

McKinney to make a run for president?

By JEFFRY SCOTT
jlsco@ajc.com

Former Georgia congresswoman Cynthia McKinney appears to have abandoned any notions of running again for state office in Georgia and has registered to vote in California, where she still may be considering a run for president on the Green Party ticket.

In recent weeks, McKinney — who last month posted a letter on her Web site declaring that she had no interest in the Green Party nomination — has appeared at fundraisers in California, where a group, Run! Cynthia! Run!, is trying to draft her as the party's candidate in California.

McKinney's name already is on the ballot in California, along with six other Green Party candidates, including Ralph Nader. She and the six others were nominated by a Green Party convention in September in California.

The fact that McKinney's name remains on the ballot has given supporters hope, said John Morton, a California Green Party delegate.

"She's got us all guessing, but she hasn't removed her name, and that's a good sign. I talked to her last week and she said she's very interested but not ready to make an announcement."

McKinney could not be reached Tuesday for comment.

Two weekends ago, she attended a rally with anti-war activist Cindy Sheehan, who is running for the San Francisco seat held by Democratic Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi. Sheehan told the crowd that McKinney is running for president.

McKinney, who served five, often provocative terms as a U.S. congresswoman representing voters in DeKalb County and roughly the southeast section of metro Atlanta, has been registered to vote in Marin County, Calif., since May 4, 2007, according to records at the Marin County Registrar of Voters. Marin is a county north of San Francisco.

According to the Georgia secretary of state's office, she is still registered to vote in Georgia but has not voted since December 2006. Secretary of State director of media Matt Carrothers said state law does not require she notify the state that she is now a registered voter in California.

"But since she is registered to vote there, she cannot vote

in Georgia," Carrothers said.

Vicki Leidner, chair of the Feminist Issues Group of the San Francisco Green Party, hosted a fund-raiser for McKinney two weekends ago, where, she said, "We raised a good chunk of money, especially for someone who hasn't declared she is running."

Leidner said McKinney has sought to keep a low profile in moving to the San Francisco area, where she has been accepted as a doctoral student at the University of California at Berkeley. "After you been through the things she's been through, you learn to be a little quiet about things," Leidner said.

Brent McMillan, political director for the national Green Party, said the party is also seeking to get McKinney's name on the ballot in Illinois. "California and Illinois are the first- and second-largest Green Party states."

McKinney is not yet registered as a presidential candidate in Illinois and, by law, cannot register before Oct. 29. To register she must first submit a petition with between 3,000 and 5,000 signatures to be eligible.

California delegate Morton said McKinney has a place in Marin County, but he believes she still divides her time between San Francisco and Atlanta.

"We expect her to move out here by the first of the year," he said. "She still has matters to deal with back in Atlanta." Morton said he believes McKinney, who the Green Party courted to run in 2004, is the perfect Green candidate.

"She's very outspoken, and even when she was a Democrat, she didn't follow the dictates of the party," he said. "She has a Green mind, believes in social justice, is against the war ... wants to impeach George Bush, and she holds our beliefs in ecological and economic issues, and she's very knowledgeable about defense."

Her former Atlanta campaign manager John Evans said Tuesday he talked to her about a week ago by cellphone and he didn't know whether she's moved to the San Francisco area. He also doesn't know if she's made up her mind to run for president.

"I look at it this way — unless she's made an announcement, as far as I'm concerned she ain't running," he said.

ROSWELL

Tillie Wood, cabin was hiker's oasis

By KAY POWELL
kpowell@ajc.com

Her mountain log cabin was a little piece of heaven for Tillie Wood, and there she served up biscuits that were a bit of heaven for Appalachian Trail hikers.

At the end of a day on the trail, some hikers would run the last stretch to be sure they made it to Mrs. Wood's 1848 chestnut log cabin in time for a bunk, solar-heated shower and — for the first eight people at 7:30 the next morning — a \$3.50 breakfast of sausage, scrambled eggs, grits, coffee, orange juice and Mrs. Wood's biscuits.

