



January 31, 2014

Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties



In This Issue

[NADO Webinar](#)

[USDA Offering VAPG Grants](#)

[Innovative Readiness Training Program Announcement](#)

Dates to Remember

[TCCWMD Meeting Schedule](#)

April 16, 2014
Allegany County
Location - TBD
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm



Upcoming NADO Webinar Features Small Town Downtown Economic Development Strategies

Across the country, small towns are rediscovering and reclaiming their main streets and downtowns by pursuing innovative community and economic development projects. Once abandoned sidewalks, storefronts, and plazas are now bustling with activity as residents find their way back downtown, once again making these spaces the social, civic, and economic centers of their communities.

Join the [NADO Research Foundation](#) on **February 5 from 2:00-3:15 ET** for a [free webinar](#) highlighting three small towns ([Greenville, KY](#), [Claremont, NH](#), and [Millen, GA](#)) that are investing in their downtowns through streetscape improvements, historic preservation, Brownfield's remediation, and tourism initiatives. Learn how strong local and regional leadership, dedicated volunteers, and a mix of

July 9, 2014
Garrett County
Location - TBD
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

December 3, 2014
Washington County
Location - TBD
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

local, state, and federal funding can come together to transform downtowns and main streets, improving both quality-of-life and economic opportunities for residents.

February 5, 2014

2:00 pm - 3:15 pm

Click [here](#) to register.

Please contact Brett Schwartz at bschwartz@nado.org with any questions.

At the Water Cooler



The 2014 Super Bowl will be played in New Jersey.

Can you name the two previous Super Bowl MVPs from the Garden State?



Find us on
Facebook



Follow us on
twitter



Join our
mailing list



FY14 Notice of Funding Availability for Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG)

The primary objective of the VAPG program is to help agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and/or marketing of bio-based value-added products. Generating new products, creating and expanding marketing opportunities, and increasing producer income are the end goals of this program. You may receive priority if you are a beginning farmer or rancher, a socially-disadvantaged farmer or rancher, a small or medium-sized farm or ranch structured as a family farm, a farmer or rancher cooperative, or are proposing a mid-tier value chain, as defined in the Program Regulation. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis.

Closing Date: **February 24, 2014**

For more information please click [here](#).



**MIKULSKI, CARDIN ANNOUNCE
INNOVATIVE**

READINESS TRAINING PROGRAM TO BENEFIT WESTERN MARYLAND

U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Ben Cardin (both D-Md.) announced the Department of Defense Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs and The Army Reserve will hold an Innovative Readiness Training Program (IRT) medical training event in partnership with the Allegany County Human Resources Development Commission, Inc. (HRDC) and the Allegany County Health Department. The event will take place over a two week period during which military medical professionals will receive real-world training opportunities while providing necessary dental and medical services to Maryland communities in need.

During this event, between 60 and 80 military medical professionals will be housed locally in Allegany County and will provide medical services to community members free of charge. Proposed services include restorative and preventive dental care, vision, behavioral management, and endocrinology. HRDC estimates the program will benefit between 7,500 and 10,000 Marylanders. The event will be held **August 11-23, 2014**, at the Allegany County Fairgrounds in Cumberland, Maryland.

The HRDC is a private, non-profit in Allegany County dedicated to eliminating social and economic barriers for the people it serves, and promoting individual and community stability through services, advocacy and collaboration. Its programs reach one out of every three residents in Allegany County.

For more information, please visit www.alleganyhrdc.org.

www.tccwmd.org

301-689-1300