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# CaRDI Communiqué

ISSUE NUMBER 2/MAY 2007

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- \* New requirements for mandated training of planning and zoning board members
- \* Wanted: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Stories

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For more information regarding the *Communiqué* or CaRDI in general, please email Ann Prince at [ach37@cornell.edu](mailto:ach37@cornell.edu), or visit us on the web at [www.cardi.cornell.edu](http://www.cardi.cornell.edu).

## Highlights

### **CARDI PUBLICATIONS**

On May 1st, Issue #5 of our *Rural New York Minute* series will be released, entitled "**Rural New Yorkers' Health: It isn't just about Health Insurance,**" by Robin M. Blakely & Kosali I. Simon, Cornell University.

On May 15th, Issue #5 of our *Research & Policy Brief Series* will be released, entitled "**Farm-to-School Initiatives Gaining Ground in NYS,**" by Jennifer Wilkins, Duncan Hilchey, and Heidi Mouillesseaux-Kunzman, Cornell University.

All of our publications are available on the CaRDI website at <http://www.cardi.cornell.edu>.

### **RURAL HEALTH BRAINSTORMING MEETING**

On Friday April 20th, practitioners, policymakers, and researchers from Cornell and across NYS gathered to discuss challenges and opportunities in rural health care issues, closely following the findings from the Rural Vision Project (RVP) of 2006. Emphasis was placed upon identifying potential opportunities for partnerships between research and practice, particularly at the local community level, in advancing some of the priorities identified in the RVP and elsewhere. We were pleased to have Assemblywoman Barbara Lifton of the 125th NYS Assembly District with us for this meeting. The Assemblywoman, who is a member of the NYS Legislative Commission on Rural Resources, a key partner in the Rural Vision Project, spoke about state-level initiatives and potential legislation in the rural health care area.

### **FUTURE OF RURAL NEW YORK SEMINAR SERIES**

On April 20th, the *Future of Rural New York Seminar Series* presented a panel discussion entitled "**Viewing Health as a Centerpiece of Community Development.**" Panelists included Nina Glasgow (Department of Development Sociology, Cornell University), Karen Madden (Director of the Office of Rural Health, New York State Department of Health), Pamela Stewart Fahs (Director of Rural Health Studies, Decker School of Nursing, Binghamton University), Rhoda Meador (Department of Human Development, Cornell University), and Pam Hildrebrandt (Cornell Cooperative Extension Delaware County & Rural Health Alliance Coordinator).

On May 4th the series will present its fifth and final seminar of the semester, entitled "**Poverty in the 21st Century: Research & Action in NYS,**" at 3:00 in Warren Hall B32. Presentations and a panel discussion will include Tom Hirsch (Department of Development Sociology, Cornell), Pete Meyers (Tompkins County Workers' Center), Christine M. Olson (Department of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell), and Nancy Welch (Hamilton County Cornell Cooperative Extension).

All of the seminars in the series will be video-taped. These videos, along with supporting resources, may be accessed at the CaRDI website and by following the "Future of Rural New York Seminar Series" link.

### **EMPIRE STATE POLL – RURAL DATA**

Over the next several months we will be releasing findings from the 2007 Empire State Poll, an opinion survey of New Yorkers across the state. To complement this survey of 800 New York State residents, CaRDI commissions a survey of 300 rural New Yorkers to provide additional insight into the state's rural population. We will feature highlights of both surveys in the Communicate, as well as in our publication series, on such topics as health care access, local taxes, community satisfaction, school-based health clinics, immigration, and other important issues relevant to NYS. Stay tuned!

## Dates

### **NEW YORK STATE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL 2007 ANNUAL MEETING**

NYSEDC will be back at the Otesaga Hotel on June 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> for the 2007 Annual Meeting.

2007 Annual Meeting Chairwoman Linda Dickerson-Hartsock and her committee have developed a highly interesting, informative, and entertaining agenda. The theme of the 2007 Annual Meeting is, “The NEXT New York,” and programming will focus economic development under the Spitzer Administration, and other cutting edge topics to challenge and enhance the professional skills of development professionals throughout New York State.

