NAD Leadership Training Conference ‘09

The 2nd annual NAD Leadership Training Conference was attended by WVAD President Linda Eckhart and Secretary Liz Leisure held on October 29 - October 31, 2009.

The theme of this year’s conference was Conquering Challenges: Leadership Beyond Barriers.

The goal of this year’s conference was to address leadership challenges and opportunities that deaf and hard of hearing individuals face within rapidly changing nonprofit, educational, governmental, and corporate environments.

Conference training areas were focused on promoting diversity and sharing of diverse viewpoints, characteristics of successful leaders, proactive change leadership, coalition building and teamwork, accountable leaders, communicating effectively, conducting leadership search efforts, running healthy meetings, conflict resolution, and harnessing the power of social media.

Regional and affiliate caucuses were also be held during the conference, to enable state association and affiliate representatives to confer on matters of importance within their respective areas. Resources support on youth leadership were also available during the conference.

For more information about what this conference offered, please see http://www.nad.org/events/nad-leadership-training-conference-09.

Joining WVAD

The West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) is a non-profit consumer advocacy organization which strives to promote the quality of life for deaf and hard of hearing individuals in West Virginia. It is supported by membership dues and contributions.

The WVAD is affiliated with the National Association of the Deaf (NAD).

WVAD membership is extended to deaf and hard of hearing residents of West Virginia, professionals who work with deaf people, hearing parents and guardians with deaf children, hearing children of deaf adults, and their friends and supporters.

Membership benefits include the following:

- Subscription to WVAD newsletter.
- Discounts on conference fees.
- Social and networking opportunities.
- Better quality of life in West Virginia as promoted by the WVAD objectives.

If you are interested in joining WVAD, please print and fill out a Membership Form (http://wvad.org/WVAD%20Membership%20New.pdf) and send it along with your payment.
Happy Holidays!

I wanted to share with you what has been happening since the last newsletter you received. Secretary Liz Leisure and myself attended the National Leadership Training Conference in Columbus, Ohio, on October 29 to 31, 2009. This was an opportunity for the delegates or representatives to attend workshops and meetings to improve leadership skills and assist in running better meetings. The workshops included fundraising ideas, parliamentary procedures, media, conflict resolutions, and teamwork. Also, during the weekend, the Region Caucuses were held. During this time, each region was able to meet with their state facilitators and all other states delegates to discuss issues happening within the region. Overall, it was an educational weekend. A lot of information was shared for us to bring home to our state association. Now it is time to prepare for the NAD Conference in Philadelphia, PA, in July of 2010.

During the West Virginia School for the Deaf Homecoming, it was decided that WVSDA and WVAD will work together to plan the 140th Anniversary in 2010. We will keep you informed of what is happening with that as it happens.

We need to post future deaf events on the WVAD website. If your local deaf club has decided on a schedule or has events to announce, please send the information to wvad1930@wvad.org.

Our next WVAD Board meeting will be held in January. The date, time, and place will be announced in the near future so check the WVAD website (www.wvad.org) for updated information.

WVAD Board would like to wish everyone a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year. Stay safe and warm as you travel for the holidays.

Sincerely,

Linda Eckhart
WVAD President

This is a a West Virginia Association of the Deaf (WVAD) non-profit organization newsletter for our WVAD family and friends.

It is the purpose of WVAD Quarter News to be an informative communications newsletter by all WVAD members and non-members, addressing WVAD programs, activities, issues, and member interests. WVAD Quarter News strives to maintain a balance between program and general interest news. Contact the WVAD Quarter News editor at WVAD Editor concerning material appearing in WVAD Quarter News. WVAD Quarter News will publish materials submitted by anyone, subject to editorial review and approval. Please remember to send references of any outside sources you may use. Authors’ names will be withheld from publication at their request. The views and opinions expressed by contributors to WVAD Quarter News are the authors’ own and do not necessarily reflect those of the staff of WVAD Quarter News.

WVAD Quarter News

Editor: Tami Kapaldo
President: Linda Eckhart
Vice-President: Jimmy Harrison
Secretary: Liz Leisure
Treasurer: Veronda Harrison
Senior Trustee: Jackie Sherrill-Robinson
Trustee: Worthy Devericks
Trustee: Scott Hottle

PUBLICATION INFORMATION AND ADVERTISING RATES

The WVAD Quarter News newsletter is a publication of the West Virginia Association of the Deaf, Inc., published four times a year (March, June, September, December). Free subscription with paid dues. All advertisements must be paid in advance. The WVAD Quarter News reserves the right to reject any advertisement. Make checks payable to WVAD. Send ads with payment and any news to Tami Kapaldo.