"I cook about five biscuits per person, and there are never any left," Mrs. Wood said in a 1995 Atlanta Journal-Constitution article.

She served eight hikers breakfast at the southern Virginia cabin because that's all her table will seat, said hiker Cynthia Cero of Big Canoe. Breakfast is served on china with place mats and napkins and saucers under the coffee cups.

"Some hikers have been on the trail six weeks — let's say they are very strong scented," Mrs. Cero said. "She didn't mind that, but Tillie insisted they remove their hats at the table. And, someone led grace every morning."

After breakfast, Mrs. Wood gathered guests on the cabin's porch for a photograph to be placed in the log book every hiker signed. Many signed their trail names but she insisted on their real names, too, in case of emergency, Mrs. Cero said.

Mrs. Wood lived in Roswell but from May to July starting in 1986, she was in the mountains playing host to 250 hikers a year. She met the first man to hike the entire trail, the first blind hiker to complete the trail, an ex-con with a knife fetish and those observing National



Family photo
Tillie Wood's meals for Appalachian Trail hikers included baked pies made with apples picked from trees around her mountain log cabin. Hikers also loved her breakfast biscuits.

Nude Hiking Day — all of the trail's characters, some gentle, some scoundrels, said her son, Roswell Mayor Jere Wood.

"She took them all in stride," he said.

The memorial service for Matilda "Tillie" King Wood, 89, of Roswell is 2 p.m. today at Roswell Presbyterian Church. She died of cancer Sunday at Metropolitan Hospice. The body was cremated. Cremation Society of the South is in charge of arrangements.

Woodshole, the log cabin near Pearisburg, Va., is where Mrs. Wood started married life

with her late husband, Roy K. "Splinter" Wood, when he was studying elk herds for his master's degree. They bought the cabin in 1941, and years later a segment of the Appalachian Trail was designated about a half mile from it.

Mrs. Wood's friend Arletta Barker of Cumming first visited the cabin in the early 1960s. It still was approachable only by miles of dirt roads filled with rocks the size of boulders, she said. Water was drawn from a nearby stream, an outhouse was the bathroom and a fireplace provided the only heat.

DEATHS / FUNERALS

Our policy: The Atlanta Journal-Constitution strives to make this list a complete record of deaths in the metro area and of selected deaths elsewhere. Please ask your funeral home or cremation society to call us at 404-526-5342, or fax us at 404-526-7517. These listings are free. For a Family-Placed Death Notice, for which there is a charge, have your funeral home contact our paid notice department at 404-526-5271.

ON AJC.COM
Compelling life stories every day. Find news obituaries and family-placed death notices from the past 30 days. send or read obituaries online and search obituary archives.

ATLANTA

- GLORIA CARTER**, 80, died Saturday. Graveside service, 11 a.m. today, Crest Lawn Memorial Park; Horis A. Ward, Tara Chapel.
- MARY SUE HOLLAN**, 79, died Monday. Memorial service plans will be announced by Premier Crematory.
- JOHN JULIUS JONES JR.**, 54, died Oct. 11. Funeral, 1 p.m. Thursday, Concord Baptist Church, Woodland; Hollifield Mortuary.
- BURAL ELLIS MCKENZIE**, 56, died Monday. The body was donated. Memorial service plans will be announced by Premier Crematory.
- LOU P. SMITH**, 84, died Tuesday. Funeral, 2 p.m. Saturday, Wieuca Road Baptist Church; H.M. Patterson & Son, Arlington Chapel.
- STEVEN W. SPEIGHTS**, 52, of Ozark, Ala., formerly of Atlanta, died Monday. Funeral, 6 p.m. Friday, Fuqua-Bankston Funeral Home, Ozark.
- DANIEL RICHARD WOOLLEY**, 25, died Sunday. Funeral, 2 p.m. today, McKoon Funeral Home.