The agenda and registration form can be accessed from the following URL:  
[http://www.nysedc.org/07\\_Annual\\_Meeting\\_Agenda\\_Registration\\_Form.pdf](http://www.nysedc.org/07_Annual_Meeting_Agenda_Registration_Form.pdf)

### **CREATING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES: THE SOCIAL DIMENSION**

*July 7-14, 2007, EcoVillage, Ithaca, N.Y.*

This week-long workshop offers an introduction to the social foundations of building strong and vibrant communities. Participants will learn from hands-on involvement with EcoVillage at Ithaca. For further information: [www.ecovillage.ithaca.ny.us](http://www.ecovillage.ithaca.ny.us); e-mail [ecovillage@cornell.edu](mailto:ecovillage@cornell.edu).

### **A TELECAST ON GROWING AND KEEPING YOUR REGION'S BUSINESSES**

*Watch Economic Development Today: May 7, 2007, 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM EDT*

*Learn from host Sandy K. Baruah and a panel of experts in a discussion about business retention and expansion. The telecast will focus on “how-to” examples that feature local, regional, state, and multi-state initiatives.*

**Terry Dickey**, Director of Economic Development for the Cincinnati USA Partnership, will present a win-win approach to business retention by the use of their Regional Business Retention Committee who meets with 300-400 companies annually within the Cincinnati USA region.

**Joseph McClure** will demonstrate how a rural area incorporated volunteers into a program known as Business Expansion and Retention or BEAR that has evolved into a three-tier network of volunteers.

Tune in to what promises to be a lively discussion on business retention and expansion and learn how to maximize results, retain jobs and talent, and increase exports. Discover new ways to partner, collaborate, and cooperate in a regional setting.

**For Free and Simple Online Registration, go to:** [www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=130526](http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=130526)

### **2<sup>ND</sup> NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON FACILITATING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION**

*July 11-14, 2007, The Alice Cook House, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY*

Overview: The Facilitating Sustainable Agriculture Education is an exciting opportunity to facilitate a cross-disciplinary dialogue on learning and teaching in sustainable agriculture at colleges and universities in the U.S. The conference will draw a diverse gathering of faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students, administrators, extension educators, farmers and food system practitioners who are active or interested in sustainable agriculture education at institutions of post-secondary learning. For more information and to register, visit the conference website at: [www.hort.cornell.edu/SustAgEd/](http://www.hort.cornell.edu/SustAgEd/)

## **FOUNDATIONS OF COMMUNITY PRACTICE: ENHANCING OUR SKILLS TO SUCCESSFULLY MEET COMMUNITY NEEDS**

This is a two-day regional training held in two locations in the Northeast (Vermont, Oct 29 & 30, and Gettysburg PA November 13 & 14, 2007). These workshops are designed to provide Extension Educators *in all program areas* with a hands-on introductory training to the skills and tools necessary to improve their success in engaging their communities on a wide range of issues and concerns. Co-sponsored by the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development (NERCRD) and the National Association of Community Development Professionals (NACDEP) the program builds upon and utilizes many of the components of the Foundations of Practice educational program originally developed, and successfully implemented by NACDEP and the North Central Region for Rural Development (NCRCRD).

## **E-COMMERCE STRATEGIES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITIES**

*June 4-6, 2007*

*Nebraska City, Nebraska*

Please contact Rod Howe ([rlh13@cornell.edu](mailto:rlh13@cornell.edu)) if you are interested in attending this conference at which there will be a roll-out of new extension educational curricula. There are scholarships available to encourage extension representation from each state. The website for the National E-Commerce Extension Initiative is <http://srdc.msstate.edu/ecommerce/index.html>.

