



Gnarly FUN

Hundreds of area residents got up close and personal with skateboard legend **Tony Hawk** as his Birdhouse team of skaters recently stopped by Hillcrest Skate Park for a demonstration.

The event was hosted by PITCREW Skateboard and Snowboard Shop on Market Street in Downtown Frederick. With a celebrity as well-known as Hawk, his headlining of the event drew fans of all ages. Parents brought their children and everyone enjoyed getting a rare glimpse of Hawk and his all-star team in action. A handful of lucky fans got the opportunity to actually meet Hawk and get his autograph while he waited in his tour bus for the demonstration to begin.



Portraits and Patriots

Local Frederick artist Yemi finally saw a four-year dream come to fruition at the recent unveiling of his “**Pillars of Frederick**” project.

The 40, 8-foot-tall panels appear on the side of McCutcheon’s Apple Products factory, facing South East Street. Each panel represents a historical figure with a local tie to Frederick—from the famous like Francis Scott Key to the lesser-known, such as Dr. John Atanasoff, inventor of the first electronic digital computer in the 1930s.

Yemi has said that this project should be to Frederick what Mount Rushmore is to America. “These faces represent this area. Every resident should be

proud to know that these people had some tie to Frederick,” the artist said.

A 170-page book about the project will be released this month, featuring biographies of each of the “Pillars” and additional portraits. But even with the unveiling and book release, this project is not completed yet. The plan is for these 40 portraits to stay on the building for five years and then be taken down, auctioned off and a new set of “Pillars” will be created.

www.pillarsoffrederick.com



Building A DREAM

Officials with the **Mental Health Association of Frederick County** and friends recently gathered at the site of the future home of the organization’s new \$3.4 million project on Jefferson Street. The event included remarks from local government officials and a ceremonial demolition of part of the current building.

The new building, expected to be open in early 2012, will allow the association to move out of its cramped facilities at 263-265 W. Patrick St., as a demand for the organization’s programs has increased by 75 percent during the past six years.

The Jefferson Street building was the former home of the El Shaddai Temple, but will now provide 11,000 square feet of space for administrative and programming uses. A capital campaign has raised about 65 percent of the cost



to cover the purchase and renovation of the building. www.fcmha.org

1. Skateboarding fans took in all the grinds and ollies they could handle.

2. Yemi (center) cuts the ribbon to unveil his “Pillars of Frederick.”

3. The 40 “Pillars” include both famous and lesser-known historical figures.

4. MHA officials and friends took part in a ceremonial demolition.