

ter is named, was seven years old when she died of cancer in 1988. She was best friends with Marvin's youngest daughter, Amy, who is now 25. "Although they had only met in preschool, they just bonded," Marvin says. "Emily's mom knew after three bone marrow transplants that Emily did not have long to live, but she let her enjoy what life she had left. She and Amy played together and grew closer each day. Amy still has a picture of Emily on her nightstand."

Marvin said that the key to success in business and pleasure is "to be fully dedicated to whatever you're approaching." Although Marvin races by bike and kayak and he also skis, Pam is a triathlete and has completed the Hawaii Ironman three times. Marvin rides at least six days a week. He bikes the longer 42-mile scenic ride to work each day and the more direct 28-mile ride home. On weekends, he and Pam do longer training rides of 150 to 200 miles and have been doing extended 48- and 72-hour training rides to get ready for the Race

Across America.

Obviously, Marvin is a huge believer in exercise. "There is a connection between your physical and mental health," he says. "If you have physical difficulties, it affects the level of enthusiasm you have for life. If you're physically active, it helps your mental process and your mood." Everybody has hectic schedules, Marvin adds. "But anybody can make the time to work out. It's just like being a really good court reporter. It's time management. You can take a 200-page depo and scope and edit it in 10 hours, or you can learn to be more efficient with your software and do it in five hours. It's a life skill whether you're efficient at work or training."

So why isn't he a triathlete like Pam? Marvin laughs, "I don't get in the water."

You can pledge to the Emily Center at www.emilysteam.com.

Aimée Suhie, B.A., RPR, is from New Fairfield, Connecticut.

MEDIA WATCH

TWO MORE LAWSUITS FILED IN ATLANTA COURTHOUSE SHOOTING CASE

Two court administrators for Judge Rowland Barnes, who was killed during a courthouse shooting incident last March that left three others dead, including court reporter Julia Brandau, have filed lawsuits against Fulton County Sheriff Myron Freeman and several of his deputies. Both administrators were held as hostages at gunpoint during the incident. Brian Nichols has been charged in the shootings and is currently awaiting trial. Even though the court administrators, Susan Christy and Gina Clarke, are each seeking \$3 million in compensation for mental anguish following the event, their attorney has requested that a jury decide how much to compensate the women.

Published in the *Access North Georgia* on March 24.

MEMBER PROFILE



Name: Vicki Turner

Occupation: Agency owner, court reporter, CART provider, and captioner

Hometown: Los Angeles, Calif.

Member since: 1980

What do you love about being a court reporter?

This profession has given me incredible abundance. I cherish my friends, both in Las Vegas and around the world. I love the variety of opportunities available. In what other career can you caption a Broadway performance one day in New York and report Rod Stewart's testimony the following week in Las Vegas?

What has been the highlight of your career?

Each project or event I undertake has wonderfully memorable moments that fill my heart with joy. However, I was a part of one particular conference in New York that was a life-altering experience that I will forever cherish. I captioned Christopher Reeve speaking on "Living a Fearless Life." His words touched everyone's heart and put in perspective how our fears are our own creation, how our only limitations are self-imposed, and how so many people are afraid to try simply because they don't want to fail, including several doctors who were afraid to use new procedures on him.

Watching my captions of his heartfelt words appear beneath

the video image of this amazing man and feeling the warmth and energy of the 2,000-plus individuals in the audience was an incredible once-in-a-lifetime experience. Long after Mr. Reeve left the stage to a thunderous standing ovation, I stayed seated at my equipment, savoring and absorbing the essence of love and admiration that permeated the ballroom.

What are you currently reading?

I enjoy metaphysical books concerning energy and how our thoughts manifest into our reality. Two of my current favorites are *The Power of Intention* by Dr. Wayne Dyer (whom I have captioned several times) and an amazing book, *Ask and It Is Given — Learning to Manifest Your Desires* by Esther and Jerry Hicks. I do confess to reading the *National Enquirer*, too, during times my brain is on overload.

What words do you live by?

I live by three quotes. The first is from Christopher Reeve at the conference I mentioned. He said, "A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and grow in spite of obstacles. Don't give up. Don't lose hope. Don't sell out."

