



CIVIC FEDERATION NEWS

Official Publication of the Montgomery County Civic Federation

Serving the Public Interest Since 1925

723rd Session

www.montgomerycivic.org

November 2000



William Legat, M.D. and keynote speaker Rex Cowdry, M.D. open the Civic Federation's Community Forum on Mental Health Care (see more pictures on p. 8)—Photo by I. Dean Ahmad

Legislative Year 2001

—by George Sauer, Legislation Comm. Chair

The Maryland Legislature is preparing for its 2001 session. Join us for a discussion of what our state legislators have up their sleeves for the coming year. We will be particularly interested in the state's impact on our schools, especially the \$54 million in school construction funds. Jean Cryor (R-15) is on the "Thornton Committee" which is studying school funding formulae. She would have liked to be with us, but that committee is meeting on Monday evening in Garrett County.

Also of interest will be "bi-county bills"—those bills concerning both Montgomery and Prince Georges County—most of which have to do with WSSC and MNC/PPC. The bad news is that our delegation

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will be holding a public hearing on Monday evening on these very bills. The good news is that their meeting will be in the third floor hearing room. I hope to be able to grab one or two delegates when they come out to the Coke machine and bring them down to our program. I have enticed two Senators, the stellar duo of P. J. Hogan (R-15) and Chris Van Hollen (D-18), and Delegate Dana Dembrow (D-20) to take a break from the hearings and come and present us with their views of the forthcoming session.

Please plan to attend the program with cogent questions for our state legislators. This is the ideal time to pepper them with questions and make our concerns known!

Delegate Meeting Minutes

Oct. 10, 2000

–by Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order by Ms. Peggy Dennis, MCCF vice-president, at 7:55 pm.

Announcements. none

Approval of agenda. New items: Cloverly. Mental health. White Flint conference center (David Brown). Sam Yaksich on earlier notification of citizens on development proposals. Last month's election. Legacy Open Space. Agenda is approved unanimously.

Guest: Councilman Howard Denis.

Approval of minutes. Approved unanimously on voice vote.

Community Hero Award. Tony Caffrey. Liquor licensing. FOIA requests were hard to obtain, and some materials are still missing. The matter is in the newspapers and the courts. August 31 was the last court hearing. December 4 and 5 are the next court dates.

Program. George Sauer. Two state questions. Three County questions. State question #1 regarding Cecil County. State question #2 regarding Prince Georges County ("quick take"). County question A: Renaming "Emergency" to "Special" appropriations. County question B: Temporary employees would not be subject to the merit system. County question C: term limits of county council members and county executive. Issue is debated between Howard Denis and Richard Zierdt. Q&A follows.

Old Business. Bob Abrams. Vice President candidate for District 4. Mr. Abrams gives MCCF secretary a copy of a letter he wrote, addressed to the MCCF, and reads from it. Jorge Ribas speaks. Cary Lamari speaks. Ribas moves **that the election for Vice President District 4 be declared null and void, and that the past four MCCF presidents review the election of VP for Districts for 4 and 5, and review the election procedure and require the Nomination Committee to interview all prospective candidates.** Skinner moves to table. **Motion to table passes by voice vote.** MCCF secretary hears no opposing votes.

White Flint Conference Center. David Brown. Planning Board approved final steps of construction. Brown filed a brief pro se before the district court challenging the legal reasoning behind the decision. Board has since asked to revise its opinions.

Upcoming Forum on Mental Health Issues. Cari Lamari and Peggy Denis. On Saturday, Oct 28, 9 am to 3 pm, the MCCF will hold a forum on mental health in the County Council office building. Donations to defray the cost of this forum would be appreciated. Dr. Rex Cawdry will be guest speaker. Volunteers to assist in the meeting are also needed. Call Cari or Peggy. Feel free to distribute the full-page announcement in the October MCCF newsletter.

Citizen Notification regarding Land Use. Sam Yaksich. Has been working with Martin Klauber about earlier notification of proposed development. Sam has talked with Charley Lauer of Park and Planning. Current notification process is poor. Citizens always come in as NIMBYs, after much discussion has already transpired. P&P has poor database of Citizens' groups contacts. P&P has web site for development applications: www.mc-mncppc.org/planning/development/apps0915.htm

Rural Legacy Program and Legacy Open Space. Charles Pritchard. moves **that the MCCF recommend to the Governor that he transfer \$4 million from the Rural**

Do we have your correct address?