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West Virginia Association of the Deaf Board Meeting, Comfort Suites Conference Room, Mineral Wells, West Virginia, August 6, 2009


Standing Committee Members: Ruby Losh and Jimmy Harrison.

Visitors: Connie Davis, Lois Devericks, Erin Fulton, Dwight Mossor, Madelyn Mossor, Georgia Guzzi, and Jimmy Guzzi.

The regular meeting of WVAD was held in the conference room at the Comfort Suites, on Thursday morning, August 6, 2009, at 11:17 a.m. Minutes: Approved as read.

Treasurer Veronda Harrison gave the financial reports. The reports will be reviewed and audited by the trustees and two WVAD members this evening. The time will be set by the treasurer and the trustees.

President’s Report:
President Douglas Evans called a special board meeting on May 30, 2009, to discuss the conference planning. All the board members attended except Liz and Linda.

President Evans announced that the new executive director for the WVCDHH has been hired and her name is Marissa Johnson. He has met with Ms. Johnson at the Fairmont Pig Roast on July 11, 2009.

President Evans has received four e-mails: The first e-mail was about the NAD Leadership Training Conference (NLTC ’09) to be held at the Hyatt on Capitol Square in Columbus, Ohio, October 29-November 1, 2009. Conference registration is $150 for NAD members and $190 for non-members (membership is included). The hotel rate is $82/single plus tax; $107/double plus tax.

The second e-mail he received was from Chris Glavin who is the editor for K12 academics. Mr. Glavin wanted to post WVAD information on his website.

The third e-mail was from James Kittell who is President of ASL expo. Mr. Kittell asked WVAD if it would be interested in exhibiting its organization at their expo.

The fourth e-mail was from Jennifer Casto informing that the Sorenson Relay Services will be having an open house on August 25, 2009, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in Charleston, WV.

The fifth e-mail was from Angela Holley, State Coordinator for College Goal Sunday. Ms. Holley is looking for interpreters to volunteer to interpret for students that are applying for Federal Application Financial Student Aid (FAPSA). The event will be held on February 10, 2010, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 16 different locations in West Virginia.

Vice-President’s Report:
Vice-President John Burdette as Coordinator for the DDLEOS stated that Caryn Keller has designed the back of communication tips and basis signs. He is still working on the cards. He will have to rewrite the script due to person retiring. After the new script is written, he will have to get an approval. The wallet size cards are on hold.

Projects Coordinators’ Reports:
There was no report on the Youth Program.

West Virginia Video Relay Services (WVAVRS): Robyn Evans reported that there has been no “V” meeting for quite some time. The new contract with money is based on the number of the WVAD members. Each “Z150 and Z340” product that WVAD sells, we can keep half of the money.

West Virginia Telecommunications Relay Services Advisory Board - WVATRS: Ruby Losh reported that (See WVAD Board Minutes ... page 4)
the Public Services Commission does not want to pay mileage. Sprint Relay has won the bid to provide the relay service in West Virginia to begin on September 30, 2009.

There was no update from Mary Kesler on ASL Task Force according to Robyn Evans.

Jimmy Harrison, Membership Chairperson, announced that there were 251 WV AD members two years ago. Now there are 178 WV AD members on the roll.

Conference Chairperson Linda Eckhart reported that we have sold 63 combo tickets.

Secretary Liz Leisure reported that she has mailed out 110 letters to sponsors and received no response. She said Brianna Butler and April Hotle have agreed to be our conference interpreters.

John Burdette’s Report on Workshops: Ruby Losh will give a presentation on “How to Work With an Interpreter,” Donald Trembly from the Social Security Administration will talk about Social Security benefits, and John Egbert will talk about Deaf Bilingual Coalition.

Robyn Evans’ Report on Exhibitors: CSDVRS cannot come to the conference but Sorenson, Sprint, HOVRS, Hamilton, SNAP VRS, and the WVCDHH will come. There will be three crafters: Eileen Brown, Connie Davis, and Lois Devericks.