## **LEARN· GROW· EARN: GROWING MARKETS - FRESH HEALTHY LOCAL AFFORDABLE**

Presented by The New York Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (NYSAWG), in partnership with the Risk Management Agency, USDA

### Bus Tour and Workshops

May 5, 2007 (9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.)

Huguenot Street Farm, New Paltz, NY, [www.flyingbeet.com](http://www.flyingbeet.com)

Greenway Environmental, Vassar Farm, Poughkeepsie, NY

To reserve a seat on the bus and a box lunch, please RSVP. Seating on the bus is limited so reserve your seat now! The bus tour will begin at the Family Partnership Center, 29 Hamilton Street, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601, at 9:30 a.m. Parking is available at the municipal parking lot at the corner of Catherine Street and Mill Street, across from the Getty gas station.

### Community Meeting

May 6, 2007 (9 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Family Partnership Center, 29 North Hamilton St, Poughkeepsie, NY

Topic: Making fresh foods more affordable and available

\*\*\*Please RSVP for this meeting and for lunch! RSVP by email to [meredith@nysawg.org](mailto:meredith@nysawg.org) or call NYSAWG at 585-271-0490.

## **Resources**

### **TIME MAGAZINE ARTICLE ON LOCAL FOOD: “EATING BETTER THAN ORGANIC”**

Friday, March 2, 2007, By John Cloud

Available at <http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1595245,00.html>

### **NYS COUNTY STATISTICS**

NY MapStats (go to this link and choose your county) <http://www.fedstats.gov/qf/states/36000.html>

### **NETWORK '07: A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR NORTHEAST RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Link: <http://nercrd.psu.edu/Newsletter/Mar07/March%20Newsletter.pdf>

### **NACDEP PROCEEDINGS**

The National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals (NACDEP) Conference was held in Philadelphia, PA. April 16-18. Workshop tracks included economic development (assistance for individual businesses and/or entrepreneurs, community focus, specific sectors), community decision making, education & workforce development, evaluation and research methods and tools, land use and natural resources, leadership development (individual focus, community focus), local government and community services, organizational development and sustainable development. The presentations will be posted to the NACDEP website:

[www.nacdep.net](http://www.nacdep.net).

### **NOTES FROM THE UNIVERSITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION WEEKLY UPDATE:**

#### **Amber Waves: Creative Class Growth in Rural Areas**

In an article by the U.S.D.A., the importance of the creative class for rural growth in the 1990's is analyzed. The study found that 11 percent of all residents in non-metro counties were employed in creative class occupations, ranking them in the top 25 percent nationwide for this occupational level. See “The Creative Class: A Key to Rural Growth” at: <http://www.ers.gov/AmberWaves/April07/Features/Creative.htm>

#### **Smart Growth Conference Presentations:**

More than 100 Power Point presentations are available from the New Partners for Smart Growth conference recently held in California. Presentations may be downloaded at <http://www.smartgrowth.org/newpartners/NPSG2007.asp>

#### **Economic Impact of Information Technology Assessed:**

In a new report, *Digital Prosperity: Understanding the Economic Benefits of the Information Technology Revolution*, five key areas are examined for impact on the economy: productivity, employment, more efficient markets, higher quality goods and services and innovation and new products and services. The “integration of IT into virtually aspects of the economy and society is creating a digitally-enabled economy that is responsible for generating the lion's share of economic growth and prosperity, both here and abroad,” according to the report from The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation

## **SPITZER SIGNS EXECUTIVE ORDER CREATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT TASK FORCE, HEADED BY STAN LUNDINE**

### **COMMISSION TO TARGET EFFICIENCY AND COMPETITIVENESS**

Governor Spitzer Appoints Stan Lundine to Lead Effort

Governor Spitzer today signed an Executive Order creating the Commission on Local Government Efficiency and Competitiveness, which will review ways that New York State's over 4,200 local governments can save taxpayer dollars and become more efficient by sharing services and undertaking regional collaboration. The Commission will be chaired by former New York Lieutenant Governor, Congressman, and Mayor of Jamestown, Stan Lundine.