Send all address corrections
to Steve Howie

phone: 301-972-2736;
e-mail: stevhowie@aol.com

Legacy Program to the Legacy Open Space program which accomplishes the same intended purpose. Five seconds given. Passes 12 - 0 - 2.

District 5 VP Election postponed; no candidate has been nominated.

County Council and Executive Term Limits. Lee Shipman **moves that the MCCF not take a position regarding term limits.** Seconded. Fails 7 - 9 - 0. Motion is then made **that the MCCF oppose Term Limits.** Another motion is then made to substitute that **the MCCF support Term Limits.** The motion to substitute passes 10-6. Motion that the MCCF support term limits loses 9 - 8 - 2, because of affirmative vote rule (affirmative votes must be greater than the sum of opposing and abstention votes), therefore, **the MCCF takes no position on this issue.**

Cloverly Master Plan. Dick Strombotne. **Moves that MCCF opposes the pending proposal by some County Council members to have the Planning Board change its work schedule to review its recommendation for disapproval of the requested special exception for the New Hampshire-Norwood property.** Seconded by five CAs. Motion Passes 16 - 0.

Barney Evans. Cari Lamari. Mr. Evans recently died. Mr. Lamari would like him to be named the Community Hero next month. The Executive Committee will take this up at its next meeting.

Meeting is adjourned at 10:20 pm.
Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Zierdt, MCCF Secretary

Ex-Comm Meeting Minutes

Oct. 19, 2000

—by Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

President Dean Ahmad convened the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Announcements. Aris Mardirossian, Inc. donated \$500 to MCCF's mental health forum.

Agenda is approved.

ExComm Minutes from September meeting accepted as printed.

Mary Reardon, Silver Spring Historical Society. Preservation of Silver Spring. (1) Canada Dry building in Silver Spring currently owned by AT&T. Society, and the county executive would like the building saved. Society seeks MCCF support for preservation and designation as a historical landmark. Distributes flyer. (2) Discovery (company) is going to destroy the 50-year old Silver Spring post office. Society would like the facade and part of the lobby preserved. Charles Wolff **moves to present Canada Dry preservation to the MCCF delegates meeting.** Seconded. Passes unanimously on voice vote. Mary will write article for the newsletter.

Treasurer's Report. Steve Suzich. MCCF has \$2103 checking, \$3543 savings. Jorge Ribas has suggested that an audit be performed. Dick Strombotne **moves that such an audit be performed.** Seconded. Motion ruled not necessary as audit procedures already exist in the by-laws.

Water Pipeline leaks. Ahmad reported that there has been a problem with pinhole leaks in copper pipes throughout the county. No MCCF action at this time.

District 4 Election. Consideration of motion made at October 9 Delegates Meeting regarding this election. ExComm agrees to split the motion into three parts. Also, Dick Kauffunger is arranging to meet with past MCCF presidents. The three parts: (1) **That the election be declared null and void, because of insufficient notice.** Dick Kauffunger feels the newsletter was too late. Ahmad notes that newsletter was mailed six days before the meeting as is customary when the seventh day before the meeting is a holiday. No one at this ExComm meeting moves to nullify the election. (2) Charles Wolff **moves a by-law change that notice of special election of officers be placed in the newsletter one month ahead of the meeting.** Seconded. Motion will be presented to the delegates at the next delegates meeting. Passes unanimously by voice vote. (3) Stan Schiff moves a sense of the Executive Committee **that the nominating committee should offer to interview prospective nominees.** Seconded. Fails 3-5-1.

Proposed Bylaws Amendments.

Renewal Deadlines. Dean suggests four amendments to deal with confusion over the membership year. (1) Temporary change: List of delinquent organizations should be printed in the January newsletter. (2) Temporary change: Organizations will receive newsletter through June, 2001. (3) Organizations that wish to vote after January 15 MUST pay dues first. (4) A one-time waiver (amnesty) of missing year dues applied

both to organizations renewed last year and to any that renew this year. This may encourage late associations to join. Late joiners will have a 50% dues reduction. Charles Wolfe **moves a sense of the ExComm to keep the current fiscal year of July 1 to June 30.** Passes, 6-4. Dick Kauffunger **moves a by-law change 'bill for.' to 'bill for in May' in Article 10, section 5.** Passes unanimously by voice vote.

Change in definition of Quorum. Richard Zierdt. Tabled to next ExCom meeting.

E-Mail Distribution of newsletter. Richard Zierdt has offered to maintain an email list of delegates who want to be notified when newsletters are posted on MCCF's website (www.montgomerycivic.org). There is no objection.

