

HERSHEY AREA PLAYHOUSE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HERSHEY AREA PLAYHOUSE AT COUNTRY MEADOWS TO OPEN WITH *OUR TOWN*

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania — April 14, 2007 – The debut production in the new Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows will be *Our Town*. Thornton Wilder's 1938 Pulitzer Prize-winning play is the timeless story that questions the way we live our lives without appreciating or sharing the simpler moments, and it challenges us to appreciate the joys in everyday life.

According to Skip Becker, Director, "we chose *Our Town* to open Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows for several reasons. Throughout this area there are many small towns similar to Grover's Corners. They are towns whose neighbors have lived next to each other for decades. They are towns full of the river of life. Their homes are close to one another and inside each home is a rich tapestry of love, work, courtship, holidays, marriage, births and deaths. *Our Town* tells their story."

Retired Shakespeare professor Sherman Hawkins, who portrays the Stage Manager, leads a cast featuring local talent from age 10 to 80. They've been rehearsing for nearly two months to perfect the show, which is expected to draw large crowds both to experience the production and to see the new theatre.

Performances will be held April 26 – 29 and May 2 – 6 at 8 p.m. each evening. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for children 12 and under. For more information and to purchase tickets in advance, visit www.HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com.

The Board of Directors and members of Hershey Area Playhouse invite the entire community to come out to this historic production. The new Hershey Area Playhouse at Country Meadows is located on Sand Hill Road at Cherry Drive.

Hershey Area Playhouse (www.HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization dedicated to providing residents of the community with an opportunity to participate in the creation and production of a theatrical experience. Since its inception in 1999, HAP has staged **24** productions at numerous venues around the Hershey area.

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