

# Arlington County Civic Federation

*The civic voice of Arlington for 84 years*

## Newsletter

October, 1999

Volume 84, No. 2

### *October Meeting:*

#### **Department of Human Services Relocation and Consolidation**

**7:30 pm, Tuesday, October 5th  
John T. Hazel Conference Center  
Arlington Hospital  
1701 N. George Mason Drive**

As some neighborhoods are aware, Arlington's Department of Human Services has been trying for years to find a new home where its many functions can be put under one roof. A location has been selected, and by the time we hold our meeting it is likely that the County Board will have approved the plan to move, although there is considerable neighborhood opposition in Lyon Village. We will hear Ron Carlee, the head of DHS, who is coming to describe to us the final plan for the move, the new facility, and how it and its clientele will fit into the surrounding neighborhoods. There will be time for questions and answers following Mr. Carlee's presentation.

### **DHS Relocation**

If approved by the County Board, the Department of Human Services (DHS) will move from various locations to a building on Wilson Boulevard diagonally across from the Clarendon Metro, previously leased by GSA for the Marine Corps. The Fact Sheet on the move prepared in July states that it will house programs of Child and Family Services, Aging and Disability Services, Economic Independence, Planning and Administration, Public Health--Child and Family, Public Health--Adult, Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse. Some programs will remain in other sites.

Many Lyon Village residents oppose the move, and about 1,000 have signed a petition against it. The County Board is scheduled to decide on final approval in its October 2nd meeting. So our program will probably come after the decision has been made. But the plans for the facility have been modified as the relocation process moved along, and this will be the period when implementation is just beginning. Public input is still a factor. Come and hear what the controversy has been about, and what will happen next.



## **Neighborhood Day Parade Will be Bigger this Year**

Arlington's Neighborhood Day is scheduled for Saturday, October 23rd. It is still not too late to think about a float or "precision lawnmower drill team" to represent your neighborhood in the afternoon parade, featuring the Shriners, Ft Myer's Fife and Drum Corps and a musical extravaganza by the combined bands of four Arlington schools. Many civic associations have announced events for that morning, ranging from yard sales to school landscaping blitzes. Look for newly legalized banners on Wilson Boulevard and Columbia Pike announcing the event. Your association can help to make this a rousing celebration of Arlington's focus on neighborhoods and liveability.

## **New Safety Program for Seniors Living Alone**

The Arlington County Sheriff's Office and the Arlington Citizens' Crime Prevention Council have a new program to provide safety checks on Senior residents who live alone. Residents can register with the Sheriff's Office to receive a daily phone call checking on their safety and welfare. Volunteers from the Citizens Crime Prevention Council will make the phone calls between 8 AM and 10 AM. If contact is not made, a Sheriff's patrol unit will be dispatched to the home to do a thorough site check to make sure there are not medical or other emergency service needs. For information please call the Sheriff's Office at (703) 228-4460.

## **Can We Televis the Federation's Programs?**

Patrick Smaldore is investigating possibilities for televising the Federation's monthly programs on Channel 33, just as the Candidates Night debates are now televised. There is even the possibility of eventually establishing a live link from Arlington Hospital's John T. Hazel Conference Center, where we meet. The effort would require us to furnish our own TV crew, trained by Channel 33. If you are interested in working with Patrick, please give him a call at 528-3935

## **Unitarians Hold Programs on Youth and Violence**

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, at Arlington Boulevard and George Mason Drive, will launch on October 3 a five-part series of programs on Youth and Violence. The programs will explore the roots of the wave of violence now affecting our youth. Attendees of all ages are welcome, and should leave the forum with practical steps for taking action at home and within schools, faith groups and the community. The opening forum, a panel discussion including Police Chief Edward Flynn and others from academia and non-profit organizations, will be moderated by County Board Member Jay Fisette. It will be held on Sunday, October 3rd, at 4 PM at the church, 4444 Arlington Boulevard. Further sessions are scheduled in November, January, March and May. For information please call (703) 892-2565.



## **Election Officials Needed**

You can become an election official to serve at the polls. The day is long, but the work is fun and you are paid. Best of all, you will see friends and neighbors as they come to vote. Call the Registrars Office at 228-3456 for information. If you can't serve this year, put your name on the list for a call next year.

## **Election Will Have One New Wrinkle**

This year Arlington and several other test areas in Virginia are trying out a new election procedure. After all those years of just telling the election official who you were, this year you will be asked to show an identification card. Almost any normal ID card will do, including your Virginia Voter Card. If you don't have your purse or wallet along you can still fill out a form and vote. But to save time and hassle, don't forget to take an ID when you go to the polls on November 2. And please note that the Civic Federation will as always delay its meeting until November 9 to avoid conflict with Election Day.

## **Transportation Committee to Meet on October 27th**

The Federation's Transportation Committee will meet for its second time this year on Wednesday, October 27th at 7:30 PM at Randy Swart's home, 4611 Seventh Street South. Please contact Randy if you are coming, since the date may change.

## **Fair Booth Draws Crowds**

The Federation's booth at the Arlington County Fair in August drew a lot of interest. More than 1,100 push-pins in our map attested to the many Arlington streets represented by visitors. We showed all the neighborhood Web pages, and introduced many people to both the Federation and their own civic association. The booth won two awards, including one for Theme and an Outstanding Exhibitor ribbon! We would like to thank the Fair Booth volunteers who each put in two hours staffing the booth: Margo Horner, Chris Ziebarth, Elaine Squeri, Terri Prell, Bob Atkins, DeAndrea Beck, Patrick Smaldore, Ed Demoney, Dick Herbst, Bill Gearhart, Reid Goldstein, Eric Buehlmann, Michele Buehlmann, Jim Pebley and Paul Gruber. Ann Rudd and Randy Swart constructed the booth, using a design Ann found that can be easily set up and stored each year.

With this kind of success we look forward to having a booth at next year's fair. Please let Randy Swart know if you are interested in working on the booth design in 2000.

### **Coming Up**

**October 5 - ACCF Meeting**

**October 23rd - Neighborhood Day,**  
Neighborhood events + Parade

**October 27 - ACCF Transportation**  
Committee

**November 2 - Elections**

**November 9 - ACCF Meeting:**  
Legislation Package for 2000.



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