Expanded contact information on Web Site. Richard Zierdt moved that **member organizations of MCCF will be offered the opportunity to list a contact with their organization on MCCF's website so that interested persons may contact that member organization.** This listing is entirely optional. The purpose is to encourage participation of citizens in issues that interest them by being able to contact their representative organization. Seconded. Passes unanimously by voice vote.

Letters to the Editor. Richard Zierdt. Moved that the ExCom review all letters before publication in the newsletter. Motion fails for lack of a second.

Political Campaigning on County Property/Time. A county employee who does not wish to divulge his identity has asked the Federation to take a position regarding illegal distribution of union political election literature on county property on county time. Dean reads a letter from Charles Thompson, Jr., County Attorney, claiming that such literature, as part of official union business protected under collective bargaining, would not be illegal. Charles Wolff **moves that this item be given 5 minutes at the next delegates meeting.** Passes 7-2-4.

Community Hero. **Barney Evans for November (posthumous);** Passes unanimously. **Frank Vratarić for December to be given at the Reception.** Passes unanimously.

Programs. November. State legislative initiatives. George Sauer will ask some state legislatures to attend. MCCF concerns will be presented.

Education. Susan Sellers will be stepping down. Dean will appoint Bob Astrove be new committee chair, subject to ratification at the next general meeting.

Environment Committee. Legacy Open Space. Charles Pritchard describes a countywide walking trail. Two Park & Planning employees are needed to implement the program. Charles **moves that the countywide walking trail issue be presented to the delegates.** Seconded. Passes unanimously by voice vote.

Membership. Winnie Klein volunteers to look up councilmanic districts for each delegate from an address list from Board of Elections.

Social Activities. Myrna Taylor. Annual Reception. **Ike Leggitt will be invited to speak.** Approved unanimously.

Dean reads a letter from Marian Fryer to the MCCF ExCom regarding the Wheaton Citizens Coalition, dated October 18, 2000. Ms. Fryer recommends that any MCCF vice president that represents District 5 be aware of the issues within Wheaton.

Newsletter assignments. Articles from Mary Reardon, Myrna Taylor, Richard Zierdt and Dick Strombotne or Howie Denis.

Meeting adjourned 10:30 pm.
Respectfully Submitted,
Richard Zierdt, MCCF Secretary

It's Time to Renew

—by I. Dean Ahmad, President

Thanks to the fifty-seven Civic Federation member associations who have already paid their dues for the membership year ending June 30, 2001. Now those who have not yet responded to the flyer in our previous issue to renew. Although a notice was published last year about a change in the membership year, no such change was ever passed. Nonetheless, those of you who paid dues thinking you were going to get a membership through Dec. 31, 2000 need not panic. You are still on the membership rolls. Actually, you will be until Jan. 15, 2001. But please don't wait until the last minute to renew. Renew right now. If you lost the form previously inserted in the newsletter, just download one from our web site (www.montgomerycivic.org).

As required by our Bylaws, here is the list of organizations whose dues have not been received as of press time:

Bennington Community Association
Brookdale Citizens Association, Inc.
Cabin John Citizens Association
City Commons of Bethesda
Franklin Knolls Civic Association
Friendship Heights Village Civic Association, Inc.
Golf Estates Community Association
Gunpowder Citizens Association
Kemp Mill Civic Association
Kennedy Community Coalition
Long Branch Neighborhood Initiative
Norbeck Citizens Association
North White Oak Civic Association
Old Coach Square Homeowners Assiation
Potomac Woods Citizens Association
Rock Creek Hills Citizen Association
Sacks Neighborhood Association
Sligo Park Hills Citizens Association
Valencia Civic Association
Willows and Neighbors Citizens Association
Allanwood-Gayfields-Willson Hills-Gaywood Estates Civic Association
Alta Vista Gardens / North Bethesda Grove Community Association
Avenel Community Association, Inc.
Bannockburn Citizens Association
Bannockburn Civic Association
Bradley Boulevard Citizen Association
Briggs Chaney Countryside Citizens Association
Byeforde-Rock Creek Highlands Citizens Association
Chevy Chase Valley Citizens Association
Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights
Citizens of South Germantown
Congressional Forest Community Association
Contemporaries in the Park Citizens Association
Coquelin Run Citizens Association
Edgemoor Citizens Association
Fallsmead Homes Corporation
Forest Glen Park Citizens Association
Fox Hills West Citizens Association
Germantown Citizens Association
Greater Bethesda Chevy Chase Coalition
Greater Colesville Citizens Association, Inc.
Grosvenor Park Condominium Citizens Association, Inc.
Hillandale Citizens Association
Kensington Estates Civic Association
Kentlands Citizens' Assembly

