

Vanguard E-News Bulletin

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The Community Development Society is your organization and you will find that the more you get involved in the organization, the more you receive from your membership in the organization.

There are a number of ways for you to get involved. Program Committee, Membership Committee, Communications Committee, Publications Committee, Finance Committee, or review or write Journal or CD Practice articles, book reviews or other publications. The CDS can accommodate an array of interests.

I invite you to contact me and explore a way for you to be involved. Be part of the knowledge exchange within CDS. We welcome your participation and look forward to hearing from you.

-Connie Loden, CDS President cloden@heartofwi.com

Celebrating Community: Creating Hope in Uncertain Times

Mark Your Calendar!
July 26-29, 2009

Memphis Marriott Downtown

The planning for the 41st Annual International Conference of the CDS is in full swing. The program committee is meeting regularly to coordinate the schedule for the 2009 event which will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Society.

The theme, *Celebrating Community: Creating Hope in Uncertain Times*, was chosen to explore ways in which an individual's social well being are realized through their social experiences. A tentative schedule of events will be soon.

Thanks to everyone who submitted a proposal to offer a

preconference workshop - the response was overwhelming. Presenters will be notified by early February of their inclusion in the preconference programming.

CDS Committee News

The latest news and updates...



International Committee

The International Committee has started a book club. We are reading articles and books related to community development practice both within the U.S. and abroad.

If you are interested in discussing 2-3 books per year with your CDS colleagues or learning more about our discussions, email Andrew Dane at andrew.dane@ces.uwex.edu

Awards and Recognition Committee

Nominate someone for a CDS Award

It is important to recognize the good work being done across the country in Community Development. Each year CDS presents awards to members and non-members in recognition of outstanding achievements in community development. The 2009 Awards will be presented at the Annual Conference in Memphis.

Please consider nominating an individual, team, or program for a 2009 CDS Award. The categories are:
Duane L. Gibson Distinguished Service Award, Community Development Achievement, Student Achievement, Friend of CD, Outstanding Program, New Professional, Innovative Program, and the Ted K. Bradshaw Outstanding Research Award

Nominations should be submitted to John Gruidl, Awards Committee Chairperson, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs, Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL 61455, JJ-Gruidl@wiu.edu. Nomination forms will be available at www.comm-dev.org soon. The deadline to submit a nomination is March 15, 2009.

News of Interest

The following highlights were submitted by CDS members. If you have something you would like to see included in a future issue, send it to Peggy Blankenship at Peggy@AssnOffices.com.

20th Annual Rural Community Economic Development Conference

March 4-5, 2009

Peoria, IL

"Rural Community Economic Development: A Possible Renaissance for Rural Areas"

According to Christopher D. Merrett, director of the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA), the conference will feature innovative local community

and economic development approaches. Nationally recognized speakers and development practitioners will share their insights and possible strategies that could succeed in communities.

The conference is sponsored by IIRA, the Governor's Rural Affairs Council chaired by Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn, and Rural Partners. Other sponsors include USDA-Rural Development, Verizon Foundation, and Thomas Jacob and Associates-Economic Development Group.

This year's conference will cover four broad areas: Rural Illinois in the Future, Successful Community Development Strategies, Innovative Community Strategies, and Workshops on Community and Economic Development. A total of twenty sessions will feature speakers and panel discussions.

Scheduled speakers and their topics include:

- Lt. Governor Quinn, "Rural Illinois: How Far Have We Come?"
- Don Macke, Center for Rural Entrepreneurship, "How to Launch and Use Community Foundations."
- David Ivan, MichiganStateUniversity, "Can Small Towns Be Cool?"
- SamM.CordesPurdueUniversity, "New Administration: Rural with a Regional Focus?"
- Greg Wise, University of Wisconsin, "Building a Local Entrepreneurship Program."
- Bill Konyha, President and CEO, "Wabash County, Indiana."
- Brent D. Hales, University of Southern Mississippi, "Southern Entrepreneurship Program."

Sessions also will include presentations on innovative community practices being implemented in Illinois, such as using Geographic Information Systems; a case study of Strasburg's community development efforts; options for financing infrastructure development; and tax increment financing. In addition, there will be a session on "Impact of Health Care on Communities."

The conference will be held at the Peoria Holiday Inn City Centre. Registrations postmarked by February 16, 2008, will be at the Early Bird rate of \$150.00 per person. Registrations postmarked after that date and at the door will be \$160.00. The registration deadline is Wednesday, February 27, 2008.

For more information, call Carol Harper at (309) 298-2637, or toll free at (800) 526-9943, or send e-mail to: CS-Harper@wiu.edu. The announcement and program are also available on our Web site: www.IIRA.org.

CDS Spotlights Members

As part of the CDS membership campaign, the Membership and Marketing Committee has initiated its Member Spotlight on the CDS website. Located under ABOUT US, 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 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](#)

Do you have something to share?

We welcome member input and articles for our new Vanaguard e-news bulletin format. 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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