



CIVIC FEDERATION NEWS

Official Publication of the Montgomery County Civic Federation

Serving the Public Interest Since 1925

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November 2002



The MCCF cosponsored Taxpayer League Conference on Compensation Study at which Chuck Lapinsky (third from right)officially represented the Federation. Also present were MCCF delegate-at-large (Bill Skinner far right) and Immediate Past President I. Dean Ahmad (not shown because he was taking this picture (and, unless otherwise noted, all other pictures in this issue.)

November Program:

Wheaton Revitalization

-by Bob Abrams, Vice President for District 4

When County Executive Douglas Duncan created the Wheaton Redevelopment Office he also constituted a citizens' board called the Wheaton Revitalization Steering Committee to assist in the effort to redevelop Wheaton in a manner consistent with Wheaton's Master Plan and to insure that the concerns of citizens would be taken into account.

Doug Wrenn, head of the Wheaton Redevelopment Office, will speak at our November meeting about the Wheaton Redevelopment Program, plans for the future revitalization of the Wheaton Business District and the

impact of these plans on the surrounding community. There will be time for questions and answers after his presentation.

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Delegate Meeting Minutes

Oct. 15, 2002

–by Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

MCCF Secretary arrives at 8:08 p.m. as program is in progress. Bill Skinner. Pew Report on Government Performance.



Ms. Michelle Mariani, followed by Mr. Scott Reilly.

Montgomery County got a “B” overall rating; County executive Doug Duncan feels it should be an “A”. MC has had an AAA bond rating for 29 years. Master contracts have increased. 100% of recycling services are contracted. Capital management got a “C”. 2767 lane miles of residential streets are maintained by the County. Broken street lights can be reported online. Human resources rated a “B+”. www.montgomerycountymd.gov, new web site, still under testing, but is up. Q/A. Jerry: Why so little street cleaning? Scott: it’s a matter of priorities. Q: Master contracts? A: Yes. They are competitively bid, and can service more than one department, such as copier services. Charles Wolfe: www.governing.com Look for government performance project.

Old Business.

Charles Pritchard distributes his request to fund a Montgomery County Police Helicopter Unit. Charles moves that the MCCF ask the County Council to reconsider such funding (to begin it). Seven seconds. Helicopters are crucial for law enforcement and safety. Passes 10-9-2. Cary will assist in the writing of the letter.

New Business

Electoral Process. Cary Lamari. Moves that the MCCF establish a task force to look into what happened in the past election and make recommendations for change if it is deemed necessary. Dale Tibbetts speaks. He and others took Board of Elections data and produced a large chart occupying two very large pieces of paper showing total contributions to political candidates made by contributors. Chart will be posted on the MCCF web site. Cary’s motion is seconded. Motion passes 21-0-1.

Dale is nominated to chair the task force. Seconded. Passes with one abstention.

Community Hero Award. Cary Lamari presents the award to Mr. Marvin Weinman.

Voting Process. Dean Ahmad Moves that the MCCF call for the implementation of a process of issuing voter receipts coded with a unique token that only the voter knows has been assigned to her/him and that the votes associated with each token be published on the internet as soon as reasonably possible after the election. Seconded. Motion fails 9-10.

Reform of Election of Judges. Dean Ahmad. The MCCF ExComm recommended that the MCCF oppose the current partisan election of judges. (ExComm recommendations do not require a second). Peggy moves an amendment that a committee be appointed to study this issue. Seconded. Discussion ensues. Peggy withdraws her amendment, but the secretary objects. Amendment passes, then the motion passes 20-2-0.

Elm Street Development Company, ZTA on MPDU bonus, Bill 33-02. Sarah Gilligan, Maplewood Citizens Association, and Dick Kauffinger. Distributes a paper and moves that the MCCF oppose bill 33-02. Seconded. Passes 19-0-0.

Discussion of Governor’s Collaboration for Smart Growth. Luella Mast. Meetings are held at the Maryland Chesapeake Bay Foundation building. About 50 members are on it. Municipal League, counties, Board of Trade, etc. Goal is to make recommendations to the next governor that promote Smart Growth. However, the next governor may not support Smart Growth. Funded by the Maryland Department of State. The meetings are completely open to everyone, and opposing views will not be muzzled. Dean Ahmad raises the concern that the Collaboration might take a position on an issue that the MCCF has not taken (either way), and that the MCCF’s position may not be changed if MCCF’s original position is locked because it supported a position taken by the Collaboration.