Layhill Alliance, The
Layhill South Citizens Association
Locust Hill Citizens Association
Luxmanor Citizens Associaton
Manor Lake Civic Association
Maplewood Citizens Association, Inc.
North Bethesda Congress of Citizens Ass'ns, Inc.
North Farm Citizens Association, Inc.
Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association
Old Farm Civic Association
Parkside Estates Civic Association
Parkview Citizens Association
Potomac Glen Association
Quail Valley Homeowners Association
Rock Creek Palisades Citizens Association
Springbrook Forest Citizens Association
Stonegate Citizens Association
Strathmore-Bel Pre Civic Association
Tulip Hill Citizens Association
Warfield Lane Preservation Committee
West Bradley Citizens Association
West Montgomery County Citizens Association
Westmoreland Citizens Association
Wheaton Citizens Coalition
Whittier Woods Civic Association
Woodside Civic Association
Woodside Park Civic Association Inc.

Renew Now!

Please help us to have a successful year by renewing your association's membership now. Use the application form enclosed in last month's newsletter (or download a copy from www.montgomerycivic.org) to renew your association's membership to the Civic Federation. The Civic Federation is your means to effectively enhance and protect the quality of life in Montgomery County.

Efforts to Preserve the Canada Dry Building

*—by Mary Reardon,
Silver Spring Historic Preservation Society*

A familiar landmark near downtown Silver Spring is the yellow-brick Canada Dry building on East West Highway. With its dramatic glass block rotunda, the 1946 bottling plant is among the structures that marked Silver Spring's mid-century coming of age as a modern suburb.



Canada Dry Building in Silver Spring
—Photo provided by Mary Reardon

The architect, Walter Monroe Cory, has impressive credentials. He designed the Starrett-Lehigh warehouse in Manhattan (1932), which is listed as a New York Landmark and is now the crown jewel in the revitalization of the trendy Chelsea industrial district. Cory's Manhattan building was featured in a recent issue of the *New Yorker* magazine. The work of this architect, and his Canada Dry building in particular, has been praised by prominent architectural historians including Robert A.M. Stern who hosted the PBS television series "Pride of Place."

This year, the Canada Dry building was purchased by AT&T, and current plans are to re-use it as a switching station. But until AT&T's plans are definite, there is no guarantee that the building will be preserved. With recent news of the self-imposed breakup of AT&T Corp., the fate of the Canada Dry building may be more uncertain.

The Silver Spring Historical Society and Montgomery Preservation Inc. are urging the County to ensure that any revitalization plans for South Silver Spring include

the preservation, restoration, and continued use of the Canada Dry building. County Executive Douglas Duncan is reportedly interested in preserving the building, and he is also interested in community input on this issue—from individuals and civic organizations. At the November 13 meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation, two members of the Silver Spring Historical Society will present the case for preservation of Canada Dry and will ask for the Civic Federation's support.

Trail Construction in Great Seneca Park

—by Charles Pritchard, *Environment Comm. Chair*

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee, I brought up the subject of a vacant position within the Park Department for a volunteer coordinator. I have been informed by the Park Department that other arrangements have been made for directing and supervising volunteers until such time as the position can be filled or additional options can be developed.

On 21 October, the Parks Department began construction of a natural surface (unpaved) trail in Great Seneca Stream Valley Park to replace an informal trail that was environmentally too close to the stream. This three quarter mile long, official trail has been surveyed and is monitored by the Natural Resource Division of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission) to ensure protection of water quality, decrease erosion by the installation of water bars and cribbing, and protect any rare or endangered plant species. Construction work was done by volunteers, members of the REI firm, environmental groups, Friends of Seneca Creek State Park and unaffiliated individuals. These volunteers created a four-foot wide tread way and constructed an eight-foot wooden bridge across a small tributary. And the entire three quarters of a mile was routed without clear-cutting a single tree or shrub!

The trail in Great Seneca Park is a continuation of the Seneca Greenway Trail in Seneca Creek State Park, a 15-mile trail from Riley's Lock on the C&O Canal to MD 355. Extension of the Seneca Greenway Trail is stipulated in the 1998-approved *Countywide Plan for Trails* and in the *Legacy Open Space* program, which was presented to the public for input on November 2, 1999. The objective of the Great Seneca trails project is to reach Watkins Mill Road and, by means of land acquisition or easements, to connect with Patuxent River

State Park as the western leg of the “100-Mile ” or “Green Ribbon “ natural surface trail as described in the *Legacy Open Space* program.

