

Summer 2003

Economic Development

We Plan To Help You Grow

New DBED Secretary Visits Carroll County



The 9th annual Carroll County Industry & Enterprise Awards Dinner was an excellent opportunity to welcome Aris Melissaratos, secretary for the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, on his first official visit to Carroll County. Appointed by Governor Robert Ehrlich in January, the Secretary has nearly 40 years experience in business leadership and is a well-respected visionary and corporate executive. The Economic Development Commission was excited to introduce him as the keynote speaker for the event.

Mr. Melissaratos discussed quality of life issues in Carroll and complimented the Board of Commissioners on creating policies that balance growth while protecting the rural character we enjoy. He cited several examples of how the diversity of the county's business composition and resources is an asset

to the community. He spoke of how the success of small business is vital to Maryland's economy and a priority for the Ehrlich/Steele administration. "It is by working together with strong collaboration—building strong partnerships at the local and regional level—that we will make our business community and the state of Maryland thrive," he stated.

Secretary Melissaratos went on to note the importance of several key assets, among them "Maryland's highly skilled, highly educated workforce, which is vital to economic development. We must ensure that our workers have the necessary skills for today and tomorrow." He emphasized the critical importance of working with educational institutions,

such as Carroll Community College, to meet future workforce demands.

Sue Chambers, chair of the Economic Development Commission, praised Secretary Melissaratos.

"I was impressed with Secretary Melissaratos' grasp on the issues impacting economic development in Maryland and in Carroll County. His in-depth experience and knowledge across large and small businesses will be an asset to realizing his vision of Maryland as a business friendly state."



2003 Industry and Enterprise Awards Photos

see inside!

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From the Director's Chair

As summer vacations begin, our department is busy wrapping up projects we have been working on for the last several months ... and even years! I am pleased that three technology companies have recently chosen Carroll County as their location for expansion and, in one case, relocation. Integral Components and Intellitech have expanded in the county, while Carleton Technologies Pressure Technology Division has announced relocation to the Carroll County Commerce Center. These companies represent the market we are targeting, creating high-tech jobs for our citizens. We will feature stories on these projects in our next newsletter.



In order to attract other high technology manufacturers, we are continuing the development of the Westminster Technology Park. Engineering cost estimates are due to us in July and then we will begin on the next phase—marketing the property to developers.

We are also working in partnership with Sykesville and the Warfield Development Corporation to ready the Warfield Complex for users. While there is still a lot of work ahead of us, I am happy to report that the project is coming together and will represent a unique development opportunity in a very attractive and marketable area.

I hope you all have a wonderful, safe summer!

Carroll Community College Breaks Ground



The Board of Carroll County Commissioners and the Board of Trustees of Carroll Community College held a groundbreaking ceremony for the Nursing and Allied Health Building. The 31,557-square-foot building will boast labs devoted to nursing, the physical therapy assistant program, allied health and emergency medical care. There will also be 4 classrooms, 2 multimedia computer labs, 19 faculty and staff offices, 8 adjunct faculty offices, a storage area and a lobby. The projected completion date for this \$6,052,000 building is July of 2004.

Ag News

The Carroll County Department of Economic Development will provide a new all-inclusive directory titled "Carroll County Freezer Meat Directory." The publication should debut in time for the annual Carroll County 4-H and FFA Fair. The directory will assist in the promotion and direct sale of freezer meats that have been raised and processed from Carroll County farms and agribusinesses.

Producers of beef, pork, lamb, goat and, when available, bison, chicken, turkey and other meats, will be included. Listings will provide contact information, annual sales, methods of raising the livestock and availability.

The directory will also include many "how tos" and descriptions including reference material for purchasing meat in quantity, including different meat cuts, proper meat storage, definitions of quality grades and yield grades, nutritional information and local processing facilities. For more information please call Gabe Zepp at the Carroll County Department of Economic Development at 410-386-2070 or e-mail gzepp@carrollbiz.org.

High-Tech Marketing

With a commitment to attracting technology companies, the Carroll County Department of Economic Development has developed an interactive, web-based CD-ROM. The new high-tech marketing tool will premier at the June Economic Development Commission meeting.

The CD-ROM is the department's "digital brochure" aimed at providing site consultants, developers and businesses with information showcasing the benefits of doing business in Carroll County.

An exciting feature of the tool is its ability to link the user directly to the department's website—www.carrollbiz.org. In addition, the content is downloadable from the website so that anyone with access to the Internet can view the CD content. To view the CD on line, link to www.carrollbiz.org and click on the multimedia presentation graphic.

Economic Development Director Jack Lyburn is excited about this new product for the department. "Today's client is sophisticated and wants 24/7 access to community information. Now they have a tool they can have in their hand or they can access the website—both deliver the information. Together, the website and CD give us the image that we want to project and will help us successfully market to the high technology prospect."



**Multimedia
Presentation**



BUSINESS BRIEFS

Grand Opening Held for the Carroll Arts Center

The Carroll County Arts Council and the City of Westminster have transformed the 1937 art deco Carroll Theatre into a multipurpose community arts center. The newly renovated facility will include a 263-seat theatre, two well-equipped art classrooms and a large community art gallery. The new Carroll Arts Center will offer a wealth of cultural opportunities including musical concerts, lectures, film, dramatic productions, art exhibits, classes and camps. The restoration is another success story in the revitalization of downtown Westminster.