Adjournment at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Zierdt

ExComm Meeting Minutes Oct. 22, 2002

–by Peggy Dennis, Acting Secretary

MCCF 7:47 meeting called to order, President Cary Lamari presiding.



Additions to agenda. Skinner: asks that we request County Executive to provide report resulting from survey prepared by "Governing Magazine." Skinner: federal medical privacy issue.

Exec. Committee minutes deferred to next month.

Luella Mast requests minutes to list those attending meetings or at least the number of persons attending. Motion to that effect made and seconded. Discussion on deficiencies of attendance followed. Delegates should be reminded that they may send alternates, if they cannot attend. This is called into question. The Bylaws may not permit sending alternates. Delegates and especially Exec-Committee members should make every effort to attend meetings. A review of Exec-Committee members finds we do not have a quorum. We cannot vote on the motion, but straw vote taken. Equal numbers 4/4 on issue.

Luella: Sept treasurer's report discussed. Two dates to reflect current flow and most recent date. Expenses less than expectations and total income running as predicted. Newsletter expenses about what we thought it should be. Only about 29 organizations have paid dues this year. Bank savings account closed but new account not yet set up.

Stan Schiff: Transportation Policy Report. Members have criticized the Federation report as being deficient on policy issues. We planned a second workshop on policy. We should have it in the coming year although it may no longer be timely after the election. There are major problems with Duncan's proposals. Should we have a forum in 2003? Cary: we already voted to complete the Transportation Report by having a forum on policy either at the regular delegates meeting or at a separate forum to be decided by the Transportation committee. Stan Schiff feels the policy issue is too important to have as a program at a regular delegates meeting. It needs more participants and time and

coverage. Mark: we should continue. Issues will be ongoing. Charles: much depends on election, but in worst case (unreceptive County council) it may be too soon if done in Jan/Feb. Luella agreed with Stan. Peggy: should defer slightly. Stan: not necessary, can get all players together for winter forum. He will see if the participants are willing to go ahead with a forum.

Governors Smart Growth Collaboration: nothing to add.

Annual holiday reception: Aspenwood is not available this year. Antonino's Trattoria restaurant will do it at the same cost as last year and includes the wine and soft drinks. Alcohol will be available at a cash bar which was not an option at Aspenwood. A better deal financially. The restaurant requires a minimum of 80 attendees. Cary likes the Wheaton location, especially in light of Wheaton redevelopment efforts. Fifa asks not to have the responsibility of the logistics for the evening. Cary Lamari will take over that responsibility and Fifa will be doing only mailing invitations and keeping track of RSVPs. Discussion of last year's costs and income. Need to assure adequate space for standing and mingling. All delegates and members should be encouraged to attend and bring friends to the reception. Cary asked each member of the Executive Committee to try and bring 4-5 people to insure that we cover our costs.

President's report: much interest expressed including that of some former elected officials regarding task force on election reforms. Neighbors for a Better Montgomery requests we jointly have a press release concerning the Task Force. Discussion: NFBM a non-partisan organization. Cary: We should take the lead role in this effort, we need to be careful it is not perceived as a political statement, rather as a response to an electoral process that needs fixing. Charles Wolf: other groups may chime in support later. Member groups of Civic Fed could participate in the Task Force? Others can attend but they should not participate. Consensus: hold off on press release or conference until the task force has a report to make public.

Sniper issue: the media has made this into a media circus too much attention to the sniper and fueling public anxiety. Consensus: Civic Fed should not do anything; let Chief Moose handle things as he feels appropriate.

Voting machines not discussed.

Community hero: Cary makes a suggestion. In response to comments Cary agrees to come back with further research as to the value of the candidate's history of community service .

Skinner: requests we send letter thanking the County Executive for sending Mr. Scott Reilly to participation in last month's program. We should also request the county's response to the Governing Magazines report as soon as it's out. Consensus yes.

Medical privacy rule: all our medical records can now be given out to anyone to who asks for them. We should study this: federal regulation overrides state law (privacy). Stan: is the Federation the right group to be discussing federal legislation?

Programs: November: Wheaton Revitalization; January: monobeam/rail. Stan Dorr; February: three suggestions: Fifa suggested Board of Election presentation on new voting machines. Skinner: Maryland Health Care Policy Agenda or Calvert Institute report on failure of high school science and math programs.

