

Proposal to (not) Rename McCathran Hall

I grew up in Washington Grove. I was a young boy when the Assembly Hall was renamed McCathran Hall. The thought of having a public building named after you was a serious event.

I asked family members why the building was named after Roy McCathran. The various responses were quite simple...service, not politics, not money, and not position in government...just simply service to neighbors, friends and community. The Mayor spent the better part of his adult life instilling and investing in his Community...hands on experience day or night, which any past, and probably current Mayor for Washington Grove will attest.

Mayor McCathran by his legacy and example, along with countless others, formed the Town you are fortunate to live in today.

By today's standards a Minstrel Show is a form of insensitive entertainment at the expense of others. It's divisive and the racial component is disturbing. Remember, these 'performances' were not the exclusive domain of the white community. As to past involvement, it does not define those people.

I have known the McCathran family for 70 years. Roy McCathran's true legacy is his family. Today, the real insensitivity at hand, is disparaging the McCathran name.

Philip E Winter