



January 2010

Vanguard E-News Bulletin

In This Issue

[CDS Member Spotlight](#)

[Contributing to the CDS Endowment](#)

[CD in the News](#)

[Rural Illinois Perspectives](#)

[CDS/IACD Conference](#)

[Awards 2010](#)

CDS Spotlight s Members

As part of the CDS membership campaign, the Membership and Marketing



Committee has initiated its Member Spotlight on the CDS website. Located under JOIN, this page puts the spotlight on 10 CDS members, and their interests and areas of expertise in the community development profession.

Each month the CDS will spotlight new members, gathering the

Dear Mallory,

Happy New Year CDers!

CDS is off to a wonderful start for the new year. As you will learn from Linda Sunde's article, we have reached a critical milestone in the growth of the endowment. Kudos to the Roots and Wings committee for all their hard work. Norm and Brent and their committee members have also completed a preliminary schedule for the New Orleans conference that promises to be one of our best! Our journal continues to receive positive reactions, and we are looking at an opportunity for a book series based on journal articles. As we move into the New Year, we want to continue expanding our involvement with social media. Send us any suggestions, and feel free to join us on [NING](#) or [facebook](#)!

Our awards committee is about to swing in motion. We have simplified the process, so we hope each of you will take some time to think about the people and programs that have contributed to your work and nominate them for one of the several awards we offer. We also encourage you to join one of our committees and help with the work of the Society. Let us know how you can help us make a difference!

-[Mary Emery](#), CDS President

Annual Gift to the CDS Endowment

information from the [membership survey located here](#). If you have not already completed this survey, please do so, and maybe you will be the next member in the spotlight!

[Click here to view the CDS Member Spotlight](#)

 Send to a Colleague

As you prepare your budget for the new year, please remember to include your annual contribution to the CDS Endowment. You have received the annual Appeal Letter from the Roots & Wings Campaign Leaders. Don't set that pledge card aside any longer, send your 2010 gift or pledge today.

The Roots & Wings Campaign needs your continued support to grow the Endowment to the point of making distributions for scholarships, annual conference, and other mission-driven purposes. An important announcement regarding distributions from the Endowment will be made at the CDS Annual International Conference in New Orleans. But this is only possible if the Endowment continues to grow.

Remember, no contribution is too small, but every CDS member needs to be a donor for CDS to make its goal.

Your annual one time gift in any amount, mailed to the CDS Business Office is most appreciated! And CDS accepts most major credit cards. [Click here for a pledge sheet](#).

Or you can make your contribution on-line at the CDS secure website - [Click here](#).

Please join the many CDS members and supporters who are already helping us build a stronger future for CDS. See the [CDS Donors List](#)

Make YOUR contribution to the CDS Endowment today! Your support is greatly appreciated.

Join our new CDS think tank

The CDS board has set up a new committee, CDS UpFront, to bring together practice and theory for innovations that will impact CDS itself, the communities where we work, and the larger CD policy arena.

Interested in participating on the committee? Please contact Timothy Collins at t-collins@wiu.edu and Lori Landry, lori@assnoffices.com.

Have you read something interesting about CD lately? Would you like to share it with other CDS members? Please send a two-to-three-sentence abstract to Collins. If the piece is web-based, please make sure you include a working link. We will publish items in the Vanguard each month.

Visions for cities in the coming year

Next American City asked prominent urban thinkers for their opinions on what 2010 will hold for the world:

Round 1: <http://americancity.org/daily/entry/1949/>

Round 2: <http://americancity.org/daily/entry/1953/>

"Beautiful places: The role of perceived

aesthetic beauty in community satisfaction"

A study by Richard Florida and others has found that perceived beauty or aesthetic character of a location has a positive and significant effect on perceived community satisfaction. It is one of the most significant factors alongside economic security, good schools, and the perceived capacity for social interaction. Community-level factors were found to be significantly more important than individual demographic characteristics in explaining community satisfaction. [Read more...](#)

"When the land's worth more than the trees"

Falling timber prices in the Pacific Northwest and elsewhere are challenging landowners and their communities with growth and development issues as houses are built on forestlands. [Read More...](#)

USDA direct community facility loans and grants

Purpose: Under this program, USDA Rural Development provides loans and grants to develop essential community facilities in order to ensure good local services and quality of life.

Applicant: Public bodies including municipalities, counties, townships, districts, authorities, etc. as well as nonprofit organizations, associations, cooperatives, private corporations, and faith-based organizations.

Eligible Area: Under this program, the project must be located in a rural and incorporated area having a population of 20,000 or less and serve a rural area. If located in or near an urban area, a majority of the population served must be from rural areas.

Financing Features:

- Fixed, below-market interest rates
- Extended repayment terms up to 40 years
- May be used in combination with other federal assistance
- Grants may be available for up to 75% of the project cost
- Applicant works with an area Rural Development office for the loan or grant

For more information, contact your state U.S. Department of Agriculture office.

Place-based regional collaboration pilot program

New York Secretary of State Lorraine Cortes-Vazquez has announced a new initiative, the Place-Based Regional Collaboration Pilot, which strengthens the partnership between New York State and the federal government to advance community revitalization. The two-year pilot program involves three levels of government - local, state, and federal agencies - with community-based organizations. The partnership will enable important dialogue and collaboration with community leaders and will advance feasible projects through commitments of state and federal resources to achieve community revitalization. [Read more...](#)

Disconnected from society?

