

## **McLean Citizens Foundation Grant Awards Announced**

### **MCF commits \$21,000 in local community grants**

**February 23, 2008** - McLean, VA – The McLean Citizens Foundation (MCF), charitable arm of the McLean Citizens Association, made grant commitments in their winter grant cycle to four organizations totaling \$21,000 in funding obligations.

**McLean Trees Foundation** – MCF approved a grant for \$1,000 to the McLean Trees Foundation to replace four dying and missing Bradford Pear trees along the median of Dolley Madison Boulevard/Old Chain Bridge Road. A heartier species of tree, but with the same spectacular appearance -- the Cleveland Flowering Pear -- would replace the troubled Bradfords some time prior to May. The new trees will be planted, mulched and maintained by McLean Trees volunteers.

**Churchill Road Elementary School Outdoor Odyssey Program** – Two years ago, MCF supported the Churchill Road PTA and an exciting new program. It was initiated by a group of community parents interested in teaching students about environmental ethics and extending their classroom experience to the outdoors. The students have planned and developed their outdoor classroom, consisting of a bird and butterfly garden, a labyrinth surrounded by native plants and grasses and a set of seven raised beds. Three years ago the students started seeds indoors in the winter, then transplanting the seedlings into the raised beds in the spring. The MCF grant of \$2,000 will help install power into the greenhouses to improve and extend the growing season. The Churchill PTA will match the grant with \$2,325 of its own funds.

**Capital Hospice** – Capital Hospice has been serving the needs of the elderly and critically ill since 1977. MCF approved a grant of \$7,500 for Capital Hospice to purchase portable computer equipment for their nurses who provide end-of-life care services to patients, many of whom are receiving care and services in their own homes. A second challenge grant of up to \$7,500 was approved upon completion of negotiations with

**Pimmit Hills High School** -- Pimmit Hills is an alternative high school in the McLean Planning District, serving a 250-300 international student body ranging from ages 17 to 45. Because Pimmit Hills is not a traditional McLean High School, it has no PTA and no other source of outside funding beyond what its teachers and administrators pay for out of their own pockets. Funds provided by the County are used for software and textbooks and do not begin to meet the educational needs of this very special population. Two grants were approved by MCF for Pimmit Hills High School: a discretionary grant of \$1,000 will help to secure medical and dental screenings for students, and a second grant of \$2,000 will be used to secure needed supplies of books, teacher guides and literacy materials.

Since 1981, the McLean Citizen's Foundation has been funding grants to local non profit organizations with worthy projects. Total funding commitments to the Greater McLean community exceed \$975,000. MCF Trustees review grant proposals in February and October of each year. Donations to the community foundation can be sent to P.O. Box 75, McLean, VA 22101. Credit card donations and more information on MCF can be made online at [www.mcleancitizensfoundation.org](http://www.mcleancitizensfoundation.org).

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