Linda Eckhart’s Report on Entertainment: There will be no DJ; however, Bill and Caryn Keller will lend their sound equipment. Crom Saunders from Chicago will be there to perform on Saturday night.

WVAD Booster Report: Worthy Devericks raised $430.00 for the 2009 conference.

There was no unfinished business.

The break started at 1:35 p.m. and the meeting resumed at 1:46 p.m.

New Business:

Veronda Harrison moved that WVAD sends two delegates to NLTC in Columbus, Ohio, in Columbus, Ohio. The motion passed.

John Burdette moved that WVAD give 500 dollars (100 dollars each game) for DINGO game for prizes. Motion was passed.

Linda moved that in DINGO game, that each team wins 100 dollars will have to split it among the 4 players, 25 dollars each. Motion was passed.

Linda moved that WVAD sell raffle tickets for cash prizes Saturday night. Robyn moved that we amend by adding “Friday and” after the words cash prizes. The motion passed.

Linda moved that WVAD charges an arm length of raffle tickets for 5 dollars or 10 raffle tickets for 5 dollars or 30 raffle tickets for 10 dollars. Motion was passed.

Robyn moved that WVAD uses the WVAVRS’s 350 dollars for Friday night’s WVAD Feud Game. Motion was passed.

John moved that WVAD charges on floor registrants with the second combo rates. Veronda moved that we amended this motion by adding that if there are more than 70 registrants that we give them 5 dollars discount. Motion was passed.

There being no further business, by general consent, the President adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.
WVSDB 140th Anniversary and WVSD Homecoming Announcement

Dr. Shank announced that the West Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind will host its 140th Anniversary on September 24-26, 2010. Our WVSD homecoming will be held on the same weekend (September 24-26, 2010). Pamela Thompson, Class of 2008, is working on the website for our events. The link will be under www.wvad.org and the information will be ready by early December.

Please keep an eye on the website for more information. If you have any ideas to make our 140th Anniversary the best one, please feel free.

Greenbrier Valley Association of the Deaf Announcement

GVAD will have an annual Ramp Dinner on April 2010. More information to follow later in next Spring issue.

Sound Off

Submitted to the News and Sentinel, Parkersburg, WV, Sunday, November 15, 2009

I’m one who prefers to walk the sidelines covering high school football games. You get the full effect of bodies colliding and helmets crashing.

The roar of the crowd is something you just can’t describe when the game boils down to the final seconds. It could be a balmy, 70-degree night and you can still feel the chills.

Last Friday as Parkersburg lost to Bridgeport in the first round of the Class AAA state playoffs, I gained a greater appreciation for the sense of sound. Bridgeport running back Corey Wagner is deaf and uses an interpreter to relay the coaches’ instructions.

When Wagner scored on a 14-yard run, the Bridgeport fans raised their arms and waved their hands in the air as the sign language for applause.

Some things in life just can’t be taken for granted.

Contact Kerry Patrick at kpatrick@newsandsentinel.com.

Officers’ Contact Information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Address</th>
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<th>Email</th>
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<td><a href="mailto:extraordinary45@comcast.net">extraordinary45@comcast.net</a></td>
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WVAD Quarter News, Winter 2009
Clifford C. Leach, born in Moatsville, West Virginia, passed away Wednesday, October 28, 2009.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 32 years, Ruth (Hedberg) Leach.


In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Rochester School for the Deaf, 1545 St. Paul St., Rochester, NY 14621 in Clifford's Memory.

Clifford was born just after the turn of the century. A West Virginia native, Clifford lived in Binghamton while working at IBM before making his way to Greece. An avid sports fan, Clifford was an outfielder for a semi-professional baseball team and had a .408 batting average. He enjoyed playing sports and supporting his favorite teams.

He was a prominent member of the deaf community and a member of the Deaf Elders Around Rochester. Clifford educated and helped those in the deaf community.

NOTE: Clifford attended WVSD in 1932.

Cecelia Anne Evans

Cecelia Anne Evans, 73, of Oak Ridge, TN, departed this life, Friday, August 28, 2009, at Oak Ridge Methodist Medical Center.

She was born May 26, 1936, in Pocahontas, Virginia.

She was preceded in death by her parents Lawrence McCollum and Josephine Scales; husband Horace M. Evans.


NOTE: Cecelia (McCollum) Evans graduated from WVSD in 1956.

