

Arlington County Civic Federation

The civic voice of Arlington for 82 years

Newsletter

June, 1998

Volume 82, No. 10

June Meeting:

- **Election of Officers**
- **A-SPAN Facility Location Options**
- **ABC Issues Forum Introduction**
- **Resolution on Funding the Arts**

7:30 pm, Tuesday, June 2nd
John T. Hazel Conference Center
Arlington Hospital
1701 N. George Mason Drive

Our fast-paced June meeting will begin with our annual election of officers. The Nominating Committee has proposed the slate of officers listed on the next page, but nominations from the floor are also possible. Then during Committee Reports Robert Atkins will bring us up to date on the Revenues and Expenditures Committee's progress in reviewing the Capital Improvement Plan, thwarted at press time by a lack of printed copies.

Our first program topic is the request of the Arlington Street People's Assistance Network (A-SPAN) for the Federation's feedback on placement of a new facility to provide social services to homeless people. A-SPAN will be present to describe the fa-

cility and current candidates for the location, as well as listen to your views. Our second program topic will be a new initiative being mounted by Arlingtonians for a Better County (ABC). ABC is launching a series of studies of issues that are close to the hearts of Arlington neighborhoods. ABC study chairs will briefly describe the various subjects, which are listed inside this issue.

Finally, the Cultural Affairs Committee will present a resolution for a Federation position on the current proposal for Arts funding, including "the 1% solution" modified to require a County Board decision on each project. This will be an interesting and action-packed meeting, so please join us!

Nominating Committee Reports 1998-99 Nominations

The Nominating Committee chaired by David Foster with Amy Appelbaum, Bill Gearhart, Nancy Graham and Ben Winslow announces the following slate of officers nominated for 1998-99 positions:

President	Randy Swart
Vice President	Jim Pebley
Treasurer	Frances Finta
Secretary	Tim Wise

Executive Committee: Robert Atkins, Darnell Carpenter, Rebecca Gray, Robert Rackmales, Ann Rudd.

Although this slate could be sufficient, nominations can also be taken from the floor at the June meeting before officers are elected.

Recommendation on Public Art Policy is Modified

The Public Art Committee is seeking comments on an amended version of the proposal described to the Federation last fall. The new version retains the concept of a fund to incorporate art in public works, but the now-famous "Percent for the Arts" has been made optional, with the County Board required to vote yes or no to including 1% for the arts content on each bonded project. A Public Art Master Plan would identify projects. The Federation's Cultural Affairs Committee has been distributing descriptions of the revised recommendations at prior meetings, and will present a resolution at the June meeting to express a formal Federation position on the current version of the proposal.

A-Span Looks to Locate New Facility for Homeless

by Lora Rinker, A-Span

Based on a competitive community grant process, HUD has funded a Case Management and Employment Center for homeless people in Arlington. The Center will provide professional services to help homeless people get jobs and housing. Through comprehensive case management services homeless people will be assisted in identifying the causes of their homelessness and empowered to overcome the obstacles which are keeping them homeless. An employment counselor will provide life skills and pre-employment classes and provide job training and placement opportunities.

The Center will be operated by Arlington Street People's Assistance Network, Inc. (A-SPAN). Homeless people will be referred to the Center by A-SPAN outreach workers and other Arlington public and private social service providers. Homeless persons ready to accept help will also be able to self-refer.

The Center will operate during regular business hours. A-SPAN is currently searching for approximately 2000 sq. ft. of space in a commercial area to site the Center and invites siting and program suggestions from Civic Federation members. A-SPAN representatives will report on their plans at the June meeting. If you are unable to attend, A-SPAN invites you to call them with any questions, ideas or comments at 271-4588. Ask for Executive Director, Lora Rinker. You can also drop Lora an email addressed to lar18@juno.com

ACE Offers Environmental Programs to Associations

by Steve Coffee, ACE

Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment has lots to offer civic associations.

Executive Director Steve Coffee is available for speaking engagements. He can present the Chesapeake Bay Foundation's slide show and discuss the efforts to save the Bay, or he can tailor a talk to more specific local concerns.

For neighborhoods concerned about illegal dumping, ACE has the supplies and the permit to stencil the "Don't Dump--Chesapeake Bay Drainage" message on storm drains. We just need interested citizens groups to work with.

ACE also has a Citizens' Guide to the Arlington Environment. It's a handy, one sheet reference to local resources for recycling, household hazardous waste disposal, park resources, and transportation options. The Citizens' Guide provides tips for reducing your own impact on the surrounding environment and phone numbers for reporting pollution incidents. Civic associations are encouraged to mail the Citizens' Guide to members or to post it on web sites. It is available in electronic form on our web site, <www.capaccess.org/ace>. Hard copies are available from ACE or can usually be found at the Central Library or Courthouse Plaza. [Note: We will also have copies available at the June Federation meeting.] ACE is celebrating its 20th year working for a cleaner, healthier community. Call 228-6427.

ABC Launches Initiative

Arlingtonians for a Better County has some new membership this year, and some new directions. At our June meeting ABC will present an informational program and invitation to participate in a new series of issues studies that the organization has initiated.

ABC has organized Issues Discussions on three broad areas: livability, housing and crime and gangs. In our June meeting long-time Federation delegate John McCracken, Chair of ABC, will introduce the study group chairs for the six livability discussion groups: traffic, safety, prevention of neighborhood decline, schools, neighborhood life and services and amenities. Each discussion group chair will briefly highlight their issue and progress so far in dealing with it. We will also hear brief presentations on the other two major areas, housing and crime and gangs.

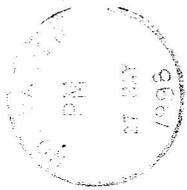
ABC's purpose in coming to the Federation at this time is to broaden their process out to the general community. Draft papers on some of the topics will be available, and Federation delegates will be encouraged to participate as individuals as the discussion groups continue to work on these issues of interest to our neighborhoods.

Coming Up

**September 1st Meeting:
Candidates' Night**

**October 5th:
Neighborhood Day**

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Arlington County Civic Federation
c/o Swart
4611 Seventh Street South
Arlington, VA 22204-1419

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FRANCES FINTA

3317 23RD ST N

ARLINGTON VA 22201-4310

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Briefs

Journal Cup In the News Award of the Journal Cup was well-covered by all local news media and even the *Washington Post*, perhaps responding to this year's neighborhood-oriented theme in Arlington. The *Post* had a nice photo of cup-winner Bill Nolden on the front porch steps he had just rebuilt the week before.

Washout on I-66: Repairs are moving at a rapid rate, with the wall almost restored and the Custis Trail scheduled to be repaved by July 1st.

Neighborhood Day: Arlington Schools will be participating in the October 5 events to celebrate the theme of Our Youth-Our Future. Your neighborhood school PTA is keen on getting together with your civic association for this event.

Newsletter Editorial Committee

Editor: Randy Swart 521-2080
President: William Nolden 841-1482
Newsletter email: civicfed@bscl.org
Fax submissions: 486-0576

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President William Nolden
Vice President Randy Swart
Treasurer Edward McWethy
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