Education Committee: no report, no responses to added members

Environmental Committee: issue coming up on mountain bikes on natural surface trails. David Skull of WABA supports bike trails everywhere. Cary believes we have taken position previously that we generally support bike trails except in environmentally sensitive areas.

Zoning and Land use: DeGraba. Emergency Bill 33-02. Another issue before planning board concerning developers asking for buy out of agreed to MPDUs (affordable housing required in developments). Motion to authorize DeGraba to testify to Civic Fed's opposition to the buy out proposal. Seconded. Consensus approval. Tom will testify for the land use committee.

Skinner Opinion: Charter Amendment B. Will require us to comply with State requirements. Voting for this will have effect of restricting MC to the stricter law held by the State. Skinner is opposed to making the government less responsive to the public. Cary stated opinions should be discussed in Legislative Committee before committee report given.

Membership: wants to include letter to association presidents asking their cooperation in getting renewals sent in. Checks are being deposited within 3 to 4 days of receipt. Cary congratulated Fifa on her hard work. Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Peggy Dennis
Acting Secretary

Task Force on Election Reforms

*—by Dale Tibbetts,
North Hills of Sligo Civic Association*

Last month in his "From the President" column, Montgomery County Civic Federation President, Cary Lamari, expressed his concerns about the influence of large amounts of special interest money in local political campaigns and the separation of power between the branches of government.

At the general meeting on October 15, Dale Tibbetts, delegate from North Hills of Sligo Civic Association, displayed a chart of the major campaign contributors to County Council and County Executive races. Special interest contributors such as developers, land use attorneys, financial institutions, property management, hospitality industry, technology and security firms were highlighted. Two thirds of the contributors giving \$4,000 or more were identified in these groups. The chart was of contributions made through August 25, 2002.

The delegation agreed that there was reason for concern and voted 22-0-1 to form a task force to review County electoral processes. Although it was observed that many of the perceived problems with County elections also exist at the State level, the group decided to limit its focus to only County offices. Dale Tibbetts was nominated to chair the Task Force.

Added to the charge of the task force was a review of the election process for Circuit Court judges (see "Partisan Election of Judges", I. Dean Ahmad and "Supporting the Election of Judges", William J. Skinner in the October 2002 newsletter, <http://www.montgomerycivic.org/mccfoct02.pdf>). A

specially charged subcommittee of the Task Force will examine that issue.

Prince George's and Frederick Counties have also recognized the conflict of interest in the financing of local campaigns by individuals and organizations that have business interests before them. Several ideas about what to change in the election process of Montgomery County officials were aired at the delegates meeting. The Task Force will look at those ideas and any others that are brought to its attention. It will produce a report of its findings and work to develop a set of recommendations that can be supported by MCCF.

MCCF is a nonpartisan organization, but a major mission of the Federation is to promote and encourage good government. All interested delegates are encouraged to participate. The first meeting of the MCCF Electoral Review Task Force will be convened shortly after the general election November 5th. Please contact Dale Tibbitts to join the task force at DATibbitts@aol.com or 301-587-9358.

Federation Cooperates with Park and Planning

—by Charles Pritchard, Environmental Chairman

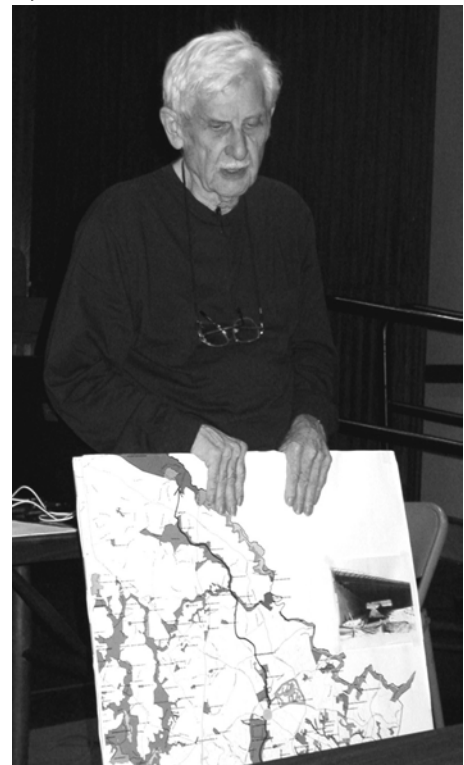
In October, the Civic Federation came to the aid of the Legacy Open Space (LOS) program and the trail planners of the Park and Planning Commission. Under the LOS program, the Land Acquisition officer, Mr. William Griese, presented a request to the Park and Planning Commission to acquire land near a homeowners' association near the Northwest Branch Stream Valley Park and Colesville Road. The small parcel of land would provide the homeowners with access to the park and trail. Since the Civic Federation is a supporter of LOS, a representative of the Federation's Environmental Committee testified before the Park and Planning Commission in support of the acquisition, which was then approved. This testimony was cleared in advance with Federation Executive Committee.