Jimmie Lee Guzzi

Jimmie Lee Guzzi, 74, of Clarksburg, WV, passed away at the United Hospital Center on December 5, 2009, following a brief illness. He was born on October 19, 1935, in Clarksburg, the son of the late Patsy John Guzzi and Thelma Muscar Guzzi.

Surviving are his wife, of 44 years, Georgia Staley Guzzi; two daughters, April Starks and her husband Timothy of Clarksburg and Robyn Evans and her husband Doug of Clarksburg; five grandchildren, Zachary Guzzi, Ake'sha, Jordan, and Kaitlyn Starks and Jacinda Evans; one brother, John Patsy Guzzi and his wife Cyndy of Clarksburg; two sisters, Patty Martino and her husband Frank of Clarksburg and Elayne Gucci of Clarksburg; several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Guzzi was a retired mechanic from the Department of WV Highways. He was a member of the Clarksburg Deaf Club and the WV Association of the Deaf. He was a 1955 graduate of the WV School for the Deaf.

Family and friends called on Tuesday, December 8, from noon to 8 p.m. at the Amos Carvelli Funeral Home, 201 Edison Street, Nutter Fort, WV. Funeral services were held at the funeral home on Wednesday, December 9, 2009, at 10 a.m. Interment followed at the Holy Cross Cemetery. Condolences may be extended to the family at www.amos-carvelli.com.
How to Play Sudoku:

Fill in the empty fields with the numbers from 1 through 9. Every row must contain the numbers from 1 through 9. Every column must contain the numbers from 1 through 9. Every 3x3 square must contain the numbers from 1 through 9. Have fun!

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(See Sudoku answers ... page 12)
Charleston Association of the Deaf

Happy New Year Social

Saturday, January 2, 2010
St. Albans City Hall
St. Albans, WV

$1,000 Door Prize Giveaway
( Depends upon Attendance )

“Plus More”
Chance to Win

Different Color Tickets: 10 tickets for $5.00 or
30 tickets for $10.00

Computer with 20” Monitor, Blu-Ray Disc Player, and More
Cash Prize

$25.00 per person includes meal with door prize
Ages from 5 to 17 - $5.00 includes meal only
If you bring covered dish or desserts, you get extra
ticket for door prize. (No chips, ice bags, pops)

Handicap Access

4:00 – 11:00 p.m.
Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m.
Prizes – 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

Menu
Ham  Turkey  Corn
Green beans  Rolls
Mashed Potatoes and more

Please Come One, Come All, and Have Fun!

From I-64 East Charleston: Get off at Exit 54, MacCorkle Avenue (US Rt. 60). Turn left at the
traffic light at MacCorkle Avenue and keep straight onto US Rt. 60 West for about 6 miles and you
will see the St. Albans City Hall on left side near K-Mart store.

From I-64 West Huntington: Get off at Exit 44, St. Albans. Turn right at the traffic light at Rt. 817
and go about 3 miles. Turn left at traffic light at MacCorkle Avenue. Keep straight onto US Rt. 60
East for about 4 miles. You will pass the K-Mart store then you will see the St. Albans City Hall on
the right side.

For more information, contact:
Debby Steel, President
866-937-5954 VP or E-mail: sassysassypearl@aol.com
James Ennis bagged this 7-point buck in Marion County, West Virginia.

John Tackett and his 8-point buck that he bagged in Kanawha County, West Virginia, on private property.

Mike Losh and his 8-point buck that he bagged in Marion County, West Virginia.

John Burdette and his 4-point buck that he bagged in Greenbrier County, West Virginia.

Dalton Harrison, son of Veronda and Jimmy Harrison, bagged this 6-point deer in Mason County, West Virginia.

WVAD Quarter News, Winter 2009
Cut up deer meat into small chunks. Cook in shallow pan with little bit of water on the stove (covered up with a lid) until medium done.

Pack loose in jars (that have been heated in oven) with the juice. Add 1 teaspoon of salt in each jar. Cook at 10 pounds pressure in canner. 75 minutes for pints. 90 minutes for quarts.

This is very good if you cook canned deer meat in crockpot with potatoes, carrots, celery, onions, and packet of Lipton beef-flavored soup mix.

**Deer Breakfast Steaks with Gravy**  
(Submitted by John Burdette)

<table>
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<td>4 Tbsp bacon grease or shortening</td>
<td>2 Tbsp flour</td>
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Salt and pepper enough to coat meat with to taste. Shake the steaks in the mixture. Heat grease to sizzling and add steaks. Cook until browned. Remove steaks and set aside.