The connection between the County and State Park has been greatly facilitated by the opening of the new highway bridge on MD 355 near its intersection with Game Preserve Road. The bridge was built high enough and with shelves of land adjacent to the bridge supports to permit the passage of wildlife and pedestrians. Opening of a second bridge on MD 118 (Darnestown Road) also provides for passage of wildlife and park users in Seneca Creek State Park. There is now a greenway corridor for wildlife from Watkins Mill Road to River Road, and there is already evidence that the deer are making much use of this corridor.

Bylaw Amendments Proposed

–by I. Dean Ahmad, President

The Executive Committee has proposed two Bylaw amendments for consideration at the November meeting.

First, that Article 6, Section 6 be amended by adding the words "Notice of the special election shall be placed in the newsletter one month ahead of the meeting at which the special election is to take place" as a new second sentence as follows:

6. *Vacancies.* The unexpired term of a vacancy in an elected position shall be filled by a special election at a Regular Meeting. **Notice of the special election shall be placed in the newsletter one month ahead of the meeting at which the special election is to take place.** The position will be assumed upon election.

Second, that Article 10, Section 5 be amended by adding the words "in May" as follows:

5. *Membership Committee.* This committee shall conduct membership drives, evaluate eligibility of applicants for membership, bill for **(in May)** and collect membership dues, transmit to the Treasurer all dues collected with identity of member and year, maintain the membership records, prepare Delegate and member mailing labels, and perform such

other tasks as may be assigned by the Executive Committee.

This would have the effect of invoicing member associations in advance of the new membership year, when it may be easier for them to respond. In accordance with the Bylaw on amendments this motion will be considered for amendments and/or referral at the November meeting, tabled until the next meeting, published in a succeeding newsletter and voted on at the January meeting. The Bylaw on amendments to the Bylaws follows:

1. *Changes.* A proposal to change these By-laws may be made by any Delegate or the Executive Committee. A motion to change by a Delegate must be seconded by Delegates from two other Member associations. Proposed amendments may be referred to the Executive Committee or to a By-laws Committee established under Article V for recommendation.
2. *Notice.* An introduced resolution to amend the by-laws shall be tabled until the following meeting. The proposed change shall be published in the Newsletter and listed in the Agenda before the proposal may be considered.
3. *Approval.* An amendment upon Affirmative Vote shall become effective at the close of the meeting in which approved unless a future date is specified.

More Neat Stuff on the Web Site

–by I. Dean Ahmad, President

Thanks for the many kind words on our new web site. I hope you have all checked it out by now and noticed the many useful features. In addition to the neat stuff mentioned last time, now you can see our bylaws. Also, we shall add a contact phone number for any of our member associations requesting a contact phone number be added. Above all, though, we urge you to get us the address of YOUR web site so we can add a link. Don't have a web site? We'll get you a FREE one. What more could you ask for? Well, if you think of anything, just let me know, and I'll see if we can provide it.

Newsletter e-mail Notification Service

—by Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

Are you tired of checking the MCCF website each day for the newest issue of the Newsletter? Now you don't have to! We will notify you by email the minute the Newsletter is posted on the MCCF website. To avail yourself of this dandy, no-cost service just send me your email address, and I will add you to the list. This notification will not contain the newsletter itself. You will still have to view it on the website (www.MontgomeryCivic.org). The notification itself will simply be a one-line message, but the service will help keep you informed of MCCF activities. Also, no one else will see your email address when the notification is sent. Lastly, this service has nothing to do with the paper copy you receive. Your hard copy will continue to come via snail mail unless you find the email notification/website so much faster and convenient that you tell us to stop with the paper version.

Interested? Simply send your email address to: richard.zierdt@landmark.com. Or call me at home, 301-881-0283.

Pictures from the Forum on Mental Health Issues

—Photos by I. Dean Ahmad



Forum attendee chats with keynote speaker Dr. Rex Cowdry, Medical Director and Deputy Executive Director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill



Helisa Katz of Sign Language Associates signs for the hearing impaired as forum organizer Steve Howie emcees the program.



Forum organizer Peggy Dennis (right) chats with a forum attendee and signer Helisa Katz (center).



Anita Nilmoian of Birnbaum Interpreting Service signs for a panel on access to care featuring Anna Jenefsky, Evelyn Burton, David Power, Sydney Frymire, and Teresa Tudder.