CARROLL COUNTY

- CARRIE SWIFT BROWN**, 102, of Carrollton died Saturday. Funeral, 1 p.m. Thursday, Holsey Temple Christian United Methodist Episcopal Church; Duane A. Jackson Mortuary.
- SUSIE LOUISE MARTIN**, 88, of Villa Rica died Tuesday. Funeral, 1 p.m. Thursday, Jones-Wynn Funeral Home, Villa Rica.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

- ALICE MARCELLE SHEETS**, 81, of Acworth died Monday. Funeral, 2 p.m. today, Jones-Wynn Funeral Home, Villa Rica.

CLAYTON COUNTY

- RUFUS L. NEAL JR.**, 90, of St. Cloud, Fla., formerly of Forest Park, died Saturday. Funeral, 2 p.m. Friday, Ash Street Baptist Church; Horis A. Ward, Parkway Chapel.

COBB COUNTY

- DOROTHY CARRERAS**, 84, of Powder Springs died Tuesday. Funeral plans will be announced by West Cobb Funeral Home.
- CHARLES LEE CASTOR**, 79, of Acworth died Tuesday. A private service is planned; Collins Funeral Home.
- OSCAR HUNT**, 91, of Acworth died Tuesday. Funeral, 2 p.m. Thursday, Winkenhof Pine Ridge Funeral Home.

CLEVELAND RUFUS MORRIS JR.

- CLEVELAND RUFUS MORRIS JR.**, 76, of Austell died Monday. Graveside service, 1 p.m. today, Powder Springs Memorial Gardens; Bellamy's Hiram Funeral Home.

COWETA COUNTY

- PETER JAMES KOBAR**, 86, of Sharpsburg died Monday. Graveside service, 1 p.m. Thursday, Green Lawn Cemetery; Roswell Funeral Home.

DeKALB COUNTY

- DAWNA M. CRAWFORD**, 53, of Lithonia died Thursday. Funeral plans will be announced; Divine Mortuary.
- SARAH A. FOSTER**, 44, of Lithonia died Tuesday. Funeral plans will be announced; Divine Mortuary.
- SARA E. GRIFFIN**, 91, of Tucker died Monday. Funeral, 11 a.m. today, Bill Head Funeral Home, Lilburn/Tucker Chapel.
- VELVITHRA LATRECE MASSEY-DALTON**, 38, of Stone Mountain died Friday. Funeral plans will be announced; Goolsby Mortuary.

FAYETTE COUNTY

- EDWARD V. MAHONEY SR.**, 97, of Peachtree City died Sunday. Funeral, 10:30 a.m. today, St. Matthew Catholic Church, Tyrone; Carl J. Mowell & Son Funeral Home, Peachtree City.

FORSYTH COUNTY

- ERIN ANNE ZAKANYCZ**, 50, of Cumming died Monday. The body will be cremated. A private service is planned; Cremation Society of the South, Marietta.

FULTON COUNTY

- EMILY L. ROBINSON**, 26, of Roswell died Sunday. The body was cremated. Memorial service, 5 p.m. today, 30 Doris Road, Alpharetta; Roswell Funeral Home.

WINNETT COUNTY

- WILLIAM G. CLICK**, 71, of Sugar Hill died Monday. The body was cremated. Memorial service, 3 p.m. today, Tapp/Tim Stewart Funeral Home, Buford.
- DAVID MADISON DAILEY SR.**, 72, of Snellville died Tuesday. Funeral, 2 p.m. Friday, Tom M. Wages, Snellville Chapel.
- EDUARDO E. FERNANDEZ SR.**, 74, of Lawrenceville died Sunday. The body will be cremated. The funeral was Monday; Gregory B. Levett & Sons Funeral Home.

STEVEN JAMES HALLS

- STEVEN JAMES HALLS**, 44, of Norcross died Saturday. The body will be cremated. Funeral, 2 p.m. today, Christ the King Lutheran Church; Crowell Brothers Peachtree Chapel Funeral Home.

BRUCE A. KAUFMAN

- BRUCE A. KAUFMAN**, 46, of Norcross died Monday. Graveside service, 2 p.m. today, Arlington Cemetery; Dressler's Jewish Funeral Care.