On a second issue, trail planners at M-NC/PPC wanted a slight modification of the recently constructed Norbeck Road Bridge across the Northwest Branch in the Sandy Spring/Norbeck area. In recent years, the

County Department of Public Works and Transportation in cooperation with the State Highway Commission (SHA) has favored bridge design in stream valleys with sufficient overhead clearance and a natural surface shelf beneath the bridge to permit passage of animals, including deer. To funnel the deer and other animals onto the shelves below bridges, high screens are employed paralleling the highway approaches to the bridge. This kind of construction permits wildlife to safely cross under busy highways thus reducing animal-vehicle collisions.

The current extension of Layhill Road between Bonifant and New Hampshire Avenue and crossing Norbeck Road includes a hard surface hiker-biker trail along its west side. The planned deer screens, however, would have provided access to the wildlife underpass only on the east side of Layhill Road. This trail would be an extension of the "100 mile" trail envisaged in the *Legacy Open Space* program, connecting the Northwest Trail via Patuxent State Park with the Seneca Greenway Trail in the western County. The Civic Federation was contacted by a Park and Planning trail planner, who explained that there was an impasse between the Commission and DPWT over modification of the bridge screens. By enlisting the aid of the Montgomery Chapter of the Sierra Club, the MAGIC conservation organization and civic associations that border the Northwest Branch, the Civic Federation *Environmental Committee*

was able to bolster Park and Planning's proposal for providing screens accessible to pedestrians. This proposal was approved by the *Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District*, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service and gained the needed modifications.



Maryland DOT Road Show

–by Luella Mast, Treasurer

Every year prior to the January opening of the next state legislative session, representatives from Maryland's Department of Transportation visit each Maryland county and Baltimore City to publicly brief the legislators on MDOT's plans for road and mass transportation projects over the next six years. The



tour, aptly nicknamed the "Road Show," began this year on September 17 in southern Maryland and will end in Montgomery County on Thursday, November 21. The meeting will be held in the County Council's 3rd Floor Hearing Room, starting at 8 PM.

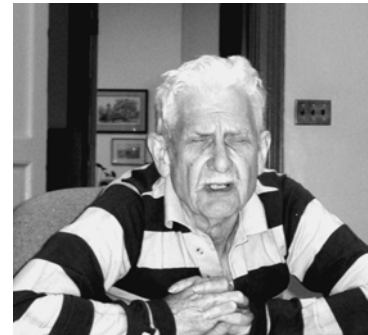
If you have never been to a Road Show and are interested in learning more about upcoming road and mass transit projects in our county, this meeting is a good way to begin. Only legislators are allowed to ask questions, but the MDOT handouts are detailed and you will get a better understanding of the road and transit building process. Parking for the COB (Council Office Building) is now on the ground floor of the COB parking garage. Use the entrance at the corner of Jefferson and Monroe where the county gasoline pumps are. The gates will be up – parking is free. This is the first year for the new parking arrangement so I don't know how full the lot will be. There should be parking on the street should the garage area be filled though. I suppose it is not giving away the bank if I say the message to other counties in Maryland so far has been "no money, no money."

The MCCF is seeking members for its AUDIT COMMITTEE. If you wish to serve, contact Cary Lamari at 301-924-2746 or at carylamari@yahoo.com.

County Police in the Sniper Crisis

–by Charles Pritchard

With the apprehension and arraignment of two persons for the recent sniper murders and wounding of a school-aged boy during the recent sniper crisis, citizens of Montgomery



County can get back to the routines of their everyday lives without the specter of fear poisoning the atmosphere. As in the case of the firefighters and rescue workers in the events of 9/11, our public safety officers have earned our admiration and praise. Police Chief Charles A. Moose, is now deservedly a national figure. His crisis management was excellent.