Gated communities: their lifestyle versus urban governance

By Peer Smets

Worldwide, an increasing number of middle and high-income groups have looked to security measures, such as cameras, fences, walls and gates, to separate themselves from other people in the city. One may question whether those living in gated 'communities' indeed feel responsible for other urbanites. In other words, will such a hard closure (physically-marked segregation) lead to soft closure, reflected in social-cultural and political segregation? What is the impact of the lifestyle(s) of those living in gated communities on the dynamics of the city, urban identity and urban governance? [Read More...](#)

Choice is more than just green beans

Having a large numbers of stores doesn't mean a rural area has much choice - unless you want a hamburger or your hair done. [Read More...](#)

Rural Illinois Perspectives

Macomb, IL-Much attention has been focused on the movement of people to the "stimulating and creative environments" found in larger, urban centers.

According to a recent Rural Research Report from the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, community development practitioners in small towns and rural areas may be inclined to try to duplicate these urban style amenities such as pedestrian malls and a thriving night life. The report's author, University of Wisconsin Extension Associate Professor Will Andreson, notes that this approach may work in small towns and rural areas with assets such as lakefronts and mountains, but a different approach may be more productive in most small towns and rural areas.

For example, residents of the Gogebic Range of Iron County, Wisconsin, and Gogebic County, Michigan decided a new community development strategy was needed to reverse their decades-long population loss and to create the kind of community that would be attractive to young people as a place to live and work.

After conducting a community survey to understand the area's assets for attracting young people, a public forum presented the survey results. The survey helped the community appreciate its strengths, including its "core community" assets and its unique "nature-based outdoor recreation niche."

The findings also identified four major asset-based opportunities to address the community's declining population. These opportunities gave rise to four work groups which formed the Next Generation Initiative to attract and retain young people. Two groups focused on attracting young people from outside the Gogebic Range, and two focused on retaining young people who were already living on the range.

Whether this initiative will ultimately reverse the decades-long population decline of the area is difficult to determine. However, several indicators point to positive short- and mid-term outcomes. For example, young professionals from the Gogebic Range conducted a "First Impressions" exchange with young professionals from a neighboring community to help the respective communities further understand how they are perceived by young people. Participants also reported new opportunities for social networking and the creation of communitywide collaborations and partnerships across the county and state lines.

The initiative created four collaborative endeavors, including an effort by four chambers of commerce to promote the region as a place to live, a vision created by five communities for a regional trail system, and two student retention partnerships between the local extension office and two educational institutions.

Understanding how the community is perceived by its young people will help ensure that the Gogebic Range Next Generation Initiative's asset-based community development approach will effectively attract and retain young people. The research-based initiative should contribute to reversing the decades-long population loss.

You can obtain a copy of the report by contacting IIRA at the phone number below or from our [website](#).

Western Illinois University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity institution. For more information about the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, see our [web site](#). If you care to comment about this column, please contact [Timothy Collins](#), 800-526-9943.

2010 CDS/IACD Conference

The Role of Community in Economic and Disaster Recovery Annual International Conference July 25-28, 2010

Plans for the 2010 CDS/IACD joint conference are proceeding well. Acceptances have been sent to presenters and the final schedule should be ready within a week. E-mails will be sent to presenters showing scheduled participation times. The program will be exciting with 103 papers, projects, and panel presentations scheduled. The conference program will extend into Wednesday afternoon to accommodate the large number of presentations.

An "Introduction to Social Networking" session is planned for Sunday afternoon and participants will be encouraged to blog during the conference with assistance provided to those new to this form of communication. New forms of electronic access to specific conference sessions will also be provided and details are being organized.

Steven Picou will be a plenary speaker. He has an outstanding record of working in disaster recovery and participated in some Katrina projects. He can offer significant insights into how the process actually worked. We also have a panel of experienced community developers from around the world scheduled for the Opening Session to describe new practices in Community Development in their respective countries. We hope to have representatives from Federal agencies that work with economic and disaster recovery available to discuss their programs. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

This conference is unique in the diversity of topics covered as well as the international comparisons that will be provided. You will have an opportunity to interact with colleagues from all over the world who are engaged in projects somewhat similar to yours. This will truly be a learning experience for all of us.

Detailed information about the conference will be available on the [CDS](#) and [IACD](#) web sites. Watch for developments!!

2010 Awards

Nominate a deserving colleague or program!

Great organizations recognize, celebrate, and learn from their successes. CDS has many successful members and programs or activities that should be celebrated and documented so that other groups can learn from them. The CDS Awards Committee has revised the requirements for submitting information on outstanding practices and members. The committee is looking for documentation on members who have excelled in their efforts and in programs that can and should be emulated elsewhere. Recognizing these best practices or achievements makes everyone proud but also enhances the respect and status held by CDS as a

whole.

The revised guidelines for submitting entries to be recognized for awards will be posted on the CDS web site within a week. Please review them and then consider nominating a colleague or a program (including your own) that has done well and from which others could learn. The CDS has several categories of awards and the Awards Committee is interested in nominations for any and all of these categories. The new simplified submission process does not take long and it can call attention to innovative practices which we can all adopt in our programming. Recognizing success in our organization can be one of the most important things you can for CDS this year.

The deadline for submissions is March 10, 2010. For additional information beyond the web site, contact [Gisele Hamm](#), chair of the Awards Committee, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs.

Do you have something to share?

We welcome member input and articles for our Vanguard e-news bulletin. If you have something that you would like to get out to the entire membership, or if you have comments or suggestions, send them to CDS@assnoffices.com with subject e-news bulletin. We will do our best to accommodate your articles in a timely manner.

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