

EVERHART MUSEUM

NATURAL HISTORY, SCIENCE & ART

1901 Mulberry Street, Scranton, PA 18510

[tel] 570-346-7186 [fax] 570-346-0652 [web] www.everhart-museum.org

For Immediate Release

Press Photographs are Available Upon Request

Contact: Lauren White at 570-346-7186 or public.relations@everhart-museum.org

The “Rocks Room” Returns to the Everhart Museum

Scranton – October 17, 2008: The Everhart Museum is pleased to announce the opening of the **Rocks & Minerals Gallery** (a.k.a. The Rocks Room!) on Sunday, November 9, 2008. The **Rocks & Minerals Gallery** reinterprets and presents a new and improved version of the “Rocks Room,” a well-known and beloved exhibit that was retired decades ago. Created in the 1950s, the original “Rocks Room” was a small closet gallery featuring “glow-in-the-dark” rocks. It was a must-see experience for children from throughout Northeast Pennsylvania who visited during the 1960s and 1970s, and remained the most popular element of the Museum.

The new Everhart Museum **Rocks and Minerals Gallery** will feature many examples from the Everhart Museum’s permanent geology and mineral collections. The exhibit will focus on the three different types of rocks found around the world: sedimentary, igneous, and metamorphic, as well as the individual mineral types that can be mined and used in a variety of ways. The exhibit also features some of the special specimens in the collection, such as large quartz and interplanetary rocks, such as meteorites and tektites. One of the major highlights of the exhibit is the newly-designed fluorescent rocks case that highlights the rocks and minerals that glow under shortwave and longwave UV light. The gallery was designed as a dark gemological exhibit, spotlighting the unique specimens in the Everhart Museum collection. The reopening of this permanent gallery cements the Everhart Museum’s commitment to featuring more of its natural sciences collection and awakening the wonder and magic of museums in the child still found in all of us. The **Rocks & Minerals Gallery** is funded in part by Pagnotti Enterprises, Inc. & Lackawanna Insurance Group.

A special fund raising preview of the **Rocks & Minerals Gallery** and *The Beatles: Photographs by Harry Benson* exhibition will be held on Saturday, November 8, 2008, 6:00-8:00 pm. Admission is \$30/person and participants must be 21 or older in order to attend. The event is limited to 200 people and prepaid reservations are required.

The Everhart Museum is open: noon-4:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Monday; 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. on Saturday; and noon-5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Admission is \$5/adults, \$3/students & seniors, \$2/children 6-12, and free to Everhart Museum members. For more information on this exhibit or the fund raising event, contact the museum at 570-346-7186 or email general.information@everhart-museum.org.

###

About the Everhart Museum: Founded in 1908, the Everhart Museum of Natural History, Science & Art is the largest general museum in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Everhart Museum, located in Nay Aug Park in Scranton, is a not-for-profit institution dedicated to the collection, care and display of a diverse array of artifacts, including natural history, science and fine arts. Through our exhibits and programs, the Everhart Museum has become an invaluable regional resource for educational and cultural opportunities. General support for the museum is received from the Lackawanna County Office of Education & Culture, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and the City of Scranton. For more information on the museum visit our website at www.everhart-museum.org or contact us at 570-346-7186.