

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Event Raises \$85 Thousand for Scholarships for Children of Sniper Victims

Media Contact:

Sandra Shmookler
MCPS Educational Foundation
301-279-3432

Agency Contact:

Shany Seawright
Enten & Associates Inc.
240-498-2506

Silver Spring, MD – The Montgomery County Public School Educational Foundation (MCPSEF) held a reception at the Indian Spring Country Club to raise scholarship money for the children of victims of the sniper attacks last October. The key speaker at the event was CNN reporter Judy Woodruff, who spoke about the effects of the sniper attacks on the everyday life of the citizens of the area as well as the current scholarship effort. Awards were presented to County Executive, Doug Duncan and Montgomery County Police Chief Moose for their efforts in safeguarding the community during the attacks.

“So many lives were forever changed as a result of the sniper shootings,” said Montgomery County Executive Douglas M. Duncan. “The extraordinary lives that were extinguished have not been forgotten. We honor the memory of the victims by doing what we can to support their families.”

Sixteen local children lost a parent as the result of the sniper attacks last fall. These youngsters range in age from the elementary school level to college age. The Montgomery County Public Schools Educational Foundation raised approximately eighty five thousand dollars to benefit the educational growth of these children.

“The Montgomery County Public School Educational Foundation was created to support the educational interests of the children in our community and to assist underprivileged children in obtaining higher education. It is programs like this that allow them to become upstanding citizens who can give back to the community in significant ways,” said Esther Gelman, Founder of the scholarship program and organizer of the reception. Gelman continued, “We are relying on the business community and the citizens of this area to invest in this program so that we can continue to give educational support to the children of the sniper victims”

During the reception, Judy Woodruff, host of CNN’s Inside Politics, saluted the program, and the ability of the organizers to proceed during a time when people are more focused on the activities in Iraq. Woodruff thanked Douglass Duncan and Chief Moose for their dedication and leadership in keeping the community safe during the sniper attacks. Chief Moose, a reservist called on recently to support the Iraqi effort, was unable to attend the event. The award was accepted by his wife, Sandy.

For additional information, please visit: www.mcpsfoundation.org.

ABOUT MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation was founded in May of 1999 to offer educational support for children based on economic need. Of the first 13 scholarships awarded since the Program’s inception, 11 have been awarded to immigrants who would otherwise have been unable to attend college without financial support. You can learn more about the foundation at www.mcpsfoundation.org.
