



July 11, 2014

## Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties



### In This Issue

[Military Readiness Medical Training Program](#)

[Volunteers Needed for Public Health and Veterinary Clinics](#)

[Save Energy with LED Lighting](#)

### Dates to Remember

#### MACo Summer Conference

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

Click [here](#) for more information.



### Appalachian Mountain Military Readiness Medical Training Mission August 11-21, Cumberland, MD

The [Appalachian Regional Commission](#) announced approval of a \$15,000 grant to the Allegany County Human Resources Development Commission, Inc. ([HRDC](#)) for a project to support the Appalachian Mountain Military Readiness Medical Training Mission, to be held August 11-21 in Cumberland.

The Appalachian Mountain mission will also aid the Department of Defense in training as many as 80 military personnel, who will provide all medical services during the event. Local partners have secured DOD's commitment to serve 3,000 patients in this 2014 medical mission.

As in most rural areas, many residents of western Maryland lack access to medical services because of a shortage of medical, dental, and vision providers; lack of transportation; lack of health insurance coverage; and the high cost of medical care. The Department of Defense ([DOD](#)) provides training for military personnel through the Innovative Readiness Training ([IRT](#)) program, including exercises to test preparation for major medical interventions.

Clinical services will include primary care, optometry, and dental care, along with veterinary medicine.

More information will be available soon.



**Volunteers Needed to Assist with  
Public Health and  
Veterinary Clinics in August**

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 as noted in the above article. Event organizers are now scheduling volunteers to participate as data entry/clerical assistants, general clinic support, veterinary clinic support, patient guides, and parking assistants.

The DoD has special units that are made up of degreed, highly skilled doctors, nurses, veterinarians, dental professionals, and others who are active duty or reserve military personnel. They are required to participate in regular training to keep their skills honed so that they are ready when they are needed in an actual emergency situation. To do that, these troops offer to provide clinical services at no cost to the public in communities which demonstrate a need for services. This allows them to fulfill their training requirements and also support communities whose populations may not have adequate access to certain services or may be unable to afford them.

The volunteer registration form has been created to register interested volunteers and can be found at [here](#). Shifts are five hours long, and volunteers can sign up for multiple days/shifts. Prospective volunteers without access to the Internet can sign up by calling the following numbers: veterinary clinic volunteers may call 301-759-5040; all other volunteers may call 301-783-1775.

At this time, the clinic is only scheduling volunteers. No patient appointments are currently being accepted. However, organizers expect to announce a launch date for the patient scheduling hotline in mid-July.



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