Katharine Weymouth Keynote Speaker at Federation Citizen of the Year Dinner

(FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA)

Katharine Weymouth, Chief Executive Officer, Washington Post Media and Publisher, The Washington Post, will be the keynote speaker at the Fairfax Federation Citizen of the Year Awards Banquet. The Federation will honor Ms. Mollie Morison-Loeffler and others at its annual Citizen of the Year banquet at the Tysons Crowne Plaza on Sunday, May 15, 2011.

Mollie Morison-Loeffler, a Mason District citizen community leader who helped revitalize her community, win two $5000 grants from the Fairfax County Neighborhood Enhancement Partnership Program for both her community and a local county park, and resurrect the Mason District Council of Civic Associations, is the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations’ 2010 Citizen of the Year. Ms. Loeffler’s energy and enthusiasm for creating community and taking action are renowned. Known throughout Fairfax County as a real “firecracker,” Mollie Loeffler was selected for her leadership in re-establishing her community association and winning the two $5000 grants. Mollie’s work then led to a bigger platform and she spearheaded the reconstituting of the long dormant Mason District Council. Under her leadership, the Mason District Council has tackled major zoning issues such as overcrowding and littering by creating a network of resources that include citizens associations and the county working on solutions to common problems facing the community.

Charlie Dane, of Annandale will receive a 2010 Citation of Merit at the banquet. Dr. Dane has a long history of public service to Fairfax County. He has been associated with the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations for many years. For almost ten years, he served as Chair of the Federation’s Education Committee. He served for two years as co-chair and continues to serve as a member of the Fairfax County School Board’s Advisory Committee of Human Relations. He is a member of the Fairfax County Public School Superintendent’s Business and Community Advisory Council. He participates in the annual review of scholarship applications submitted to College Access Fairfax. In addition to education pursuits, Dr. Dane has served for eight years as the Braddock District representative on the Fairfax County Commission on Organ and Tissue Donation and Transplantation and serves as the Commission’s Vice-Chair. As a retired federal employee (Chief, Office of Scientific Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), he is a member of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association and has served as Treasurer, Vice President, and currently, President, of the Annandale NARFE Chapter 1159.

In addition, the Federation will honor two long-time leaders of the community with Special Gratitude Awards:

- Bill Lecos, as past president and CEO of the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Tysons Land Use Task Force, played a central role in the citizen-based effort to replan Tysons Corner. Thanks largely to Bill's leadership, the Board of Supervisors had the opportunity to approve a visionary Comprehensive Plan amendment that enabled historic investments in
Tysons' transportation infrastructure while spurring development of new, green housing stock. Bill ensured that this re-planning effort helped business in the County and had the support of the business community. Bill has been involved in public affairs in our region for two decades, as President of the Restaurant Association, Senior Vice President of Policy at the Washington Board of Trade, and President and CEO of the Fairfax Chamber of Commerce. Bill has played a central role building broad-based support for transportation and land use policies that work towards improving the quality of life for Fairfax residents.

- Anthony H. Griffin, as Fairfax County Executive, has provided Fairfax County with solid leadership, good fiscal stewardship, and motivated and inspired the county workforce. He has helped distinguish Fairfax County as both a world-class center of commerce and trade, and the technology hub of the East Coast. Under Griffin's leadership, Fairfax County, well known as a wonderful place to live, work, and play, continues to provide the quality of life we expect, despite the new challenges of the 21st century. His tenure has encompassed projects both large and small, including those that will have a significant impact on Fairfax County and the region for years to come. These include the Tysons Corner Redevelopment, Dulles Rail, McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center, Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, Fairfax County Code of Ethics Update, Lorton Land Reuse Plan, and the Chesapeake Bay preservation ordinance.

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) again generously supports the Citizen of the Year event. “Encouraging the volunteer engagement of Fairfax County citizens, including the thousands of our employees and their families here, is a major objective of our community relations,” said Douglas Koelemay, SAIC vice president.

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, established in 1940, is the countywide voice for homeowner, civic, and community associations. An all-volunteer organization, The Federation works on issues that impact Fairfax County residents, including education, transportation, the environment, human services, land use, the county budget, and state and federal legislative issues.

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