Council member Blair Ewing, Forum organizer Cary Lamari, and Consumer empowerment activist Laura Van Tosh address "Where do we go from here?" as Anita Nilmodian signs for the hearing impaired in the foreground

Holiday Reception December 3, 2000

–by Myrna Taylor, Social Committee Chair

Every year, the Montgomery County Civic Federation hosts a reception for our elected officials to thank them for their service in public office. For Civic Federation members and friends, this is an opportunity to meet their representatives in person. For elected officials, it is an opportunity to meet or renew acquaintances with some of the top civic activists in the community who have intimate knowledge of the concerns of their constituents. This is a time to relax and to get to know each other better. Enjoy the holiday spirit and save serious work for another time.

This year's reception will be held on December 3, 2000 at Aspenwood Senior Living Community, 14400 Homecrest Road, Silver Spring, Maryland (intersection of Bel Pre and Homecrest Roads). The reception will be from 7:00 until 9:00 p.m. A very short program will include remarks by Councilmember Isiah Leggett; presentation of the December Community Hero Award by Senator Chris Van Hollen, Delegate Dana Dembrow, and Councilman Blair Ewing; and introductions of elected officials. Refreshments will be catered by Charles McCormick, Director of Food Services at Aspenwood Senior Living Community. He is the same great chef we had last year. The Executive Committee voted to keep the reservations at the same price it has been for many years (\$15 for individuals, \$25 for couples) even though expenses have increased quite a bit over the years.

Please fill out the form enclosed in this Newsletter and mail it to Myrna Taylor, 15307-J Diamond Cove Terrace, Rockville, MD 20850. If you mail a completed form by November 20, printed name tags will be prepared for you and your guests. We had a good turnout last year (83 members and guests, 17 elected officials), and would love to have an even greater turnout this year. If you have any questions about the reception, please call Myrna Taylor at 301-869-4499.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE
FOR BARNEY J. EVANS
NOVEMBER 18, 2000
12:00 NOON
SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
2900 SANDY SPRING ROAD
OLNEY MD 20832**

Community Hero: Barney Evans

–by Lois J. Sherman, MICC co-Chair



Barney Evans—Photo
provided by Lois Sherman

Family, friends and the civic community were shocked and saddened over the loss of Barney Evans who died of a heart attack at the age 51 in his home in Layhill on September 26th. Barney worked tirelessly as a champion of citizens and the environment since he moved to Montgomery County in 1986.

He grew up in Setauket, Long Island and graduated with honors from Colgate University in Hamilton, New York. He worked for 25 years in sales and marketing as a regional manager for major food companies.

Barney was president of the Allenwood, Gayfields, Wilson Hills and Gaywood Estates Civic Association in Layhill which is a member of the Civic Federation, co-chair of the Montgomery Intercounty Connector Coalition, (MICC), a board member of the Coalition on Sensible Transportation, (COST), Precinct Chair and active in the District 19 Democratic Club, and past vice president of the Montgomery County Green Democrats. He was also a member of the Sierra Club, Audubon Naturalist Society, Campaign to Stop the ICC, (CSICC), Citizens Political Action Committee, (CITPAC) and the North East Montgomery PAC, (NEMPAC).

Barney had a strong interest in transportation issues, but he was also a strong advocate for better schools and senior entitlement. He made protection of communities and the environment one of his highest priorities. He studied the issues, wrote and delivered excellent testimony, participated in radio and TV interviews, met with officials and had numerous articles published in local newspapers and civic newsletters. His expertise as a civil, sophisticated and informed spokesman enabled him to debate any issue effectively. His wit and sense of humor helped to overcome the frustrations encountered when dealing with the manipulation often employed by local government and the media.

To help achieve and dramatize his objectives, and encouraged by his friend and mentor, former state

senator Idamae Garrott, he ran for the House of Delegates in District 19 in 1998. His campaign was intelligent and active, marked by principle and limited only by dollars.

Barney is survived by his parents, Olga and Barney Evans, a brother Edward of California, two sisters, Nancy Riley of Virginia and Jeannie Randall of Long Island, and his twelve year old son, Barney J. Evans II (B. J.).

Barney was concerned with preserving the environment for future generations, especially for B. J., whom he dearly loved. Since a college education for his son was of utmost importance to him, a college fund has been set up for B. J. in Barney's memory.

On November 18th, friends are invited to a memorial service for Barney at St. Peter's Catholic Church in Olney at 12:00 Noon.

**TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COLLEGE FUND
FOR BARNEY EVANS' SON "B. J."**

**CHECKS MAY BE MADE PAYABLE TO
"FIDELITY INVESTMENTS"**

**AND DESIGNATED FOR
"THE BARNEY J. EVANS II
COLLEGE FUND"**

**mail to:
Lois J. Sherman
14800 Pebblestone Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20905
(For more information, call Lois at
301-384-8071)**

From the President

About a hundred people came to our Forum on Mental Health Issues. Thanks are due to Steve Howie, Peggy Dennis, Cary Lamari for organizing our first forum this year. A number of people assisted or contributed to the success of the event. The Federation's intention in sponsoring this was to give an airing to a matter too often ignored because of an unfair stigma attached to those who suffer from mental or behavioral problems.

Our next program deals with the state legislative session coming up. Also on our next agenda is consideration of two Bylaws amendments, a program on the coming state legislative session, and the question of historic preservation of the Canada Dry Building in Silver Spring.

Our Bylaws require an annual audit to be conducted by three persons to be named by the President and confirmed by the Executive Committee. One member of the committee must be a Second Vice President, but there are no restrictions as to the other two members. If you wish to serve the Federation in this capacity, please call me at 301-951-0539 or send me an e-mail at deanahmad@yahoo.org offering your services. I shall make the appointment at the November ExComm meeting. Here is the relevant text from the Bylaws:

6. *Annual Audit.* The financial records of the Federation shall be audited annually by an Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall consist of three individuals, one of whom shall be a Second Vice President, nominated by the President and confirmed by the Executive Committee. The Treasurer for the year being audited shall provide all records to the Audit Committee and provide such assistance as may be required. The Audit Committee shall submit a written report to the Executive Committee which upon approval of the report shall authorize transfer of records and accounts to the new Treasurer.

Susan Sellers has resigned her position as Chair of the Education Committee. I wish to take this opportunity to thank her for her service on this extremely important committee. I am pleased to announce that Robert Astrove, who served as co-chair to Susan, has expressed his willingness to now serve as Chair. I shall appoint him to that position at the November general meeting and call for a confirmation vote.

One elected position in the association still remains open. Although the current Bylaws permit the office to be filled at any time, I am going to schedule the next election according to the as yet unpassed Bylaw amendment on filling vacancies in elected positions, as courtesy. Thus, the special election to fill the vacancy for District 5 Vice President will be held at the **January meeting**. The Bylaws on the filling of vacancies read as follows:

6. *Vacancies.* The unexpired term of a vacancy in an elected position shall be filled by a special election at a Regular Meeting.

–I. Dean Ahmad

2000-2001 MCCF Officers and Committee Chairs

Office	Name	home	office	fax	email
President:	I. Dean Ahmad	301-951-0539	301-656-4714	301-656-4714	deanahmad@yahoo.com
Past-Pres.:	Jorge L. Ribas	301-258-1910	<not available>	301-258-1909	sfristoe@erols.com
1st Vice-Pres.:	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738	same	<not available>	hotyakker@aol.com
2nd Vice-Pres.:	Stanley D. Schiff	301-530-6455	same	<not available>	<none>
2nd Vice-Pres.:	Jeanne Goldstein	301-652-3064	same	<not available>	<none>
2nd Vice-Pres.:	Steve Howie	301-972-2736	same	<not available>	stevehowie@aol.com
2nd Vice-Pres.:	Dan Wilhem	301-384-2698	same	<not available>	djwilhelm@erols.com
Treasurer:	Chris Suzich	301-417-9522	same	<not available>	jcsuzich@juno.com
Rec. Secretary:	Richard Zierdt	301-881-0283	703-464-1617	<not available>	richard.zierdt@landmark.com
Corres. Sec.:	Winnifred Klein	301-654-8084	same	<not available>	w-wklein@webtv.net
Dist. 1 V.P.:	Fifa Northrup	301-984-9424	<not available>	<not available>	<not available>
Dist. 2 V.P.:	Dick Strombotne	301-540-9597	<not available>	<not available>	<not available>
Dist. 3 V.P.:	Myrna Taylor	301-869-4499	same	<not available>	<not available>
Dist. 4 V.P.:	Robert Creager	301-890-4326	301-918-9226	<not available>	<not available>
Dist. 5 V.P.:	<Vacant>				
Historian:	Marcella Petree	301-384-1776	same	<not available>	<none>
Newsletter Ed.:	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738	same	<not available>	hotyakker@aol.com
Parliamentarian:	George Sauer	301-762-7260	same	<not available>	<none>
Public Relations:	Robert Creager	301-890-4326	<not available>	<not available>	<not available>
Education:	Susan Sellers	301-762-1160	<not available>	<not available>	<not available>
Environment:	Charlie Pritchard	301-593-1781	same	<not available>	erc69434@aolcom
Legislation:	George Sauer	301-762-7260	same	<not available>	<none>
Membership:	Jeanne Goldstein	301-652-3064	same	<not available>	<none>
Pl. & Land Use.:	Stan Schiff	301-530-6455	same	<not available>	<none>
Pub. Fin. & Util.:	Chuck Lapinski	301-384-0392	703-506-4600	<not available>	clapinsk@mcri.com
Transportation:	John Viner	301-881-4576	same	<not available>	jviner@erols.com
	Dan Wilhem	301-384-2698	same	<not available>	djwilhelm@erols.com

