for information at 238-8819.

## Calendar

**Feb 24**—CCC Instrumental Jazz Night, 7:30 p.m., CC Mall, \$2 for adults and \$1 for students.

**Feb.25**—Brown Bag Luncheon, "Introduction to the Myers-Briggs," learn about the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, a test that can tell you more about yourself, how you make decisions, and how you interact with others, Counselors Bernie Nolan and Donna Ford will describe how you can use the test to better understand yourself. 12:30-1:30 p.m., CC-101, free, no registration is necessary, call ext. 266 for more information.

**Feb.26**—Family Night

Movie, "Sleeping Beauty," CC Mall, 7-9 p.m., \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for children, call ext. 247 for information.

**Feb 27**—Volunteers needed for CCC Levy Election canvassing, Holly Farm Center inside the mall, 9a.m. to noon, call Ann Haller at ext. 247 for more information.

**Mar 1**—Merrill Lynn Taylor; actress, director, and costumer will talk about her theatre experiences. Taylor is currently appearing in "Quilters" for the Artists Repertory Theatre and is the guest director for the upcoming CCC production "The Happiest of the Three." Her talk will be held from 3-5 p.m. in P-101, free, call ext. 356 for more information.

**Mar 2**—(through 31), Ceramics exhibit, Ashland ceramist Claire Barr will display her work in Pauling Gallery, exhibit opening will be Mar. 2 from 7-9 p.m., a ceramics workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mar. 2 in the Art Center, free, call ext. 386 for more information.

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Family Night Movie, Feb. 26, CC Mall, 7-9p.m.

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