In skillet, add flour and pepper, add more shortening if needed. Stir until flour soaks up grease. Slowly add milk and stir to continue. Add steaks to skillet and bring to a slow boil over medium heat stirring constantly until gravy starts to thicken.

Cover and simmer for 10-15 minutes until steaks are tender.

**Ground Deer Meat Loaf**  
(Submitted by John Burdette)

<table>
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<tr>
<td>1 can (8 oz) tomato sauce</td>
<td>3/4 tsp salt</td>
<td>1/4 tsp pepper</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/4 cup quick oats</td>
<td>1-1/2 tsp garlic powder (optional)</td>
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In a large bowl, lightly beat eggs. Add tomato sauce, onion, quick oats, salt and pepper, and garlic powder. Add deer meat and mix well. Press into an ungreased loaf pan. Bake, uncovered, at 350 degrees for 70 minutes.
Fraud Charges May Nix Viable Deal, Prospective Buyer Mulls
Acquisition of Rockville Deaf-Services Firm by Kevin James Shay, Staff Writer

Submitted to The Gazette, Gaithersburg, MD, Friday, November 27, 2009

A spokesperson for the New York company that tentatively agreed to purchase beleaguered Rockville deaf services business Viable said this week it is now “considering its options” after Viable president John T.C. Yeh, three other Viable executives and leaders of six other companies nationwide were charged in a six-count indictment with conspiracy to defraud the federal government out of tens of millions of dollars.

Snap!VRS of Pearl River, a video relay service company, is “working through all the complications that have taken place since the indictments,” said Maureen Ellenberger, vice president of marketing. Snap!VRS agreed to acquire Viable in August, but the deal has not been finalized, she said.

Snap!VRS executives released a statement saying they were “disappointed at the magnitude of unethical behavior in the use of video relay service which was revealed by the news of the FBI and Justice Department investigation. While Snap!VRS was not involved in the investigation, we are of the strong public stance that the harm done to relay consumers by the wrongful acts of some individuals is unacceptable, but these acts do not change the critical need for this technology for deaf people.”

The national investigation concerns a Federal Communications Commission program designed to help deaf and hard-of-hearing people communicate with hearing persons.

Besides Viable, companies whose executives were indicted on similar charges were Master Communications of Las Vegas; KL Communications of Desert Hills, Ariz.; Mascom of Round Rock, Texas; Deaf and Hard of Hearing Interpreting Services of New York City; Innovative Communication Services for the Deaf of Miami Lakes, Fla.; and Deaf Studio 29 of Huntington Beach, Calif.

These executives fraudulently billed the FCC about $390 an hour to interpret calls between deaf and hearing people, federal prosecutors said. The calls, generally referred to as “r calls,” “rest calls” or “run calls,” were illegitimate calls often made by friends or relatives that would be billed to the FCC’s video relay service fund, officials said.

Viable is the central company in the alleged scheme, directly linked via business arrangements to five of the six other companies involved. Master Communications, KL Communications, Mascom, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Interpreting Services and Innovative Communication Services for the Deaf all operated call centers for Viable that generated and processed a large volume of fraudulent calls, according to the indictments.

“These defendants are alleged to have generated fraudulent call minutes by making it appear that deaf Americans were engaging in legitimate calls with hearing persons, when in reality, the defendants were simply attempting to steal money from an FCC program that is funded by every single American who pays their telephone bills,” Lanny A. Breuer, assistant attorney general of the Justice Department’s Criminal Division, said in a statement released Nov. 19. The FCC program is funded through a tax on regular telephone service.


Allison Polk, a Viable spokeswoman, referred questions to Ellenberger.

Other Viable executives charged are vice president of corporate strategy Joseph Yeh, a brother of John Yeh; assistant vice president for business development Anthony Mow; and human relations manager Donald Tropp. The charges also include submitting false claims and mail fraud.

Viable has been under a cloud since a June visit by federal investigators. The company also has been hit with lawsuits filed in federal and state courts by employees seeking back payment of wages.

