



# NEWS

ANNANDALE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY FOR ACTION  
7200 COLUMBIA PIKE, ANNANDALE, VA 22003

July-August  
2006

**F**red Ruffing Memorial Scholarship. We were honored to present the Fred Ruffing Memorial Scholarship to the 2006 recipient, Jesse Baskin. Jesse is a member of Ravensworth Baptist Church and has volunteered for ACCA's furniture and family emergency ministries. Jesse is challenged by a learning disability and Tourette's Syndrome. We also welcomed several of the ongoing scholarship recipients, Dae Young Yoon and Paul Reynolds. Both expressed their appreciation to the group. Heather Broll is also a continuing scholarship recipient, but was unable to attend the meeting.

**T**he Fred Ruffing Memorial Scholarship began in 1978 as an honor to an exceptional man. Fred Ruffing and his wife Emily (who is an integral part of ACCA's Child Development Center) were the founders of ACCA. Fred's vision and generous spirit have inspired ACCA volunteers to continue to work to serve the poor in our area. The idea for the scholarship came as a tribute to Fred's commitment to our community and his deep interest in helping the disabled. The words of the Ruffing family state Fred's accomplishments well:

Fred Ruffing was one of the metropolitan area's leading activists. His accomplishments included forming the Human Relations Council Workshop to survey the needs of the Mt. Pleasant-Bailey's Cross Roads Community and the establishment of the Annandale Christian Community for Action. In 1968 Fred Ruffing and his wife, Emily, were the recipients of the Washington Star Citizenship Award for their civic activities in Northern Virginia. Fred also organized the first Boys Club wrestling teams, league and tournaments in Northern Virginia.

In his professional and private life, Fred was particularly sensitive to the economically disadvantaged and physically challenged. He did more than just care. He waged a personal crusade to give them an equal opportunity for success. While at CIA, Fred Ruffing received several commendations for Equal Employment Opportunity achievements, including a Certificate of *Distinction*



Combined Federal Campaign  
of the National Capital Area

2100 M Street, N.W., • Suite LL-14  
Washington, D. C. 20037-1298

ASSISTANCE 703-256-1378  
DONATIONS 703-256-9513  
INFORMATION 703-256-0100

in 1974, and a personal letter of commendation from Director Colby in 1976. On his own initiative, he fostered upward mobility programs and personally sought out, interviewed, and recruited minority applicants for employment. An example of Fred Ruffing's efforts was his recruitment of hearing-impaired students from Gallaudet University. Just before his death, because of his deep concern for integrating physically challenged employees into the work force, he instituted a sign language training program so hearing employees would be capable of communicating with hearing impaired employees.

Fred Ruffing was ahead of his time in computer technology, management style, empowerment of employees, equal opportunity and diversity. As a result, the CIA recognized him as one of 50 CIA "Trailblazers" in 1997. After Fred's death in 1976, ACCA established the Fred Ruffing Scholarship for high school students with disabilities to continue their education and to memorialize Fred's spirit and the inspiration he provided to everyone he met.

**O**ver 100 scholarships to disabled high school graduates in Fairfax County have been given under this program to help them with college expenses. All of the scholarship recipients in the last 28 years have been truly needy and worthy of financial aid. The group thanked outgoing scholarship committee chair George Davis for his dedicated service in coordinating the scholarship program since its inception.

**A**CCA is appealing to member churches to provide donations specifically to finance the scholarship. ACCA welcomes additional contributions from individuals or organizations. Please send donations to ACCA at 7200 Columbia Pike, Annandale VA 22003, and designate the Fred Ruffing Memorial Scholarship. For more information, please contact the new committee chair, Ann Marie Hicks, at 703-256-7749.

**Meeting Host.** The July ACCA meeting was held at Queen of Apostles Catholic Church. Official representatives George and Betty Jane Davis have been ACCA volunteers since the early days of the organization, volunteering in many different ministries.

