



August 1, 2014

Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties



DENTAL, VISION, AND MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS NOW BEING ACCEPTED FOR AUGUST CLINICS

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Dates to Remember

MACo Summer Conference

August 13-16, 2014
Roland Powell Convention Center
Ocean City, MD

Click [here](#) for more information.

In partnership with the [Department of Defense](#) and the Appalachian Regional Commission ([ARC](#)), the Allegany County Human Resources Development Commission ([HRDC](#)) and community partners such as the [Allegany County Health Department](#) will be bringing much-needed clinical services to Western Maryland and the surrounding region. The Appalachian Mountain Innovative Readiness Training ([IRT](#)) will take place at the Allegany County Fairgrounds from August 13 - 21.

The hotline will be open to the public to make appointments for general health screenings, basic adult dental services (cleanings, sealants, extractions, and fillings), eye exams and single vision eyeglasses (for both adults and children), and drug-free recommendations for managing chronic pain. There are no residency or income restrictions, and all services are being offered at no cost. However, because there are a limited number of slots available each day, an appointment is required and will be scheduled on a first-come-first-served basis until all slots are filled. Appointments can be scheduled by calling 301-783-1775 Monday through Friday between 9:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

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The veterinary clinic appointments for spay/neuter services were announced and those appointments quickly filled up. However, the hotline staff is maintaining a wait list in the event that there are cancellations. Rabies vaccinations are also being offered and do not require an appointment, but instead will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis during regular clinic hours each day. Rabies vaccine clients should be prepared to wait or return on another day depending on the volume of pets receiving vaccines each day.



DEEP CREEK 2014

ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships

Maryland Welcomes the World!

[Deep Creek 2014](#) is set to host the ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships in McHenry Maryland September 17-21, 2014. [The Adventure Sports Center International](#) is the prestigious venue for the event and is the Only Mountaintop re-circulating whitewater course in the World

Be a part of history! Olympic level athletes from over 35 countries competing for the Gold!

This is the 25 year anniversary of the 1989 World Championship held right here in Garrett County Maryland and only the second time in History this prestigious event has graced the United States.

Through state and private contributions as well as a grant from the [Appalachian Regional Commission](#) (ARC), additional funds were used to support the Deep Creek 2014 Canoe Slalom World Championships at ASCI with upgrades to telecommunications, amphitheater seating, stairs, and a pavilion.



Meritus Healthcare Foundation Launching Telehealth Program

The Appalachian Regional Commission announced approval of a grant to the [Meritus Healthcare Foundation, Inc.](#) for the Telehealth Program. This project helps fund a Telehealth Program which will serve patients with chronic diseases in Washington County, Maryland. The program will enable patients to be remotely monitored - thus allowing them to stay in their homes or assisted living units rather than be readmitted to the hospital.

The Telehealth Program will initially offer a remote monitoring system in the homes of patients suffering from asthma, diabetes, COPD and chronic heart failure. Home health aides will work with physicians to select patients for the program. Those in the program will receive an In-home Remote Telemonitoring System that will monitor the patients as well as provide standard assessment surveys, education and reinforcement of positive behavior. The members of the home health team at the hospital will use a Hospital Based Monitoring Site that will include a comprehensive display for each patient, a risk stratification feature that will monitor patient results based on preselected risk assessments and provide alarms when parameters are violated, a communications feature where all authorized providers will have access to the monitoring website to view patient information and enter comments that are available to all medical personnel in the program, and patient confidentiality will be maintained with security in accordance with HIPAA.

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