"The sheer number of taxing jurisdictions has led to a significant degree of overlap in public services, which has had a devastating affect on local tax burdens" said Governor Spitzer. "Under Stan Lundine's leadership this Commission will help local governments administer services more efficiently and cost effectively."

A website has been established: [www.nyslocalgov.org](http://www.nyslocalgov.org) for ongoing public involvement in the process and where ideas for local government reform can be shared with the Commission.

## **Funding / Grants**

### **FARM VIABILITY INSTITUTE TO FUND AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION IN 2007 GRANT CYCLE**

The New York Farm Viability Institute, a nonprofit organization that directs research projects that result in farm-level increases in profit, is gearing up to fund innovative and collaborative efforts this year. State officials recently announced \$5 million to continue the Institute's core project work in 2007. That money will go towards the Institute's grant programs (Agriculture Innovation Center, Education Innovation, Applied Research Partnerships). Requests for proposals will be posted online, [www.nyfarmviability.org](http://www.nyfarmviability.org), approximately four-six weeks before applications are due. Additionally, the state committed \$750,000 to assist the New York Center for Dairy Excellence, a new effort to encourage collaboration in addressing issues facing the dairy industry. The Center for Dairy Excellence will be coordinated by the Farm Viability Institute. For more information, visit: [www.nyfarmviability.org](http://www.nyfarmviability.org)

### **STATE FUNDING WILL SOON BE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES TO DEVELOP AGRICULTURAL AND FARMLAND PROTECTION PLANS**

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets is developing an application for municipalities to develop local agricultural and farmland protection plans.

The Department of Agriculture intends to provide state assistance payments to municipalities to develop, revise or adjust agricultural sections of local planning documents. Municipalities are encouraged to evaluate and adopt a variety of planning strategies and policies to protect and strengthen the farmland base within their community.

Interested municipalities are eligible for grants up to \$25,000 or 75% of the cost (which ever is less) of developing a local protection plan. The guidelines for local grant funds are expected to be released from the Department this summer (2007).

The Guidelines and Application will also be posted on the Department's web site, [www.agmkt.state.ny.us](http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us) under "Funding Opportunities". Grants will be awarded on a first come first serve basis.

For more information about the municipal grants program, contact:

John Brennan Farmland Protection Specialist  
Division of Agriculture Protection & Development  
NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets  
10 B Airline Drive, Albany, NY 12235  
(518) 457-5606, [john.brennan@agmkt.state.ny.us](mailto:john.brennan@agmkt.state.ny.us)

### **SARE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OR RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANT**

The Northeast Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program has posted preproposal materials to its web site at [www.uvm.edu/~nesare](http://www.uvm.edu/~nesare). Follow the "grants" links to learn how to write and post a preproposal for a SARE Professional Development or Research and Education grant.

To apply for funds this fall, you must complete a preproposal by **May 31, 2007**. *Only applicants with an approved preproposal will be invited to submit a full proposal next fall for the 2008 awards cycle.*

Please note that preproposals are submitted on line, and complete instructions for preparing and submitting a preproposal are at the URL given above. Please read these instructions well in advance of the submission deadline. If you have questions, call the SARE office at 802-656-0471 or send e-mail to [nesare@uvm.edu](mailto:nesare@uvm.edu).

## **ENERGY GRANTS COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION PRESS RELEASE**

#### **ARC Announces Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Grants Competition**

**April 9, 2007, Washington, D.C.** – The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) announced a grants competition this week to assist communities in leveraging renewable energy and energy efficiency resources to revitalize their economies. ARC expects to provide eight to ten awards of up to \$75,000 each, for a total of \$400,000 in awards, to help communities implement these strategies.

Deadline for receipt of responses is June 30, 2007. Selections will be announced on July 31, 2007. For information on submitting an application please go to [www.arc.gov/energy](http://www.arc.gov/energy).