This week, Nicholas Woodfield, who is representing 114 plaintiffs in a class-action lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court in Greenbelt by former and current Viable employees seeking back wages, filed a motion for a default judgment against John Yeh, Joseph Yeh and Mary Yeh, John Yeh’s wife. The filing said that Joseph Yeh had requested 20-day extensions twice to answer the complaint on behalf of the defendants, the last one being in mid-October. The Yehs had failed to respond to the complaint as of this week, according to the motion.

It’s unclear what impact the indictments will have on the civil case, Woodfield said Wednesday.

“I’m sorry for my clients’ sake that [Viable executives were] indicted because that is not a boon to them in their efforts to receive unpaid wages,” Woodfield added. “Whether it will be significant or a bump in the road remains to be seen.”

Bethesda lawyer John Pierce, who is listed as a representative for Viable in the civil class-action lawsuit, said in an e-mail this week that he was checking with his clients to see if they wanted to respond to a reporter’s questions.

‘Calls should look good ...important not raise red flag’

The evidence against Viable executives in the FCC case includes an e-mail allegedly sent by John Yeh in July 2007 to Larry Berke, the owner of KL Communications, which ran a call center for Viable, according to the federal indictment. Berke, of Phoenix, was also among 26 people across the country charged in the case.

“You calls should look good — not too perfect and too long hours,” Yeh wrote, according to the indictment.

See Fraud Charges ... page 12
Edward Lazarus
day. Lazarus said in a statement. “The opportunity is the chance to reiterate our commitment to the VRS program and to follow through on efforts, already begun at the FCC, to safeguard the program against further waste, fraud and abuse.”

John Yeh has long been involved with organizations that advocate for the deaf community, such as the National Asian Deaf Congress and National Deaf Business Institute. He was a trustee of Gallaudet University of Washington, D.C., which specializes in education for deaf people, for more than a decade.

In January, Deaf Life, a monthly national magazine, honored Yeh as Deaf Person of the Year. Last year, The Gazette of Politics and Business named Yeh one of its “25 CEOs You Need to Know” and Viable as one of its “Exceptional 53” businesses and nonprofits.

A native of Taiwan who immigrated to the U.S. as a teenager, Yeh helped form a Rockville software engineering and integration company before co-founding Viable in 2005. The company grew from a handful of employees to more than 240 but has shed numerous employees and closed call centers this year. Yeh’s son, Jason, and a daughter, Mei Kennedy, both work for the company.

The Yeh brothers would instruct the owners “how to make the run calls appear legitimate” by varying the call lengths, numbers and Internet protocol addresses, the indictment said.

Snap!VRS: Critical to retain services
Because video relay services allow deaf people to have phone conversations in the comfort of their homes, rather than having to communicate via sign language in person, the technology creates economic opportunities for deaf people that were not previously possible, Snap!VRS executives said.

“The tragedy is the unfortunate truth that a significant number of unscrupulous individuals, at great cost to the nation, have preyed on a very important program for delivering essential telecommunications services to persons with hearing disabilities,” Lazarus said in a statement. “The opportunity is the chance to reiterate our commitment to the VRS program and to follow through on efforts, already begun at the FCC, to safeguard the program against further waste, fraud and abuse.”

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About a year ago, speaking through a deaf interpreter to a Gazette reporter, John Yeh gave little indication of any trouble.

“The company is still fairly new,” he said then. “We have to be careful about what we do.” (http://deafftimes.net/index.php/news/article/snapvrs_buying_viable_may_not_continue/)
Both the School for the Deaf and the Blind are located on a campus in Romney in West Virginia's Eastern Panhandle. The West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind are supervised by the West Virginia Board of Education, and fully accredited by the North Central Association for Colleges and Schools at the elementary and secondary levels.

The idea to establish a school in West Virginia for the deaf and blind began in the late 1860s and early 1870s. Professor H. H. Johnson of Franklin, himself blind, was instrumental in bringing a school for the deaf and blind to West Virginia. During his youth, Johnson had attended the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind in Staunton, Virginia. Shortly after West Virginia's statehood, Johnson recognized the need for such a school in the state and he began canvassing the state gathering support for his project. Several towns including Romney, Clarksburg, and Parkersburg all lobbied to have the school located there, but Romney was selected following an offer consisting of the buildings and grounds of the Romney Literary Society’s Romney Classical Institute. The Romney Classical Institute had lain dormant since the American Civil War when its libraries’ volumes were destroyed and its campus was left beyond repair.