One should not single out individuals in the Sniper Crisis Task Force for particular praise. However, we should take some pride for having recognized the foresight and acumen of Patrol Officer Michael Fedor and Detective Jay Vangilder of the Montgomery County Police Department whose proposal for a County police helicopter unit in the spring of 2002 was supported by the Civic Federation. Other civic associations also backed the proposal. In the real life domestic terrorism crisis, helicopter support of police operations played a role. In Maryland the role was played by the police department helicopter unit of Prince Georges County: in Virginia, by Fairfax County's police helicopter unit. These units understandably devoted their efforts to their own areas. Montgomery County received some helicopter support from the Maryland State Police helicopter unit based at Woodlawn Park and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), but crews of these units were not well acquainted with Montgomery County geography or police procedures.

The crisis task force, directed by Chief Moose, conferred with the commander of the Maryland National Guard and decided to use National Guard helicopters to support operations within the County. Fedor and Vangilder, who are National Guard helicopter pilots during their off hours, immediately volunteered their services as pilots and observers.

Their intimate knowledge of County geography and contacts with ground units, often on a first name basis, was invaluable. They concentrated during daylight hours on patrols over schools (especially at opening and closing times), shopping malls, metro stations and other points of high population density. They scanned tree lines in wooded areas and rooftops. At night, they used their FLIR (infrared) surveillance equipment and high intensity searchlights to illuminate suspect areas. In the course of patrols, they also contributed to non-sniper emergency requests by ground-based units, including a robbery arrest, responded to missing persons calls and a Fire Department bomb squad when it investigated and dealt with a suspicious package. Overall, they provided much needed support for ground-based officers.

During highway closures for road searches, the helicopters were the only police units capable of moving over the gridlocked roads. They also saved the County thousands, possibly tens of thousands of dollars in police man-hours by checking out calls for emergency service that proved erroneous or low-priority. This function freed up officers to focus on the counter-sniper operations. The helicopters flew to Virginia and back to bring clothing and other evidence to the forensic examiners.

Ironically, the two officers were the authors of a Police Department study for the feasibility of establishing a helicopter unit in Montgomery County. We should note that we are the only major jurisdiction in the Washington metropolitan area that lacks such a unit. The crisis provided real life affirmation of their recommendations, which were not adopted during this year's drafting and approval of the Capital Investment Program (CIP) and Operating Budget. It is to the credit of the Civic Federation that we backed their proposals to the hilt. As the last meeting of the Federation executive board on October 22, a resolution was passed to renew these recommendations based on the lessons learned in the sniper crisis. In this regard, we seem to be well ahead of the County Executive and Council in perceiving a serious gap in our public safety system and moving to support proposals that will improve it.

The entire Montgomery Police Department and Chief Charles A. Moose deserve our greatest praise and respect. At the last meeting of the Executive Committee, it was recommended that an award be made for Chief Moose and the entire Montgomery Police Force with separate commendations to these two

brave police helicopter pilots who backed up their words with actions.

Annual Membership Renewal

—by Fifa Northrup, Membership Chair

To all of you who responded to the reminder about annual dues in a diligent manner by sending in renewal forms and checks, thank you.



Unfortunately, a large number of constituent organizations and associate members still have not renewed their membership. This could be because many of our civic associations have new presidents and/or new officers. Therefore, I'm asking all of you who no longer hold that position, but continue receiving this newsletter, to call or send a note to the new president of your association and ask them to renew the membership in the Montgomery County Civic Federation. If you need renewal forms, please call me at 301-984-9424, and I'll send you one.

Also, another reminder: individuals are welcome to join the association as associate members. Associate members receive the monthly newsletter and are always welcome to attend the Federation's monthly meetings where they can participate in debates and discussions. Dues for associate members are only \$20. Let's all work together to keep our communities beautiful and safe.

Those who have not yet responded to invoice mailing should renew now. We have a very long grace period that extends until January 15 before your voting rights are suspended, but we really encourage you to pay your renewals now. If you need another copy of the application you may download it from our web site (www.montgomerycivic.org) or just photocopy the copy on page 8. Please don't wait until the last minute to renew. Renew right now.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

Serving the County since 1925

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003

Mail to: Fifa Northrop
6920 Old Stage Road
Rockville, MD 20852

Inquiries:

Cary Lamari
(301) 924-2746
carylamari@yahoo.com

Name of Organization/Individual _____ Date _____

Number of Households (Approx) _____ Annual Dues (see below) \$ _____
(Make checks payable to "Montgomery County Civic Federation")

