

Allegany Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee Wednesday, April 15, 2015

ALLEGANY COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL – CHRIS SLOAN/SANDI SAVILLE

- **SAVAGE RIVER ARTS CAMP**
EXPLORE NATURE, MAKE ART, AND HAVE FUN
New Germany State Park
For ages 8-12. July 27-31 @ 9:30 AM–3:30 PM
For more information, see www.savageriverwatershed.org or contact Jerri Dell:
jerriarteco@yahoo.com, Cell: 301-707-3717
- **BEGINNINGS MONTESSORI CAMPS**
ART-A-PALOOZA
PreK - Kindergarten. (June 15-19)

STORYBOOKFOREST
PreK - Kindergarten & Grades 1-3. (August 10-14)

SCULPTURE
Grade 1-3. (June 15-19)
- **EVERGREEN HERITAGE CENTER**
ART IN THE OUTDOORS
Ages 8-12 (June 15-19)
For more information, click [here](#).
- **ALLEGANY NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION AND EXHIBITION**

Exhibition opens at the Saville Gallery on April 10. Opening reception—April 18, 6-8pm.

Fri., April 17, 7pm - Enjoy dinner with special guest National Geographic photographer Kenneth Garrett. The dinner will begin with a cocktail reception followed by a formal three course catered meal and a buffet of desserts. A wine pairing will be included with each course. This is a business casual sit down dinner party at a beautifully renovated private home on Washington Street. Dinner will be followed by a slide presentation by Mr. Garrett. Deadline for reservations is April 13.

Sat., April 18, 11am-1pm - Saville Gallery - Bring your photography for a professional critique with Allegany National Photographic Competition & Exhibition juror Kenneth Garrett.

Fri., April 24, 6-8pm - Saville Gallery - Enjoy a talk about modern trends in photography in the Saville Gallery with Robert Hein of Frostburg State University.

CANAL PLACE PRESERVATION & DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – DEIDRA RITCHIE

- Funding for the Footer Dye Works redevelopment project was put back into the state’s capital budget. Funding will be used for infrastructure updates.

CITY OF CUMBERLAND – SHAWN HERSHBERGER

- Incubation program feasibility study is wrapping up. The Allegany Chamber of Commerce, Tri-County Council and other partners will be forwarding a link to a survey which will be active until next Friday, April 24.
- City of Cumberland and City of Frostburg as well as representatives from Maryland Department of Economic Development attended the SEDC meet the consultants event in Chicago networking with site selectors.
- Will be issuing an RFP for opportunity sites implementation plans. This will cover 4 of the 7 sites identified in the EDSP with a targeted completion date of mid-November.

EDUCATION/WORKFORCE TRAINING - ONE STOP JOB -PAUL SMITH/ACM – BECKY RUPPERT

- The One Stop Job Center sponsored a multiple employer job fair in March with 21 businesses and partner agencies represented and 300 jobseekers in attendance.
- Next employer job fairs scheduled at center are:
Rocky Gap Casino & Resorts - Thursday, April 16th, 9am-noon
Harbor Freight Tools - Monday April 20th, 8am-2pm, and Tuesday, April 21st, 11am-4pm.
Both employers are conducting walk-in interviews so it is a rare opportunity for interested candidates.
- **Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program, James P. Marchinke**

Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialists develop job and training opportunities for veterans, with special emphasis on veterans with service-connected disabilities. DVOP specialists provide direct services to veterans enabling them to be competitive in the labor market. They provide outreach and offer assistance to disabled and other veterans by promoting community and employer support for employment and training opportunities, including apprenticeship and on-the-job training.

DVOP specialists work with employers, veterans' organizations, the [Department of Veterans' Affairs](#) and [Defense](#), and community-based organizations to link veterans with appropriate jobs and training opportunities.

DVOP specialists serve as case managers for veterans enrolled in federally-funded job training programs such as the [Department of Veterans Affairs' Vocational Rehabilitation program](#), and other veterans with serious disadvantages in the job market. DVOP specialists are available to those veterans and their employers to help ensure that necessary follow up services are provided to promote job retention.

The Department of Labor provides grant funds to each state's employment service to maintain DVOP specialist positions in the state. The staffing formula and current appropriations level support about 1,400 DVOP specialists nationally. DVOP specialists are employees of the state and are generally located in state employment service offices. About one-quarter are stationed full- or part-time in locations other than employment service offices.

DVOP specialists may be stationed at regional offices and medical or veterans' outreach centers of the [Department of Veterans' Affairs](#), state or county veterans' service offices, Job Training Partnership Act program offices, community-based organizations, and military installations.

- **Western Maryland Consortium=Workforce Investment Act-Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Paul Smith**

The Summer Youth Employment program of 2015 will be split between outgoing legislation W.I.A. and new legislation W.I.O.A. and is scheduled to begin mid-June and end mid-August 2015.

The program will provide work experience to economically disadvantage youth at the rate of pay \$8.25/hr for 35hrs/week. Youth will be placed in positions that will closely mirror their future career goals and ambitions. Their daily work activities will be monitored by Consortium staff to ensure that program objectives are being met.

The Consortium will again partner with the Department of Rehabilitation Services and Allegany County Department of Social Services in order to provide structure work experiences for youth that are involved in their specific program.

A total of approximately 70 youth are projected to participate in summer work experience activities.

CITY OF FROSTBURG – LIZ STAHLMAN

- FSU Pursuing RISE Zone Qualified Institution Designation; if successful, City will seek RISE Zone Designation.
- SEDC Meet the Consultants Event, Attended 3/30 – 4/1 with Shawn Hershberger, Cumberland as part of the Municipal Economic Development Cooperative supported by CACIF.

HEALTHCARE/WELLNESS - BARRY RONAN (WMHS)/AMY SCHWAB-OWENS (LIFE FITNESS MANAGEMENT)

- In 2014, "Get Moving" statistics from the Evergreen Heritage Center's (EHC's) various outdoor-based programs (including school field trips, workshops, teacher training, and hands-on student projects) reported 2722 participants who "got moving" via EHC programs for a total of 18,119 hours.
- This summer, the EHC is expanding its camp program and is offering three weeks of outdoor discovery camp that provide interdisciplinary, outdoor-based, active hands-on learning while encouraging healthy living habits.

- In fall 2015, the EHC will be providing a new program for Head Start children entitled *Harvest Exploration* and will be piloting a new program for Kindergarten children entitled *Garden Discovery*, both of which focus on food and nutrition with the goal of influencing a child's food preferences and consumption to improve children's health.
- In fall 2015, the EHC is collaborating with FSU, Allegany County Public Schools, The Belt Group, AES Warrior Run, and First Energy to provide energy research field trips that will be conducted by EHC instructors at FSU to introduce all the 8th graders in the County to the FSU campus and its programs while also providing experiential education in both traditional and new energy sources, technology, and solutions.

TRAILS - BILL ATKINSON

- Trail is open the Big Savage Tunnel was opened on April 3rd.
- Work is under way to rehab the Pinkerton Tunnel in PA.
- County has plans to make repairs to the trail surface in the area near Woodcock Hollow Trail Head.
- Valley Street improvements still on hold awaiting final ROW agreements.
- Trail Counters have been installed.
- Recreational Trails Grant from SHA to improve signage at Canal Place and other trail heads is under way A local sign company is under contract Signs should be in place by late summer.