

September 16, 2014

Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties



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Maryland Welcomes the World

<u>Deep Creek 2014</u> is set to host the ICF Canoe Slalom World Championships in McHenry Maryland September 17-21, 2014. <u>The Adventure Sports Center International</u> 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.



Registration is now open for the Appalachian Regional Commission's

October 2014 Investing in Appalachia's Youth conference!

Many communities in Appalachia, especially those in rural areas, are facing the impacts of high rates of youth outmigration: the loss of potential workers, business owners, community leaders, and parents of the next generation. The Investing in Appalachia's Youth conference will focus on strategies communities can use to engage their young people and build a stronger future. Access to high-quality educational and employment opportunities are critical factors, but empowering young people to strengthen their involvement with the community is also key to success.

Conference sessions will focus on critical strategies for reversing youth outmigration, including:

- Developing effective youth leadership programs that expose young people to community issues and teach leadership skills;
- Using new technology and media to reach and engage young residents;
- Empowering young people to serve their communities by becoming actively involved in current issues;
- Guiding students towards careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;
- Incorporating entrepreneurial learning and support into all levels of the education system;
- Teaching business skills to young people in the creative sectors; and
- Creating communities young people will want to work and live in.

Register now! Online registration ends Tuesday, September 30th or click here for more information.



Power of Possibilities Summit

Friday, October 24, 2014 Garrett College 687 Mosser Road, McHenry, MD 21545

Join us for a day of learning, networking and insights to help you and your business help entrepreneurs and regional emerging businesses.

This conference is ideal for infrastructure and entrepreneurial support organizations and serious entrepreneurs looking to launch

their new idea or to better understand the resources available to them as they continue to grow an existing business.

Included with General Admission registration, you will receive:

- Presentations from government and industry leaders
- Breakfast and a buffet lunch
- Printed copy of Gallup Inc's Entrepreneurial Strengths Finder and the E-Myth by Michael Gerber
- Access to the vendor show
- Access to the After-Conference Networking Event
- Hardcopy "toolkit" of regional resources and opportunities

This effort is ongoing, all-encompassing regional initiative toward addressing gaps in education and training opportunities and will help provide a new avenue to enhance a valuable and skilled workforce. The outcome of this conference will help existing businesses and entrepreneurs to be sustainable as well as further develop the regional economy. The primary service area of this effort is Garrett, Allegany and Washington, County MD, Bedford and Somerset County, PA, and Hampshire and Mineral County, WV.

Register by clicking <u>here</u> or by calling Sarah Myers at 301-387-3771



Bel Air Elementary Fiber Extension

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) announced approval of a grant in the amount of \$34,375 to the Allegany County Board of Education for the Bel Air Elementary Fiber Extension Project. This grant will help fund the extension of fiber optic cable for internet access to the Bel Air Elementary School in Allegany County. Currently, the school has a 35 Megabit internet connection serving the entire school which is insufficient bandwidth for a school with over 250 daily users. The fiber connection will provide a 500 Megabit connection that can later be expanded without the need for additional fiber and will also allow for online video streaming used for testing and assessment as well as the Discovery Education video streaming system.

In addition to ARC funds, the Allegany County Board of Commissioners is providing \$17,188 and the Allegany County Board of Education is providing \$17,188, bringing the total project funding to \$68,750.