On March 3, 1870, H. H. Johnson’s dreams became a reality when the West Virginia Legislature approved a measure calling for the creation of the West Virginia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind. The school opened on September 29, 1870 with thirty students, twenty-five deaf and five blind students. Through the years, additional buildings and grounds have been added to accommodate increasing enrollment. Currently, the main campus consists of sixteen major buildings, containing approximately 302,000 square feet (28,100 m²), situated on seventy-nine acres of land.

61st Annual Charleston Association of the Deaf Picnic by Tami Kapaldo

The Charleston Association of the Deaf held their 61st annual picnic on August 29, 2009, at Hurricane Valley Park. There were approximately 71 people in attendance. People brought covered dish and for those who brought a covered dish got an extra ticket for the door prize. Dalton Harrison, son of Veronda and Jimmy Harrison, was the chairperson for the corn hole game. Missy Barie and Veronda Harrison won $25 each for first prize. Dennis Matherly and Tom McCombs won second prize for $15 each. John Burdette won a 32-inch LCD HDTV, Melinda Hurd won a portable DVD player, and Charlotte Thomas won a chocolate fondue. Everyone had a wonderful time and enjoyed socialing with their families and friends.
### Varsity Boys' Basketball Schedule (22 Games)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>H Virginia School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>12/10/09</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A Western Penn School for the Deaf, 66 - 30 W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12/15/09</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. H Harman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>12/17/09</td>
<td>7:15 p.m. A At Union 5 6:15-7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>01/07/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At Harman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>01/11/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. H Paw Paw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>01/14/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At Virginia School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>01/20/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At Moorefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>01/22/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. H Pennsylvania School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>01/23/10</td>
<td>1:45 a.m. H Pennsylvania School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>01/25/10</td>
<td>7:15 p.m. H Union 5 6:15-7 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>01/26/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. A Maryland School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>01/28/10</td>
<td>7:15 p.m. H Mt. View, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>02/02/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. A Mt. View, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>02/03/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At East Hardy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>02/04/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. H Timberidge, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>02/15/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. H East Hardy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>02/16/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. A At Paw Paw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>02/19/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. A At Vermont ESDAA Tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>02/20/10</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. A At Vermont ESDAA Tournament</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>02/23/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. A At Timberidge, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>03/01/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. A WVSSAC Sectional Tournament</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Varsity Girls' Basketball Schedule (23 Games)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>H Virginia School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>CANCELLED</td>
<td>H Moorefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>12/10/09</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. A Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf, 51 - 8 W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>12/15/09</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At East Hardy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>12/17/09</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>01/05/10</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. H Virginia School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>01/06/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At Harman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>01/11/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. H Paw Paw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>01/13/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. H Harman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>01/14/10</td>
<td>4:00 p.m. A At Virginia School for the Deaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>01/20/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. H Moorefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>6:00 p.m. H Mt. View, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>02/02/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At Mt. View, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>02/08/10</td>
<td>6:15 p.m. A At Moorefield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>02/11/10</td>
<td>2:00 p.m. H ESDAA Tournament at WVSD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>02/12/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. H ESDAA Tournament at WVSD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>02/13/10</td>
<td>1:00 p.m. H ESDAA Tournament at WVSD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>02/17/10</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. A At Paw Paw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>03/01/10</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. A Sectional Game (TBA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Class of 1978 and 1979 had their class reunion at Romney, WV, during the homecoming weekend on October 3, 2009.

The Class of 1979 went on a train ride on the Potomac Eagle Scenic Railroad, along with some of their children and friends they had invited.

For three hours we enjoyed a narrated (interpreted by Julie Simmons’ daughter Jessica) train ride through the West Virginia mountains. We viewed historic farms and lush mountain greenery along with the leaves changing colors. We also saw native wildflowers, evergreens, and mixed hardwoods in a countryside environment. We experienced “The Trough,” a spectacular narrow mountain valley. Below us was the South Branch of the Potomac River, where the water was so clear that you could see the fish as they lie resting in the shade.

We saw the American bald eagles fly. These birds flew high above in their natural habitat, undisturbed by the rumblings of the occasional train and the passengers who have come for a sighting. We also saw the eagle’s nest. It was so large, compared to a little bird’s nest.

On this train ride, there were a couple open-air cars behind the locomotives on the south end of the train. One of them was an open-top gondola car. This car had benches, so passengers can step outside and see the view of the Trough.

