

Best bets for the weekend of Friday, March 4, 2005

Expressions

The Mount Airy Players presents "Expressions of Love," a musical revue, at 8 p.m. today, Saturday and March 11 and 12, and 3 p.m. Sunday and March 13 at Calvary United Methodist Church at 403 S. Main St. in Mount Airy.

The play features songs highlighting different aspects of love, including romantic love, familial love and love for country. The show is directed by Ken Berry with musical direction by N. Kay Kovalusky and choreography by Deb Carson.

Tickets to the performance are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and children. A group rate is available at \$5 per ticket for groups of eight or more. Audience members can also use their tickets or ticket stubs to get 10 percent off dinner at Rachel's Garden in Mount Airy. The offer is good up to a month after the show dates.

For more information or to order tickets, call 301-829-1527 or visit the Web site at www.geocities.com/mtairyplayers.

Rumisonko

Common Ground on the Hill presents the Latin American folk ensemble Rumisonko as part of its 2004-2005 Concert Series at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Carroll Arts Center at 91 W. Main St. in Westminster.

The six members of Rumisonko are originally from Bolivia, Chile and the United States. Rumisonko's music, led by Carlos Arrien and Alberto Lora, is a joyous combination of traditional Andean music and other influences from Latin American folklore and the New Song movement. Played on a wide assortment of pan pipes, guitar, charango, bass and drums, the music is among the world's most compelling.

Tickets to the concert are \$17 for general admission and \$15 for seniors, arts council members, students with ID and children 12 and younger. Doors to the theater open at 7:30 p.m. For more information call Common Ground on the Hill at 410-857-2771 or visit the Web site at www.commongroundonthehill.org.

Eric Byrd Trio

The Eric Byrd Trio performs a concert for the release of its latest CD "Triunity" at 6 p.m. Sunday at the Carroll Arts Center at 91 W. Main St. in Westminster.

Established in 1999, The Eric Byrd Trio has recorded three albums under its own name. The members - pianist, vocalist and composer Eric Byrd; bassist and arranger Bhagwan Khalsa; and drummer Alphonso Young, Jr. - are some of the most sought-after musicians on the East Coast.

The group received the prestigious U.S. State Department/Kennedy Center Jazz Ambassadorship and has toured throughout South America, Dubai, Belgium, **Estonia** and elsewhere.

The group's latest release on Foxhaven Records includes 11 tracks plus a bonus cut of improvisational music. In addition to five original compositions by Byrd, the album also features arrangements of such standards as "Get Happy," "Wrap Your Troubles in Dreams," "I Thought About You," and others.

The concert will also feature 2nd through 5th grade-singers from the Gerstell Academy. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased at the door. For more information call the Carroll Arts Center at 410-848-7272.

Ernest Ragolini

The McDaniel College Department of Music and the Carroll County Music Teachers Association present Ernest Ragolini in concert at 7:30 p.m. today in McDaniel Lounge on campus at 2 College Hill in Westminster.

Ragogini is a professor of music at the College of Notre Dame in Maryland. He is also the founder and director of the Music at CND concert series and artistic director of the Chamber Ensemble of Notre Dame. He has performed as a soloist and collaborative artist throughout the United States, Canada, Western Europe and Central and South America.

Ragogini has recorded for National Public Radio, WGMS in Washington, WQXR in New York and WIVA in Pennsylvania. He has also taped specials for telecasts in Europe and the United States and appeared with such groups as the Baltimore Symphony Wind Quintet, the Annapolis Brass and the Concert Artists of Baltimore among others.

The program will include "Piano Variations" by Aaron Copland, "Les jardins de la Villa Cypris" and "Jeux de Soleil sur les Vagues" from Esquisses Méditerranéennes" by Marguerite Canal, "Sonata in B Flat K. 281" by Mozart, and "Symphonic Etudes" by Robert Schumann.

The concert is free. For more information call 410-857-2599.