



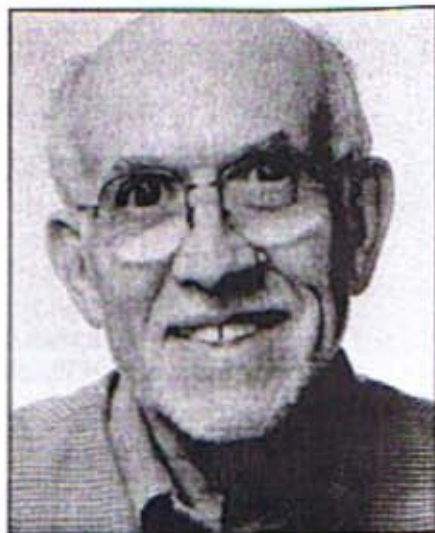
St. Thomas University Graduation PATRICK GRAYBILL HONORED BY SAINT THOMAS UNIVERSITY

Submitted by Sally Taylor

May 7, 2005 was a red letter day for Saint Thomas University in Miami, for Patrick Graybill and for the Deaf community. At its commencement exercises at the Miami Convention Center before several thousand graduates and families Graybill received the first honorary doctorate bestowed on a Deaf person by the University. He was honored for his accomplishments as an actor, author and teacher.

The citation read at the conferral of the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters Honoris Causa noted Graybill's pioneering work in opening the scriptures to the Deaf through his ASL translations. His skills as a preacher and retreat director in the Deaf community were also highlighted.

The University expressed gratitude for his generous assistance in developing its Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministries with the Deaf on the occasion of the conferral of degrees of the first graduates of the program. Graybill, who has also taught in the program, beamed as three students became graduates.



Patrick Graybill

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Matt Starr: A New Face at National Center for Deaf Health Research

Submitted by Matt Starr

After serving the Rochester Deaf community for nearly 18 years as the Director of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program (formerly called MCAHI), Matt Starr has accepted an exciting job opportunity at the National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR).

The NCDHR conducts research on health issues in the ASL communities. Its goal is to promote health and prevent disease. NCDHR is a community-based participatory research center in which the Deaf community, both locally and nationally, becomes an essential partner for this center.

"Finally, we have a research center that has nothing to do with hearing," signs Starr. "I will continue to be active within Rochester Deaf community so that we can help the researchers better understand our health issues and concerns."

The NCDHR is funded by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and is housed at the University of Rochester Medical Center within the Department of Community and Preventive Medicine.

Starr added, "Anyone who is interested in becoming a part of our efforts, please feel free to contact our secretary, Heather Pavey at (585) 276-2120 TTY."