The second quote is from Henry David Thoreau. "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived."

And finally, in the words of my mom, "This too shall pass."

Q&A

Work Smarter, Not Harder

I think that the best tip for working smarter, not harder, would be to use your networking abilities. After 27 years in this field, all working within the court system as an official in Illinois, I have been helped countless times by fellow reporters I have gotten to know through seminars, associations, etc. I use the NCRA Online Forum and the Illinois Court Reporters Association discussion forum to get fast answers to any questions I may have that relate to any number of areas in court reporting. In addition, from time to time I have been known to Google other court reporting state associations for answers to court reporter issues. The best part of this tip is you often look very smart, and it also appears as if you can get the answers you need for yourself and others in a very short period of time. As an added bonus, you get to meet exceptionally bright people who share similar interests with you.

*Kristin Ashenhurst, RDR, CRR
Macomb, Ill.*

As a working reporter, I found I wrote a fast and accurate record by writing several strokes without hesitation rather than trying to memorize every brief form that was available. I believe that as a student it slowed my progress to try to make sense of briefs that were not natural to me.

Anonymous

Know when to call it quits for the night. Choose a time when most jobs let out — maybe between 4 and 7 p.m. — close your home office door, don't take any more work-related calls, and leave your work load to be picked up again in the morning.

*Courtney Sowards, RPR
Warren, Mich.*

I live by the rule: Don't try to reinvent the wheel. I proudly claim that I copy from the best.

*Virginia Kling
Long Beach, Calif.*

al Constitution Center in Philadelphia. Supported by technology leaders Microsoft and GeoTrust, the NNA has developed the components of the system: an Electronic Notary Seal and a National eNotary Registry.

As the nation's first statewide, operational eNotarization network, the system is expected to serve as a working model for the nation. Notaries are official, state-appointed witnesses for important transactions, and they provide a critical service in protecting the public against forgeries, mortgage fraud, and, increasingly, identity fraud.

The NNA is the nonprofit professional association for America's 4.5 million Notaries Public. Please visit www.nationalnotary.org for more information.

JUDGE TO CONSIDER NEW EVIDENCE IN CASE AGAINST COURT REPORTER

A Colorado Supreme Court judge refused the prosecution's request to jail a former court reporter for refusing to produce transcripts for multiple cases from 1999 to 2002. The Supreme Court also refused to take up Barnes' appeal on the case. The proceedings regarding the transcripts included attempted murder and sexual assault convictions. The court reporter, Valeri Barnes, stopped working on the transcripts in August 2004 when she left her job and began employment in the federal courts and has since refused to complete them. She cited that she was not legally obligated to complete the work and that health concerns related to breast cancer treatment prevented her from doing so. A June 3 hearing has been scheduled to consider new evidence regarding Barnes' health problems and to formally hear the Supreme Court's decision on reconsidering an appeal submitted by Barnes.

TEXAS APPROVES CHANGES TO ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES POLICY

The Texas Court Reporters Certification Board has approved the following changes/additions to its policy on electronic signatures:

1. Modify the previous policy by eliminating the keys requirement for encrypted digital signatures. At the September 17, 2005, board meeting, the board approved encrypted digital signatures with keys as a secure method for court reporters when using electronic signatures. It was later determined that the keys requirement may be too onerous and subsequently, the board approved encrypted digital signatures (with no keys) as a secure method for electronic signatures on the first certification (i.e., to

certify the accuracy of a transcript).

2. Power of attorney and faxed signatures were determined to be unacceptable methods for electronic signatures on the first certification (i.e., to certify the accuracy of a transcript), to become effective 90 days hence from the January 28, 2006, board meeting.

For more information, please visit www.tcra-online.com/.

PENNSYLVANIA LAUNCHES ELECTRONIC NOTARIZATION SYSTEM

The National Notary Association, in collaboration with the Pennsylvania Department of State and a special team of the Commonwealth's county recorders, launched a statewide electronic notarization system on February 2, at the Nation-

STENO BRIEFS

Court Briefs

BY PATRICIA NILSEN

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