Membership Type	Number of Households	PLEASE E CHECK ▼	DUES	Number of Delegates	Voting Privileges
Individual/Associate	(not applicable)		\$20*	1	No
Neighborhood Organization	Less than 300		\$45*	2	Yes
	301 to 600		\$65*	3	
	More than 600		\$85*	4	
Umbrella Organization	Less than 500		\$45*	2	Yes
	501 to 1000		\$65*	3	
	More than 1000		\$85*	4	
Municipality (Town/City)	(any size)		\$85*	2	No
Business Associate	(not applicable)		\$85*	2	No
Nonprofit Organization	(not applicable)		\$45*	2	No
Public/Govt. Organization	(not applicable)		\$85*	4	No

*Name your delegates according to the number allowed as indicated above. Each will receive our newsletter unless you check the box in the e-mail field. Those delegates will receive an e-mail notice of availability of the newsletter on our website instead. **You may take a \$5 discount off the dues for each box checked.**

1. Name (President+) _____ Phone (H) _____
Street _____ (W) _____
City,State,Zip _____ E Mail _____

2. Name _____ Phone (H) _____
Street _____ (W) _____
City,State,Zip _____ E Mail _____

3. Name _____ Phone (H) _____
Street _____ (W) _____
City,State,Zip _____ E Mail _____

4. Name _____ Phone (H) _____
Street _____ (W) _____
City,State,Zip _____ E Mail _____

+President of applying organization or permanent substitute designated by the president.

Our Bylaws require that we print the list of organizations whose dues have not been received as of press time. Here are the organizations that were unpaid as of October 26, excluding those that have informed us that they do not intend to renew this year. (Our apologies to any who paid since; if there are any errors, please call me.)

**Action Committee for Transit
Ashton-Sandy Spring Civic Association
Bannockburn Citizens Association
Bannockburn Civic Association
Bethesda-Parkview Citizens Association
Boys Civic Association
Briggs Chaney Countryside Citizens Association
Burnt Mills Hill Civic Association
Byford Rock Creek Highlands Citizens Association
Clarksburg Civic Association
Carderock Springs Citizens Association, Inc.
Castlegate HOA
Chevy Chase West Neighborhood Association
Citizens Coordinating Committee on Citizens of South Germantown
City Commons of Bethesda
Clarksburg Civic Association
College Garden Civic Association
Columbia Road Citizens Association
Connecticut Avenue Estates Civic Association
Connecticut Avenue-Greenwood Knolls Civic Ass'n.
East Bethesda Citizens Association, Inc.
East Springbrook Citizens Association
Fallsmead Homes Corporation
Franklin Knolls Civic Association
Garrett Park Citizens Association
Greater Bethesda-Chevy Chase Coalition
Greater Colesville Citizens Association
Greater Darnestown Civic Association
Greater Shady Grove Civic Alliance
Gunpowder Citizens Association
Hunting Ridge Citizens Association
Kensington Estates Civic Association
Kensington Heights Citizens Association
Kentlands Citizens Assembly
Kentlands Community Foundation
Kentwood Park Citizens Association
Layhill South Citizens Association
Long Branch Neighborhood Initiative
Luxmanor Citizens Association**

**Manor Lake Civic Association
Norbeck Citizens Association
Luxmanor Citizens Association
North White Oak Civic Association
Oakview Citizens Association
Parkside Estates Civic Association
Potomac Manors II
Rock Creek Hill Citizen Association
Sacks Neighborhood Association
Seven Oaks Evanswood Citizens Association
Sligo Park Hills Citizens Association
South Four Corners Citizens Assn.
Springbrook Forest Citizens Association
Strathmore-Bel Pre Civic Association
Sycamore Access Citizens Association
Walnut Woods Neighborhood Association
Warfield Lane Preservation Committee
West Bradley Citizens Association
West End Civic Association
Whittier Woods Civic Association
Willows and Neighbors Citizens Association
Woodside Civic Association
Woodside Park Civic Association Inc.**

Holiday Reception For Elected Officials

–by Cary Lamari, President

The Montgomery County Civic Federation will have its annual reception on December 8 from 7:00 until 9:30 p.m. at Antonia's Trattoria, 11222 Grandview Avenue, Wheaton Maryland. Our hostess, Mrs. Antonia Cenere, has served the Wheaton Community for 9 years.

