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PRESS RELEASE

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High Prices are Troublesome for Catonsville Parade and Fireworks Committee

Budget tops \$100,000 for first time ever

June 26, 2008 – Catonsville, MD Higher costs are affecting every consumer and the Catonsville Celebrations Committee is feeling the pinch too. For the first time in their history, the budget has topped \$100,000. The committee budgeted \$75,000 in 2007 and approved a \$100,000 budget for 2008, a 33% increase.

Treasurer Beverly Wright, a volunteer and owner of Sign-A-Rama, Catonsville, reports increases in the following:

- Fireworks and related expenses increased 3.6% to an all-time high of \$30,000
- Insurance increased by 9.4%
- Parade expenses increased 7%
- Income is down 5.5%

Committee volunteers raise money with various traditional fundraisers including dances, roadblocks, bucket collections, silent auctions and sponsorships. They also sell t-shirts and other items under their own clothing line, ParadeWear. “Even our fundraising expenses for the annual dance increased by 16.3%,” explains Ms. Wright. “Fortunately, our committee has been raising funds all year long and we’ve been able to absorb some of these increases.”

DyAnn Moree, chair of this year’s event, encourages those attending the parade to bring cash or checks for donations. “We have not met our goal for 2008 and we are depending upon residents and local businesses to help us out,” states Ms. Moree. “Our costs continue to sky-rocket. We need everyone to chip in!”

For more information on the Catonsville Celebrations Committee, go to www.catonsvillecelebrations.org