

Thumbs up and thumbs down for Saturday, June 19, 2004 Saturday, June 19, 2004

UP Some members of the Children's Chorus of Carroll County are going on the road. Besides getting a chance to sing, the children will be broadening their horizons by visiting Estonia, Finland and Sweden. The trip is part of the Sister City Partnership program between Westminster and Paide, Estonia. Besides learning about other cultures, they will be helping other people learn about Americans.

UP The Carroll County Public Library is reaching out to the Hispanic community. This country is a melting pot and everyone is different. Reaching out helps the newer members of the county become more of the greater community.

UP Century High School held its first graduation ceremonies this year. The 262 students were the first to receive diplomas from the Eldersburg area school. Next year will see the first class from Winters Mill High School walk across the stage.

UP Local farm markets have begun opening for the season. The opening means local produce is available. To those that worry where their food comes from, farmers markets offer a chance to talk to the growers about the produce. There are other items usually available as well at the markets, such as crafts and baked goods.

UP Local camps such as Hashawha provide valuable summer activities. The parents are happy to find something for the children to do. But more important, it teaches them about nature and other subjects they can't touch and feel in the classroom. It's great to keep them learning, even during vacation.

UP Carroll students and administrators can be proud of the improvements seen in the latest round of state testing. Last year the system took the information from the tests and put in place programs to help more students achieving passing grades. More work needs to be done, but this year's tests show that the system has made a good start.