Having our Annual Reception in Wheaton this year is one way for the Montgomery County Civic Federation to demonstrate its commitment to the revitalization of our urban centers. The restaurant is located in what is locally known as the Wheaton Triangle named for the three major crossroads, Veirs Mill Road, Georgia Avenue and University Boulevard. There is plenty of parking and the restaurant is easily accessible from three major roads.

The cost of the reception will be \$20.00 for individuals and \$35.00 for couples. There will be a buffet with wine and soft drinks included, and there will be a cash



Scenes from last year's holiday reception.—Photos courtesy Frances Eddy

bar for those who enjoy something with a little more kick.

The Civic Federation enjoys putting on our annual holiday reception. It is an opportunity for members of our community to meet our elected officials and share good food and drink with them and with each other. This year we plan to honor The Montgomery County Police for their professionalism in the capture of the sniper.

All members of the Civic Federation, all members of its constituent organizations, and the public at large are welcome to attend, and we request all member organizations to include this notice in your association newsletters. We look forward to seeing you on December 8.

To reserve your place, fill in and return the flyer enclosed with this issue of our newsletter (and available at our web site at www.montgomerycivic.org/reception.pdf) and send it with your payment to: Fifa Northrop, 6920 Old Stage Road, Rockville, MD 20852.



Do we have your correct address?

Send all address correction
to Steve Howie

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

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2nd Vice-Pres.:	Mark Adelman	301-942-6893	301-295-3208	301-942-4108	adelman3@erols.com
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Rec. Secretary:	Richard Zierdt	301-881-0283	703-464-1617	<not available>	richard.zierdt@landmark.com
Corres. Sec.:	Fifa Northrup	301-984-9424	<not available>	301-984-0147	rcnorth@bellatlantic.net
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Newsletter Ed.:	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738	same	<not available>	hotyakker@aol.com
Parliamentarian:	William Skinner	301-762-5483	301-762-3784	301-762-3786	wjswtg@aol.com
Public Relations:	Stuart Rochester	301-384-5515	<not available>	<not available>	<not available>
Education:	Mark Adelman	301-942-6893	301-295-3208	301-942-4108	adelman3@erols.com
Environment:	Charlie Pritchard	301-593-1781	same	<not available>	erc69434@aol.com
Legislation:	George Sauer	301-762-7260	same	<not available>	<none>
Membership:	Fifa Northrup	301-984-9424	<not available>	301-984-0147	rcnorth@bellatlantic.net
Pl. & Land Use.:	Tom DeGraba	301-340-2570	<not available>	<not available>	<none>
Pub. Fin. & Util.:	Chuck Lapinski	301-384-0392	703-506-4600	<not available>	clapinsk@mclean.mcric.com
Transportation:	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698	same	<not available>	djwilhelm@erols.com

From the President

We can all breathe a little easier these days. The Montgomery County Police Department, federal and state agencies and especially Chief Moose deserve a great deal of appreciation for all the hard work that went into catching the sniper.



How anyone could take another person's life will always be beyond my understanding. Montgomery County has suffered a major loss: we will survive but never forget. What I have learned from this experience is to never take the safety of my wife and kids for granted. My heart goes out to all those who lost a family member or a friend in this senseless attack on innocent, unsuspecting people. There are no words that can diminish the losses of the victims' families and friends. I can only offer my condolences. May God bless you all and my prayers are with you.

–Cary Lamari

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.

Use the application form on page 8, or download your application form from our website www.montgomery.org/application.

Delegates Meetings
Tuesday, Nov. 12–7:45 p.m.

**1st fl. Auditorium
County Co. Office Bldg., Rockville, MD**

AGENDA:

7:45 Call to order, Cary Lamari presiding
7:50 Adoption of Agenda
7:55 Announcements and Introductions
8:00 Approvals of minutes, officers report
8:10 **Program:** Wheaton Revitalization Steering Committee
9:00 Old Business
9:10 New Business
9:45 Adjournment

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 for the next issue: 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 21. Attach submission to e-mail to: Hotyakker@aol.com file in fully justified 11-point Times Roman font (preferably as a Word document.) Send editorial content to Peggy Dennis, 1111 Fawcett Road, Potomac, MD 20854.

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. 21, 2002, 7:45 p.m.

Red Brick Courthouse

29 Courthouse Square, Rockville

(Note: there is parking lot in front of the courthouse.)

Montgomery County Civic Federation
Steve Howie, Database Manager
P.O. Box 325
Clarksburg, MD 20871

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