The Appalachian Regional Commission will also be holding regional workshops on energy efficiency and renewable energy. Updated information on dates and location of these workshops will be posted to the ARC website at [www.arc.gov/energy](http://www.arc.gov/energy).

## **HP MICROENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES**

Deadline: June 5, 2007

Through its Microenterprise Development Program, HP ( <http://hp.com/> ) supports nonprofit organizations that have a primary focus on providing development programs and services to microenterprises in underserved communities.

In 2007, HP will award grants to nonprofit microenterprise development agencies, programs, and higher education institutions in the United States, including Puerto Rico, that provide start-up assistance, business training, access to capital, and advice to entrepreneurs and very small businesses in underserved communities. The awards are focused on providing technology access for entrepreneurs and on training micro-entrepreneurs in the use of technology to build and grow their businesses.

HP will begin accepting grant proposals via an online application system on May 8, 2007. The deadline for submitting proposals is June 5, 2007. Visit the HP Web site for the complete Request for Proposals.

## **COMMISSIONER ANNOUNCES FUNDS TO IMPROVE WINERY WEBSITES** **\$1,000 Grants Will Further Enhance Internet Marketing, Promote New York Wines**

New York State Agriculture Commissioner Patrick Hooker today announced that a second round of grants are now available for wineries and vineyards to create or improve their websites. The Winery Website Improvement Grant Program helps promote New York wines, attract more tourists to New York's wine regions, and expand the sales of New York wines to customers throughout the country.

Through the Winery Website Improvement Grant Program, licensed wineries and vineyards in New York State may apply for matching grants of up to \$1,000 to help them develop or improve their websites. Examples of eligible projects include those that add age verification software, foreign language translation, direct shipment capabilities, shopping cart functions, credit card purchase capabilities, adding or improving photographs or maps, and increasing accessibility for persons with disabilities.

A copy of the grant application can be found on the Department's website at <http://www.agmkt.state.ny.us/RFPS.html>. All applications must be submitted to the State Department of Agriculture and Markets by May 30, 2007.

## **Other Opportunities**

### **NYS ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS AWARD FOR SMART GROWTH EXCELLENCE**

Do you know of a community that deserves recognition for its Smart Growth policies or projects? Submissions for the NYS Association of Realtors Award for Smart Growth Excellence are now being solicited. See [www.nysar.com/smart/smart.html](http://www.nysar.com/smart/smart.html) for more information.

### **NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR MANDATED TRAINING OF PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD MEMBERS**

Need information on options for meeting the new requirements for mandated training of planning and zoning board members? Contact David Kay, Extension Associate at CaRDI ([dlk2@cornell.edu](mailto:dlk2@cornell.edu); 607-255-2123) and also President of the New York Planning Federation.

### **WANTED: COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA) STORIES**

CSA is more than budgets, production schedules, and member recruitment strategies. While such things are important to be sure, at its heart, CSA is about relationships – relationships to the soil, to a place, and to all the critters (human and otherwise) that reside there. It is through these relationships that we begin to know physically, intellectually, and spiritually who we are, where we belong, and what it takes (of us and others) to live sustainably and well. Being part of a CSA is a felt and meaningful experience (as well as a delicious one).

Inspired by their session at the 2006 CSA-MI conference, “Metaphors, music, and meaning: CSA and the arts,” poet-farmer Scott Chaskey and anthropologist Laura B. DeLind have decided to compile and edit a “CSA storybook” as a way of communicating the textures and culture of CSA. They are soliciting stories, large and small, literal and allegorical, humorous and serious, that express some of the many relationships, sensibilities, and discoveries that form (and emerge from) the CSA experience.

If you (farmer, member, youth, or senior) have a CSA story that you would like to have considered for publication, please e-mail it to Laura B. DeLind at [delind@msu.edu](mailto:delind@msu.edu) or send a hard copy to Laura at 3257 W. Howell Rd. Mason, MI 48854. Be sure to include your name, your e-mail address and your US postal address. Also include your CSA’s name and location. The deadline for the submission of stories is October 1, 2007