The second open-air car was covered, but had large wide-open windows where you can lean out a little bit to get a better look of the scenery.

Nothing can match the awestruck scenery we witnessed. It was awesome to see this beauty in our home state!

After our train ride, we went to Mario’s Italian restaurant and ate together. Dinner was great! After dinner we went to the fire hall. The Class of 1978 gathered in a group and had their photos taken. They also spent some time reminiscing about the old times with each other, along with the Class of 1979.

We had a great weekend together!
Check Out Our Quarter Recipes!

Mawey’s Cranberry Mold Dessert
(Serves 6)
(Submitted by Marilyn K. Bishop)

1 cup ground raw cranberries (you can use a food processor but the cranberries are a different texture)
1 cup ground un-pared apples (about 3); just remove the core and stem, leave the peel on
1 cup sugar
1 package lemon flavored gelatin and 3 oz raspberry for a double batch
1 cup hot water
1 cup pineapple syrup
1/2 cup seeded grapes halved (Mawey used one little can crushed pineapple instead of grapes)
1/4 cup broken English walnuts

Combine cranberries, apples, and sugar. Set aside. Dissolve gelatin in hot water; add syrup; chill until partially set. Add cranberry-apple mixture, pineapple, and nuts. Pour into mold; chill until firm. Unmold on lettuce leaves, if desired, and serve with mayonnaise.

Chicken Dip
(Submitted by Liz Leisure)

2 cups shredded cooked chicken
1/2 pkg of Hidden Valley Ranch dip mix
1/2 cup salad dressing
1-8oz softened cream cheese
1/2 cup sour cream
1/4 cup chopped onions-optimal (green one tastes better)

Mix all ingredients, chill, and serve with crackers. If it’s too dry, add more salad dressing. Good with Wheat Thins.

Beef Dip
(Submitted by Liz Leisure)

1-3 oz Armour dried beef, rinsed with water and finely chopped
1/2 cup of sour cream
1/2 cup of salad dressing
1-8 oz softened cream cheese
1/2 pkg of Hidden Valley Ranch dip mix
1/4 cup chopped onions-optimal

Mix all ingredients, chill, and serve with crackers.
LINDA ECKHART

What made you want to be the WVAD President? Several people asked me if I was interested. During the conference in Parkersburg, I was nominated and won the election. After being asked I seriously thought about it because I knew it would be a big responsibility. I have been involved with WVAD as Miss Deaf WV, Co-Pageant Director, Trustee, and on several committees. I wanted to remain involved and figured I could make a difference in any way that I was involved.

What is the name of your hometown? Parkersburg, WV.

Where do you work at and what do you do? Psychological Assessment Intervention Services (P.A.I.S.). I work as a Behavior Analyst. I write behavior support plans, habilitation programs, provide assessments, and supervision of staff that work in client’s home.

How long have you worked there? One year on December 15th.

Where did you receive your college education? Bachelor of Arts degree from Gallaudet University in 2004 (Psychology); Master of Science from West Virginia University in 2008 (Rehab Counseling).

What accomplishments are you most proud of? That I obtained my Masters degree.

What is your secret ambition? I don’t think I have a secret ambition, my ambitions are usually known.

What person has been the biggest influence on your life? My mom.

What is your favorite vacation spot? St. Martin.

Who is your favorite cartoon character? Garfield.

What is your favorite thing to do in your spare time? Read – but I seem to lack spare time these days.

Name three things you can do without. Beans, needles, and stress.

What person, real or fictional, would you most like to meet? Matthew McConaughey.

What movie could you see any time? Any of the Harry Potter movies.

What is your all-time favorite TV show? House.

Name three things always found in your kitchen. Mountain Dew, microwave oven, and mom’s home cooked food (I don’t like to cook).

What would you do with a million dollars? Pay my bills, save some, and go on a nice vacation.

What is an interesting, but little known fact about you? I’ve been on four cruises. My mom wanted me to add that I can be a very stubborn person.

All members are encouraged to nominate a friend for the “Meet Me” column. Please submit all nominees to WVAD Quarter News Editor.
The WVAD Organization Staff Wishes Everyone and Their Families A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

Linda Eckhart
Jimmy Harrison
Jackie Sherrill-Robinson
Worthy Devericks
Scott Hottle
Veronda Harrison
Liz Leisure
Tami Kapaldo