Letter to the Editor

Union Business or Political Campaigning?

Questionable distribution of political material is occurring within the Montgomery County Government under the guise of union business. "The Montgomery Journal", in an article titled "Literature Gets an F" on October 25 discussed how the Montgomery County Education Association (MCEA) distributed political campaign literature in schools during working hours. MCEA responded that the material was published for "the education of our members."

The distribution of campaign material is not just happening in Montgomery County schools, but also in Montgomery County Government offices. The executive branch of the Montgomery County Government has allowed Local 1994 of the Municipal County Government Employees Organization (MCGEO) the same leeway to distribute campaign literature. On three occasions, MCGEO Local 1994 has distributed political campaign literature to County employees, in the workplace and during normal work hours. Furthermore, management was directed not to interfere with the distribution of union material. The County Attorney

shrugs off this campaign literature as being union business.

Even though Halloween nears, the union and the County do not have the right to put on a mask and trick Montgomery County residents into believing that this literature is union business. Let's stop the trickery and put an end to the distribution of campaign literature on County time and in County offices, buildings and schools.

–Name Withheld by Request

Think about it...

You have just read one of the most thorough and accurate newsletters in the County. For 75 years, elected officials, community leaders, citizens and journalists have relied on the Civic Federation News as an authoritative source of citizen's concerns and expectations.

Whether it is environmental issues, traffic congestion, ethics in government, unmet social needs, schools or land use, the **Civic Federation News** provides you with timely and accurate information. Join the Civic Federation today. With the exception of giving your own time and energy, it is the best investment you can make for your community.

Call Dean Ahmad at 301-951-0539 for more information.

Delegates Meeting

Monday, November 13–7:45 p.m.

First Floor Auditorium

County Council Office Building, Rockville, MD

AGENDA:

- 7:45 Call to Order, I. Dean Ahmad, presiding
7:46 Announcements, Introductions
7:52 Adoption of Agenda
7:55 Approval of Minutes, Officers' Reports (p. 2)
8:00 Community Hero: Barney Evans
8:10 Program: 2001 Legislative Session (p.1)
- George Sauer (Legislation Committee Chair)
 - Von Hollan (MD Senate Dist 19)
 - PJ. Hogan (MD Senate Dist. 39)
- 8:40 Question and Answer
9:05 Old Business
- Transfer funds to Legacy Open Space (p. 2)
- 9:10 New Business
- Confirmation of Robert Astrove Chair of Education Committee (p. 10)
 - Historic Preservation of Canada Dry Building (p. 5)
 - Bylaws Amendments (p. 7)
 - Campaign Law Violations (pp. 4, 11)

The **Montgomery County Civic Federation**, a nonprofit, educational, and advocacy countywide group, was founded in 1925 to serve the public interest. The monthly Delegates Meeting is open to the public and it is held on the second Monday of each month (except for holidays, July, August and December) at 8:00 p.m. in the First Floor Auditorium, County Office Building, Rockville, MD.

The **Civic Federation News** is published monthly. It is mailed to Delegates; associate members; news media, and local, state, and federal officials. Permission is granted to reprint any article provided proper credit is given to the "*Civic Federation News* of the Montgomery County Civic Federation." Deadline for submissions is the last Monday of the month before publication. Attach submission to e-mail to: deanahmad@yahoo.com

Please send all address corrections to Steve Howie, P.O.Box 325, Clarksburg, MD 20871, 301-972-2736, stevehowie@aol.com.

Next Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 16, 2000, 7:45 p.m.

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Services Center

4805 Edgemoor Lane in downtown Bethesda

(Note: there are two entrances to the parking garage—one on Edgemoor Lane and another on Woodmont Avenue.)

Montgomery County Civic Federation

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