

Notes from Evergreen



Cerulean Warbler

Quarterly Update

Evergreen Supporting Endangered Bird Species

EHC Completes Winter Arts in the Schools Program

Elementary Students Taste Test and Plant Veggies

EHC Selling "Victory Garden" Kits (stay tuned)

Evergreen Supporting Endangered Bird Species

Beginning in 2018, the Evergreen Heritage Center (EHC) began working with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in support of its Conservation Programs to promote forest health and Wildlife habitat. Specifically, NRCS identified a 13 acre area at the EHC that could be tailored through stewardship actions to benefit bird species such as the Cerulean Warbler that seek a "shelterwood" habitat e.g. where select trees are scattered within a tract of land so that they may provide seeds for generation while also sheltering seedlings.

During its recent monitoring efforts of the EHC 13 acre area, the NRCS detected 15 bird species on the track, four of which are considered at risk i.e. the Black-and-White Warbler, the Black-Throated Green Warbler, the **Ovenbird** (bottom left photo), and the **Scarlet Tanager** (bottom right photo).



Evergreen Completes Winter Arts in the Schools Program

In partnership with Allegany County Public Schools and Mountain City Center for the Arts, the EHC recently completed its 5th year of *Arts in the Schools*, an annual art enrichment program sponsored by the Allegany Arts Council. This half-day, interdisciplinary, in-school program was conducted for all 3rd and 5th graders in all 14 Allegany County Public Schools.

For the 3rd grade program, *Dancing in Van Gogh's Garden*, students learned about the life cycle of the sunflower and how sunflowers served as inspiration for artists such as Van Gogh. Then students used recycled materials to create life-size 3-D sunflowers. When the sunflowers were completed, students learned about improvisational dance and using the flowers as props while creating a dancing garden to the sound of birds and other music that may have inspired Van Gogh when he created his works of art.



For the 5th grade program, *This Land is YOUR Land*, students learned about perspective and composition and how regional artist Grant Wood used those concepts in his landscape paintings. Then students were introduced to artists' painting tools and methods and created a landscape painting of their own, incorporating foreground, midground, and background, as well as the seasons, time of day, and weather conditions.



Regarding **program results**, :

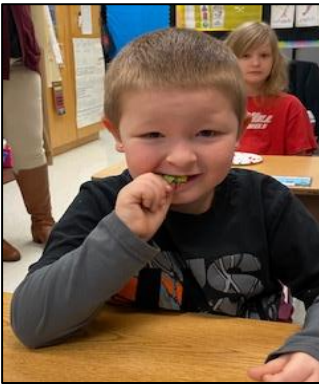
- 1115 students participated
- Student art literacy (measured by pre/post-tests) increased an average of 52%
- 90% of students indicated they would like to have art activities included in their day all of the time
- 21% indicated that they now have an increased interest in the arts
- 97% of the participating teachers rated the overall program, program content, and presentation/instruction as excellent.

Elementary Students Taste and Plant Veggies

As part of the third year of our highly successful Elementary Edibles program, kindergarten through 5th grade students had the opportunity to taste and plant vegetables in window box gardens in their classrooms.

At three local Title I schools, South Penn Elementary, Beall Elementary, and Mount Salvage School, where the majority of the children qualify for USDA's Free and Reduced Meal program, approximately 1000 children began the program by learning about the vegetable that has been assigned to their grade level. Kindergarten will taste and grow radishes, 1st grade broccoli, 2nd grade lettuce, 3rd grade spinach, 4th grade snap peas, and 5th grade herbs.

Although typically less than half the children indicate that they are willing to try new foods, after learning about their vegetable and that they will be growing, caring for, and harvesting their own garden, **96% of the students tasted their vegetable and 77% voted that they either liked it or "loved it"!**



At the next lesson, each grade planted their vegetable seeds in **window box gardens** (left photo below) in the classrooms. Classrooms were also provided with **grow lights** (center photo below) to enable the children to conduct experiments under different lighting conditions, and the children were provided with gardening books to provide more learning opportunities. Students were then taught how to **water their plants** (far right below) and document their efforts.



Donations

As always, particularly during these difficult times, as we work to develop online programs for children when school may not be in session, we appreciate your support.

Yes, I want to be a *Friend of Evergreen* with my tax deductible contribution of _____

My Name: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

My donation is in memory or in honor of: _____

Please mail this form and your check payable to the EHC Foundation to:

EHC Foundation, 101 Braddock Heights, Frostburg, MD 21532-2345

For more information, visit our website www.evergreenheritagecenter.org,

We Host Events!

Evergreen Heritage Center can accommodate your wedding, event, or meetings of **up to 175 people**.

Nestled in the Mountains of Western Maryland, Evergreen provides a scenic setting for your special occasion. At over 2500 square feet on the main level of the Evergreen Barn, as well as other areas on the picturesque grounds available for use, Evergreen is a unique and peaceful setting for your private event. Other charming spots at Evergreen include the main pavilion which accommodates up to **75** and the picturesque pond and its wooden dock. Our green facility provides the picture-perfect location to host a variety of occasions. Let us assist in planning your next function.

For more information, contact 301-687-0664 or janicekeene@evergreenheritagecenter.org.

Evergreen Heritage Center

15603 Trimble Road NW
Mount Savage, MD 21545

Evergreen Heritage Center Foundation

101 Braddock Heights
Frostburg, MD 21532
301-687-0664 (office), 703-326-0425 (cell)
janicekeene@evergreenheritagecenter.org