



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 7, 2007

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**ACCESS MONTGOMERY HONORS VOLUNTEER
ACHIEVEMENT IN LOCAL COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING**

(Rockville, MD) – Celebrating in Mardi Gras style, Access Montgomery rolled out the red carpet on December 1 for the winners of the 22nd Annual Volunteer Recognition and Awards Ceremony.

The 22nd annual Volunteer Recognition and Awards Ceremony honors dedicated volunteers in Montgomery County that give countless hours of time to produce diverse local programming specifically for Montgomery County residents that is creative, informational and entertaining.

The evening's **top award**, The Bill Randolph Award, was presented to **Dick Terrill** of **Wheaton** who has been an active Access Montgomery volunteer since 1998.

The Award, named for one of Access Montgomery's most respected volunteers, recognizes a level of unparalleled volunteer accomplishment during the preceding 12 months. Mr. Terrell worked on 145 productions.

Special recognition awards were presented to Bill Schickler for his advocacy work; Graciela Rivera Oven, producer/host of Revista Semanal Montgomery and her dedication as a community advocate; **Montgomery County Council President Marilyn Praisner** for her passion, commitment and support to public access; and MCT Board President,

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Eugene Saunders, who invested, committed and sacrificed countless hours of work to lead Access Montgomery.

During the ceremony, a video tribute was dedicated to the late Honorable Jane Lawton, Cable Administrator for Montgomery County Maryland and Delegate representing District 18, for her advocacy and commitment to public access.

The 22nd annual Volunteer Recognition and Awards Ceremony will air on **AMTV cable 21** on **December 12 at 1:00 PM, December 13 at 10:00 PM, December 15 at 5:30 PM, December 18 at 2:30 PM, December 20 at 1:30 PM, December 21 at 11:00 PM, December 22 at noon, and December 23 at 6:00 PM.**

Volunteer Recognition Award Winners:

Technicians working on 50 or more productions were awarded to Joann Birkenstock, Mat Macintyre, Marian Merewitz, Donna Merrifield, Yen Ming-Chen, Jerry Simon, and Rawlign Sybrant

Technicians working on 90 or more productions were awarded to Isaac Asare, Michael Boblitt, Larry Merewitz, Dick Terrill and Dee Willett.

Most Participation by Producers awards were given to Paul Amon, Gil Ingles, Marian Merewitz, Carla Satinsky and Donato Sorrano.

The Awards for video production filled out the remainder of the awards given at Access Montgomery's annual celebration.

Award Winners and Honorable Mention Programs:

Community and Ethnic Category

Winner -- "Beltway Bistros," producer George Ramick. Technicians: Joann Birkenstock, Jennifer Walden and Sunny Ducam.

Honorable Mention – "Ginny's...Where East Meets West," producer Yen Ju Chen. Technicians: Joann Birkenstock, John Buckley, Yen Ming Chen, Yen Ju Chen, Vicky Hu, Marian Merewitz, Nancy Poole, Dick Terrill, Jennifer Walden.

Arts and Humanities Category

Winner – "Anti War Activism in the 70s," producer Kenneth Woodard. Technician: Kenneth Woodard.

Honorable Mention – "La Gioia di Musica," producer Donato Sorrano. Technician: Russell Belcher.

Public Affairs Category

Winner – “The Coffee House,” producer Mark Cohen. Technicians: Dee Willett, Yen Ming Chen, Ally Potter, Dick Terrell, Mike Boblitt, Donna Merrifield, Larry Merewitz, Isaac Asare, Roberta Schoen.

Honorable Mention – “Africa Plus,” producer Paul Amon. Technicians: Paul Amon, Gil Ingles, Kennan Cooley, Jamie Fain, Isaac Asare, Mat MacIntyre, George Ramick and Sherry Shirzad.

Promos and PSAs Category

Winner – “Federation of Galaxy Explorers,” producer John Eftimiades. Technicians: John Eftimiades and Joann Birkenstock.

Honorable Mention – “Hearing Loss Association PSA,” producer Paul Silverman. Technician: Tom Hoopengardner.

Inspirational Category

Honorable Mention – “Good News Films,” producer Mark Starnier. Technician: Bill Davenport.

Educational Category

Honorable Mention – “Relatively Speaking,” producer Marla Allard. Technicians: Michael Boblitt, Dee Willett, Michael Camillo, Toby Beach, Cathy Grubman and Cheryl Grabenstein.

Health and Science Category

Honorable Mention – “Forward Motion,” producer Karen Allyn. Technicians: Yen Ming Chen, Toby Beach, Dee Willett, Dick Terrill, Joann Birkenstock, Jennifer Walden and Jimmy Albert.

Best Host Category

Winner – “The Coffee House,” producer Mark Cohen. Host: Mark Cohen

Access Montgomery, a service of **Montgomery Community Television, Inc.**, is the county’s only independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to providing residents with diverse programming, television production, and training resources. Access Montgomery has successfully educated, informed, and entertained county viewers for over 20 years, training more than 5,000 county residents in its television production workshops. Access Montgomery operates two cable channels, **Access Montgomery TV 19** and **Access Montgomery TV 21**. For more information about Access Montgomery, visit www.accessmontgomery.tv.