

## 2008 People's Choice Awards

**N**ow in their ninth year, the People's Choice Awards continue to recognize the unsung heroes who have made a lifestyle of giving back to our community. Through the unselfish use of their time, talents, and abilities, this year's winners have taken their place among previous recipients. Each recipient was asked to name a nonprofit to benefit from a \$5,000 endowment set up in their honor.

### Reverend Janice Dorsey

Nominated for the People's Choice Awards by Dr. Elizabeth Morgan, Reverend Janice Dorsey has been volunteering since 1948 as a member of the Washington County Council of Churches, participating in many different functions, including 18 years as president of the organization. Rev. Dorsey also founded the Volunteer Chaplains Program at the Washington County Hospital over 18 years ago and continues to volunteer there.

In addition to her religious volunteer activities, Rev. Dorsey has a long list of additional volunteer roles:

- 42 years as a teacher and trainer for the Washington County Girl Scouts
- 20 years for the Washington County Council of PTAs
- 12 years with Miss Washington County and the Miss Western Maryland Scholarship Foundation
- over eight years ago, she became the first female member the Lions Club of Halfway, and served six years as president

Rev. Dorsey has also had volunteer stints with the American Cancer Society, Horizon Goodwill Industries, and other local nonprofits.

According to Dr. Morgan, "In every single aspect of both her personal and professional life, Rev. Dorsey is a role model, a supporter of others, an unselfish giver, and a person of high character."

Rev. Dorsey has chosen to create the BILL DORSEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, in honor of her late husband, to benefit low-income students attending the Barbara Ingram School for the Arts. This endowment was sponsored by Washington County Health Systems.

### J. Gilbert "Buss" Everline

J. Gilbert "Buss" Everline was nominated by Ross and Karen Cunningham of Boonsboro who said, "Buss Everline could be called a true Renaissance Man!" Right after his successful service in the U.S. Navy during World War II, Buss joined and became active in the establishment of the American Legion Post #10 in Boonsboro, serving in several leadership capacities.

In 1946, he began a long history of volunteering with the Boonsboro Boy Scout Troup. For over 20 years, he was a Merit Badge Counselor, then became a testing official for the Mason Dixon Boy Scout Council for Water Safety and other badges.

Buss has been active in his church, Trinity Lutheran Church in Boonsboro, also since 1946, including teaching Sunday School, coordinating the Luther League youth program, serving on the church council, and singing in the choir. He has served as a guest speaker and musician at the Hagerstown Rescue Mission.

For almost 40 years, Mr. Everline was involved and active in the Boonsboro Elementary Parent Teachers Association. For various years of service, Buss has been active in the Boonsboro Babe Ruth League, the Devil's Backbone Park Development Committee, and the Boonsboro Sewer and Water Authority. All this, in addition to being a great husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, mentor, harmonica player, painter, sculptor, and poet.

Mr. Everline has created THE HAGERSTOWN RESCUE MISSION FUND to be the recipient of his endowment fund, which was sponsored by Susquehanna Bank.



*J. Gilbert "Buss" Everline,  
Reverend Janice Dorsey, and Jerry Overdorff*

### Jerry Overdorff

Habitat for Humanity nominee Jerry Overdorff is described as "a doer, not a talker." Jerry has been retired from Mack Trucks for 20 years and was one of the first volunteers with Habitat when it was first created locally in 1994. He volunteers year-round with the Building Committee, swinging a hammer and raising walls, regardless of the weather conditions.

He performs the same handyman functions for the Presbyterian Church of Hagerstown, where he has been volunteering for over 40 years.

He has been an active volunteer and officer for the Maugansville Ruritan Club for over 20 years. Among his many volunteer contributions, Jerry acts as Treasurer for the Western Maryland Hospital Auxiliary; has helped with the REACH Cold Weather Shelter for 11 years; also volunteers for REACH's Faith in Action Program by driving people to doctor's appointments; and also volunteers at Hagerstown Community College and the Commission on Aging.

In his spare time, Jerry helps last year's winner Bill Beard to build ramps and other assisted living technology to help make homes more accessible and enable people with physical limitations to live independently.

Mr. Overdorff has chosen to create the WASHINGTON COUNTY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY FUND with his endowment, sponsored by PNC Bank.

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2008 PCA WINNERS