KATHRYN SHOLAR RACKLEY

- KATHRYN SHOLAR RACKLEY**, 77, of Lilburn died Sunday. The body was cremated. Memorial service, 2 p.m. Thursday, Crowell Brothers Peachtree Chapel Funeral Home.

FLOYD THORNE

- FLOYD THORNE**, 57, of Lawrenceville died Monday. The body was cremated. No service is planned; Wages & Sons Funeral Home, Gwinnett Chapel.

HALL COUNTY

- BERTHA SMITH**, 57, of Lula died Monday. Funeral, 10 a.m. Thursday, Flanigan Funeral Home.

NEWTON COUNTY

- TOMMY JUNIOR ARMISTEAD**, 81, of Covington died Monday. Funeral, 11 a.m. today, Wheeler Funeral Home.
- FRANK MOODY JR.**, 86, of Covington died Tuesday. Funeral, 2 p.m. Friday, First Baptist Church; Caldwell & Cowan.

WALTON COUNTY

- MAGGIE LEE BRIDGES**, 63, of Monroe died Monday. Funeral, 1 p.m. Thursday, Meadows Funeral Home.

By 1986, Mrs. Wood and her husband had reassembled another 19th-century log cabin on their property and turned it into a hostel for hikers who also did chores around the place, her son said. Everyone who stayed at Woodshole added a stone to the wall that runs from the outhouse to the woodshed and around the house. Hikers sent her cards and letters and photographs and art work that decorate the cabin.

"She was an icon," Mrs. Cero said. "She was just extremely revered by hikers."

Back home in Roswell, Mrs. Wood, who held a master's degree in biology, started a kindergarten in 1952, founded a Girl Scout troop, taught school and knitted sweaters and dolls to donate to hospitals. She was such a dedicated member of President Jimmy Carter's Peanut Brigade of early supporters that her husband would say, "I'm sorry I have but one wife to give to the campaign," her son said.

She was admired for being a strong woman with a mind of her own. "Tillie had such a spirit. She just inspired you to do the best you could do," Mrs. Cero said. "She also ruled with an iron fist. She wanted things done a certain way. She's a breath of fresh air. She's the real thing."

Mrs. Barker, who campaigned with Mrs. Wood as part of the Peanut Brigade, said, "I consider Tillie one of my devoted friends. Through all my happiness and all my sorrow, Tillie was at my side."

"Tillie was always ready to go and do," Mrs. Barker said. "Anything that came up, she was right on ready."

Survivors include another son, Benjamin Travis Wood of Shanghai, China; a daughter, Mary Jo Harris Osteen of Ball Ground; a sister, Dorothy Mills of Oklahoma City; and four grandchildren.

OBITUARIES

MEMPHIS

Ernest Withers, preserved black history in his photos

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Photographer Ernest Withers, 85, of Memphis, who spent more than 60 years documenting history from the blues music of Beale Street to the civil rights movement, died Monday from complications of a stroke he suffered last month.

As a freelance photographer for black newspapers, Mr. Withers traveled with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., Medgar Evers, and other figures in the civil rights movement, capturing on film the momentous events of the 1950s and '60s.

He photographed jazz and blues musicians who frequented Memphis' famed Beale Street, such as Rufus Thomas, B.B. King, Ray Charles, Aretha Franklin and Elvis Presley.

"Ernest Withers is internationally recognized as one of the most important American photographers of the 20th Century," said Kaywin Feldman, director of the Memphis Brooks Museum of Art.

"Not only did Withers cap-



Ernest Withers' photo topics included blues, jazz and the civil rights movement.

ture iconic images of the civil rights movement, but he also produced important photographs of the Negro Baseball League."

Mr. Withers' career began during World War II when he was asked to replace an Army photographer who was being promoted. His duties included photographing engineering projects such as bridges and airfields that black soldiers helped build. His news clients would later include the Tri-State Defender, Newsweek, Time and The New York Times.

"He put together a living legacy," said Benjamin Hooks, Mr. Withers' friend and former executive director of the NAACP. "Thank God he did it. We are blessed as a people, black and white, that he amassed such a wonderful collection of pictures."