

zoning, 'Deaf' Congress

can to influence its quality and attractiveness to the area; however, we are not the owners or developers of the center.

Winston Weaver
Harrisonburg

VALLEY FORTUNATE

Editor, Daily News-Record:

This is in response to a letter to the editor and an article in the March 25 paper. Clarence L. Christian quoted the Virginia Association of the Deaf bulletin which stated that the deaf, "out of their own frustrating experiences...had learned that every available means of com-

munication must be utilized in the education and socialization of the deaf."

On another page of the paper was an article about a "deaf mute" woman in Waynesboro, Pa. who "has lived 90 of her 95 years in the county home." No one remembers "hearing her speak a word." She evidently spent her life scrubbing floors, sweeping halls, and sewing. The woman's feelings of isolation through institutionalization and lack of communication skills for those many years are difficult to comprehend.

The people in the Harrisonburg area are fortunate to have good medical facilities; a public school

program for the hearing impaired, a college speech and hearing center and the state school for the deaf nearby. It is hoped that the above situation cannot happen here.

The VIIth World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf which Mr. Christian noted, is to take place in Washington, D.C. this summer. The Congress deserves the full attention of the media so that its theme, "Full Citizenship for All the Deaf," will be carried to those of us who already have full citizenship.

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