**Child Development Center News.** Mona Ottoson is the new chair of the Child Development Center Board, and four new members have joined the board. The children's garden is bearing fruits and vegetables. New children are starting at the center and the older ones are moving on to kindergarten.

The childcare government subsidy program budget was reduced in the final Virginia budget, although the Governor had asked for more funding. Low-income families served by ACCA and other childcare providers will be affected by these funding cuts. Individuals may want to communicate concerns about this reduction to members of the Northern Virginia delegation to the State Legislature.

**Annandale CROP Walk.** The 2006 Annandale CROP Walk will be held Saturday, October 21 at Lake Accotink Park. Registration begins at 8 am and the walk begins at 8:30. The CROP Walk raises funds for Church World Service's hunger, refugee and disaster relief and development assistance projects. The 2005 Annandale CROP Walk raised \$14,407, and the ACCA food pantry received a total of \$3556 from the walk. A recruiter is needed from each church to publicize the walk and coordinate walkers.

ACCA is again sponsoring a CROP Walk poster contest. Poster entries are due October 6 at the Child Development Center. The poster contest is open to all youth through grade 12. Posters should present a hunger theme and publicize the Annandale CROP Walk. Preferred poster size is no larger than 14" x 22" (½ of standard poster board). Please mark the artist's name, age and church on the back. For more information, please contact Camille Mittelholtz at 703 573-0074 or [kmittelholtz1@cox.net](mailto:kmittelholtz1@cox.net), or see [www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org).

## REPORTS FROM THE COMMITTEES

**Family Emergency-** During June, 41 households received assistance totaling \$17,838. Sixteen families received rental assistance, and an additional 8 households received FEMA rental assistance funds. Nine households received utilities assistance, six medical and two received help for car repairs. Updated guidelines for assistance were approved at the meeting.

**Food Pantry-** During the month of June, pantry volunteers made 42 deliveries serving 132 individuals.

**Furniture Ministry-** In June, volunteers completed 32 furniture pickups and 32 deliveries to needy clients. We were fortunate to receive a large supply of single roll-up type beds by A-Plus Rental in Springfield. Key warehouse needs are beds (particularly double beds), dressers, kitchen tables and sofas.

**Grants-** For FY2007, United Way approved grants of \$37,835 for the Child Development Center and \$26,000 for Basic Needs (Family Emergency Assistance). ACCA received a new grant of \$5537.01 from Alternative Gifts International, resulting from our nomination by John Calvin Presbyterian Church.

**Housing-** Mark your calendars for next spring! The Rebuilding Together workday is scheduled for April 28, 2007. Churches should be considering whether they would

like to sponsor a house. Nominations for houses to be repaired can be submitted to Rebuilding Together at any time. The program is targeted to low-income homeowners. **Meals on wheels (weekday)**— In June, Meals on Wheels volunteers delivered a total of 714 meals. The Baileys Crossroads Meals on Wheels program is seeking a coordinator for the program.

**Transportation-** Between May 29 - June 30, 25 rides were provided for 24 people.

### **Community Bulletin Board**

-The Interfaith Communities for Dialogue is planning a community picnic on September 10, 1 pm, at Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike. Bring a dish to share, a blanket or chairs, and plan to enjoy games and meeting neighbors.

- John Calvin Presbyterian Church will sponsor an Arts and Craft Fair on September 16, 10 am-2 pm. The church is located at 6531 Columbia Pike. The fair will benefit the Presbyterian Women Missions.

- United Baptist Church is planning a Chili Cookoff on October 28, the day of the Annandale Parade. The congregation would welcome participation by other churches.

## **FURNITURE MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

September 9	St. Alban's Episcopal
September 16	Providence Presbyterian
September 24	St. Michael's Catholic
September 30	Latter Day Saints/Friendship United Methodist
October 7	St. Barnabas' Episcopal/Cornerstone Evangelical

**Next meeting**

**Tuesday, September 5**

**Annandale Ward, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**

**3900 Howard Street, Annandale**