BERC Holds Summer Job Fair

The Carroll County Business & Employment Resource Center held a Summer Jobs Fair designed to meet the seasonal hiring needs of Carroll County businesses. Eight employers offering more than 100 jobs met with 100 perspective applicants. If your company has job openings for the summer or long term, please contact Holly Hutchins at 410-386-2820 or hhutchins@cag.carr.org.

ISO Consortium

The Maryland ISO Consortium Program, a subsidized effort from the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, will assist organizations in implementing the ISO 9000 standards for quality management systems. Carroll County Economic Development and Carroll Community College are sponsoring an introductory meeting to discuss ISO 9000 and the implementation of a Carroll County ISO Consortium. To receive an invitation to this meeting, contact Denise Beaver at 410-386-2070. There is no cost and your attendance does not imply any commitment. Additional information is located at: www.umcqp.umd.edu/ISO.htm.

Outstanding Accomplishment

Congratulations to Louna Primm, member of the Economic Development Commission and senior vice president at BB&T for being named to the 2003 Daily Record's "Maryland's Top 100 Women". This program draws attention to the contributions being made by women throughout the state. It recognizes one hundred of Maryland's leading women who make an impact on our state and our communities, with a strong emphasis on volunteerism.

2003 Industry & Award Winners

Right: Commissioners Perry Jones, Dean Minnich and Julia Gouge



On April 29, the Carroll County Economic Development Commission hosted 170 community leaders, educators, state and local elected officials and business owners at its 2003 Industry & Enterprise Awards Dinner. EDC Chair Sue Chambers welcomed guests, and commissioners Julia Gouge, Dean Minnich and Perry Jones made opening remarks. Newly appointed secretary for Maryland's

Department of Business and Economic Development Aris Melissaratos delivered the keynote address.

The event was graciously sponsored by BGE. The evening presented seven new business, expansion, agribusiness and tourism awards to recognize contributions of companies and individuals to Carroll's economy.



Top: Gerstell Academy's new business award was presented to Fred Smith with EDC Chair Sue Chambers



Right: Jake Yingling and Dave Humbert talk before dinner



Top Left: The agribusiness award was presented to Melvin Baile for the Westminster Livestock Auction

Above: Jack Lyburn and Aris Melissaratos congratulate Barbara Biller, president of Intellitech, on her expansion award

Left: Doug Widlake, president of Lakewood Manufacturing Company, accepts an expansion award



Top: Sue Chambers presents a new business award to Bob Ross, president of Ross Metal Products

Above: Chuck Ecker and Gary Bauer

Enterprise

Right: Tom LeGore (right) receives the tourism award from Tourism Council President Steve Kerkam and Tourism Manager Barbara Beverungen

Below: Dean Camlin and Gene Eyler network during the social hour



Top Right: BGE sponsor John Sundergill poses with keynote speaker Aris Melissaratos

Left: Bruce Neale accepts the award for Modern Foundations



Congratulations to the Winners!

New Business

Ross Metal Products

Ross Metal Products relocated to the Carroll County Commerce Center from Howard County in October 2002. The company is a fabrication shop for custom sheet metal products. The Carroll County location accommodates a growing workforce and gives the company the ability to serve a wider geographic area.

Gerstell Academy

The new independent, coeducational, nonsectarian, nonprofit school opened its doors in 2002 on a beautiful 100-acre piece of land in Finksburg. Current facilities include a 3-story 60,000-square-foot academic and administrative building, an activities center, 7 multipurpose athletic fields, outdoor basketball and tennis courts. Classes started in 2002 with pre-K and K students and will eventually enroll pre-K through twelfth grade.

Business Expansion Awards

Intellitech, Inc.

Intellitech recently completed its second expansion at the Air Business Center in Westminster. The expansion was prompted by a 25% sales increase and the acquisition of another company. The expansion tripled their space in a new 10,000 square-foot facility constructed to house their full-service engineering, design and drafting firm.

Lakewood Manufacturing Company, Inc.

Lakewood Manufacturing, a contract furniture manufacturer in Westminster, more than doubled their manufacturing space when they purchased a facility on MD 31 last year. The expansion from 40,000 to 100,000 square feet allowed the co-location of all the company's operations. Their workforce also increased from 80 to 100 employees.

Modern Foundations, Inc.

Modern Foundations in Woodbine expanded into a new 36,000-square-foot facility. The company offers comprehensive services to the home building industry in excavation, foundation and flatwork. The new facility also houses Stone Shooters, a partner business. The family-run company has grown to \$9 million in sales and employs 95 people.

Agribusiness Award

Westminster Livestock Auction

The agribusiness award was presented to the Westminster Livestock Auction. This public auction provides regular sale of agricultural products and materials with \$150,000 to \$180,000 gross sales weekly. This is the foremost marketing option for livestock in the central Maryland region and is critical in maintaining a supportive agricultural infrastructure in Carroll County.

Tourism Award

G. Thomas LeGore

The tourism award recognized Tom LeGore for his contributions in showcasing and promoting Carroll County's rich Civil War history. Tom's many contributions include compiling "Corbit's Charge," a self-guided walking tour brochure, and participating in the Maryland Civil War Trails Project that may bring thousands of tourists to Carroll.

Need-To-Know Phone Numbers

- Department of Economic Development 410-386-2070
- Small Business Development Center 410-386-2317
- Office of Tourism 410-386-2983
- Business & Employment Resource Center 410-386-2820
- Department of Planning 410-386-2145
- Zoning Administrator 410-386-2980
- Department of Permits & Inspections 410-386-2674



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