



May 27, 2014

Council Connections

Bridging Allegany, Garrett, and Washington Counties



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July 9, 2014
Garrett County
Wisp Resort
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

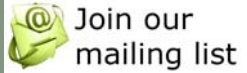


White House Rural Council

White House Rural Council Announces First Made in Rural America Regional Forum

The [White House Rural Council](#) has announced the first in a series of [Made in Rural America](#) regional forums. The forum will be held on **June 4** in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania and will focus on expanding international market opportunities. The forum is co-hosted by the Appalachian Regional Commission ([ARC](#)) and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Four additional regional forums will be held across the country to highlight federal, state, and local resources to help rural businesses and community leaders take advantage of export opportunities and access new customers and markets abroad.

Online Registration is available [here](#) or for more information please contact ARC at ruralexports@arc.gov



USDA Announces \$78 Million Available for Local Food Enterprises

USDA [announced](#) that it is making a \$78 million investment in local and regional food systems, including food hubs, farmers markets, aggregation and processing facilities, distribution services, and other local food business enterprises. \$48 million in loan guarantees for local food projects is available through Rural Development's [Business and Industry \(B&I\) Guaranteed Loan Program](#), and \$30 million is available through competitive grants via the Agricultural Marketing Service's (AMS) [Farmers Market and Local Foods Promotion Program](#)

The [Farmers Market and Local Foods Promotion Program](#) makes \$30 million available annually to farmers markets, other direct producer-to-consumer venues, and other businesses in the local food supply chain. Under this program, \$15 million is now available for marketing and promotional support specifically for local food businesses, including food hubs, delivery and aggregation businesses, and processing and storage facilities along the local food supply chain, while \$15 million is for marketing support for farmers markets and other direct to consumer outlets. More information about how to apply is available [here](#). Applications are due on June 20.

The [B&I program](#) provides financial backing for rural business development in partnership with private sector lenders. Entities eligible for B&I loan guarantees include cooperatives, nonprofit organizations, corporations, tribes, and others. This program has the authority to fund local food infrastructure in urban areas as long as the project supports farm and ranch income and expands healthy food access in underserved communities. Applications for the B&I program are accepted on a rolling basis. Click [here](#) for details on how to apply.



**First Annual Oakland Rotary
Charity Golf Tournament
Oakland Golf Club
September 12, 2014
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

The Oakland Rotary will be hosting its first annual charity golf tournament to raise monies to give back to the community. Over the years, the Rotary has given thousands of dollars in scholarships for Garrett County, Maryland high school graduates. The Christmas Project provides toys and food certificates to county families. Funds have been given to the Garrett College Foundation to provide support not covered by normal budgets. The club built and maintains the Rotary Park in Oakland.

18 Hole Captain's Choice/Scramble, preceded by lunch, putting contest, 50-50, Silent Auction.

Cost: \$75 per person

Prizes will be awarded and Sponsorship Opportunities are available!!

For more information please contact Steve Bortz at Steve.Bortz@Inf.com or click [here](#).

www.tccwmd.org

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