

CD E-NEWSLETTER
JULY, 2005

Last Chance to Register for Conference on Regionalism; July 18, 2005, Fawcett Center

You're invited to participate in a conversation between Ohio State University Extension Professionals and Ohio County Commissioners regarding a growing emphasis on the possible opportunities of thinking and acting regionally.

On **July 18, 2005** we will explore the topic of regionalism and its potential influence on communities, county government and roles for Extension. Globalization has led across the world to a stronger emphasis on regional approaches to how communities, agencies and organizations operate. Many economists have identified regionalism as the new economic driver of the knowledge economy. This one day conference will focus on a conversation regarding the opportunities and challenges local governments face in thinking and acting regionally. Based on communities voluntarily choosing to act regionally we will explore together the value of dialogue, networking and information sharing. Featured speakers include:

Mark Drabenstott, Director of The Center for the Study of Rural America, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Dr. Drabenstott has gained national and international recognition for his economic analysis and policy insights. He is currently a member of the U.S. delegation to an OECD committee that tracks global trends in rural issues. He is a past director of the National Bureau of Economic Research and he has also advised the World Bank.

Dr. Sam Cordes, Co-Director Purdue University Center for Regional Development. The center was created to be a leader in supporting creative, regional approaches and was built on three core values: a voluntary approach, the power of analysis, ideas and information as well as the importance of dialogue, social capital and collaborative partnerships.

To register, please call or email Shirley Cook at the CD office, cook.22@osu.edu or 614.292.6232, or register through the following web site: http://comdev.osu.edu/regionalism_2005.htm

Sustainable Development Center Established in Extension CD Program Area

Extension Educators throughout the state will soon have a new resource to help build community capacity. Entitled the *Sustainable Development Center*, this effort of the Extension Community Development Program Area will focus on building networks and linkages to deliver multidisciplinary approaches to the

building of sustainable communities. The Center seeks to work in partnership with County Educators and community leaders to coordinate access to university resources in support of community and regional development opportunities. Established as a virtual operation, the Sustainable Development Center works statewide to integrate program resources that focus on linking entrepreneurship, workforce enhancement, community planning and capacity building, the green industry, technology transfer, regional sustainability, and the food economy into a holistic approach to reach sustainable development goals.

Leadership for development and implementation of the Sustainable Development Center will be provided by Bill Grunkemeyer, Interim Director, OSUE Center at Wooster, and Jerry Thomas, Director, OSUE Center at Lima, through a partial appointment with the Community Development Program Unit. Their combined leadership provides connection to Extension Center research and programming, linkages to community and economic development subject matter, and partnerships within all four program areas. Existing programs that will be folded into the Sustainable Development Center will include Sustainable Comprehensive and Community Planning and Community Awareness Team Programs (First Impressions, Downtown Market Analysis). Allocation of existing Community Development Program Area resources and funds will support the staffing needs, start-up activities, and on-going programs of the Sustainable Development Center.

For further information, please email Bill Grunkemeyer at grunkemeyer.1@osu.edu or Jerry Thomas at thomas.69@osu.edu

Economic Impact Study of Health Sector Piloted

How much does a community's hospital contribute to the local economy? What about its physicians? Its nursing homes and pharmacies? Why should we care? These sectors typically employ large numbers of people and generate significant dollars in revenue and personal income. Not only are they a key piece of a community's economy, they also play a role in retaining or expanding the manufacturing sector and attracting retirees. To help local leaders in their economic development planning efforts, an [economic impact study](#) of Allen County's (OH) health care sector is currently underway. The pilot project is being conducted in cooperation with the [Extension Center at Lima](#) and the [Allen Economic Development Group](#) and will estimate the economic effects that hospitals; home health care facilities; nursing and residential care facilities; other ambulatory care; pharmacies, and; physicians, dentists, and other professionals have on the larger economy. For more information on this pilot or to discuss other potential projects, contact [Greg Davis](#) or 614-292-6356.

Forum on Community Capital brings Cornelia Butler Flora to Ohio

All Community Development educators and many others should save the date and plan to attend a forum on Community Capital on October 28, 2005. Cornelia Butler Flora, Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agriculture and Sociology and Director, North Central Regional Center for Rural Development will give an interactive presentation on *Regional Capitals for Regional Sustainability* (see description below). The forum will be at the OSU Extension Center at Wooster as part of our series on Regional Sustainability. We are arranging interactive teleconferencing to other locations in the state. Details and registration information will follow shortly.

When resources are invested to create new resources in the long term, they can be termed capital. While we usually think of capital in terms of financial capital, regional sustainability builds on and invests in other kinds of capital as well: natural capital, cultural capital, human capital, social capital, political capital, and built capital. These capitals can either contribute to or detract from other capitals. When one capital receives exclusive attention, the other capitals often deteriorate. We will work together to identify the regional capitals that contribute to regional identity and collaboration for building regional sustainability. Regional resources are the basis for regional sustainability.

Public Issues Education about School Funding and Excellence

A group of Extension professionals continues our research and planning for a public issues education curriculum (PowerPoint, fact sheets, discussion guide, web pages) for community education about the way Ohio school funding is done, some alternatives that are proving successful elsewhere, and options for Ohio.

The working group would be pleased to have you join us. We had a phone conference on the morning of June 13 and will have a longer work session July 28. Email Joe Konen: konen.2@osu.edu if you are interested in joining our list-serve and/or our project group.

Local-Regional Food Group

This new team focuses on the food-community connection and will meet again on August 5th from 10:00 to 2:30 pm Ag Engineering, Rm 219. The group consists of 15 OSUE, OARDC, and FAES faculty and educators with an interest in local and regional food systems from production to market -- including the connections to community development, good nutrition, healthy-lifestyle, farm viability, and related concepts. The working team name is: Food-Community Connection Team. If your interests are in this field, please contact one of us as we begin to organize: Mike Estadt, Joe Heimlich, Joe Konen, konen.2@osu.edu, estadt.3@osu.edu, heimlich.1@osu.edu

Philanthropy Index Pilots

The Philanthropy Index, a major project of the Appalachian Ohio Giving initiative, presents an opportunity to study and assess a community's philanthropic potential. It helps bond diverse local leadership with the goal of inspiring community transformation and ultimately engaging community members in creating and/or growing a charitable fund. The mission is to promote "homegrown philanthropy" as a strategy tied to community visions by capitalizing on the spirit of giving that is already strong in areas that may not perceive themselves as having much financial wealth. Extension Educators in Guernsey, Hocking, Meigs and Noble Counties have incorporated the Philanthropy Index into their programming to educate about philanthropy and to assess and grow philanthropic assets. Each county's situation and pilot is a little different. These Extension Educators can provide additional information: Cindy Bond-Zielinski at bond-zielinski.1@osu.edu Joyce Shriner, Hal Kneen and Mike Lloyd at lloyd.4@osu.edu

.Advancing Community Tourism

The OSU Extension Tourism Team recently conducted its third Advancing Community Tourism Conference highlighting agritourism at Sweetapple Farm in Washington County. A fourth conference is being planned for fall in southwest Ohio. The Tourism Team has a program with various options and will travel to counties or regions. Besides agritourism, some of the topics in readiness include: hospitality training and customer service; nature tourism and recreation, heritage and cultural tourism--enriching our present by visiting our past; folkways as community and tourism builder; tourism and the community--readiness, hosting, image, pride and civic involvement, and sustainable development; understanding marketing and promotion; and working with wood--linking tourism and the craft industry. Contact Deanna Tribe at the OSU Extension Center at Piketon, 740.289.2071, tribe.1@osu.edu for more information or to schedule a session.

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