

# Vanguard E-News Bulletin

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**Dear Mallory,**

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.

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](mailto:cloden@heartofwi.com)

## **Celebrating Community: Creating Hope in Uncertain Times**

### **Save The Date**

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.

Thanks to all of you who have completed the conference survey - we will be using this information as we place the final touches on the program schedule.

An online schedule of events and registration is scheduled to open early April. Check the [CDS website](#) for more details.

### First time to Memphis??

Plan now to bring the family to Memphis. Memphis has a first class zoo, theme parks, numerous museums, and of course, Graceland and Beale Street. For more information log on to [Memphis Travel](#).

### CDS Celebrates 40th Anniversary



Join us in Memphis for this celebration!

The CDS has been busy planning exciting events for its 40th Anniversary.

Watch for more details in the next issue of the

E-News Bulletin.

### 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](#)

### Localism - What's the Attraction?

by Connie Loden, CDS President  
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As I drive to work here in Wisconsin Rapids, I cross the bridge where the view of the river is stunningly peaceful, with the mystical morning mist rising off the calm water reflecting the warm early morning sunlight as it surrounds the pristine wooded islands. It takes me all of five minutes by car to make my journey to work - one of the beauties of living in a smaller community. I can get to most places in town within five minutes.

[Read more....](#)

## 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](mailto:Peggy@AssnOffices.com).*

Macomb, IL-The potential for wind energy generation in Illinois has yet to be fully realized, according to a recent Rural Research Report from the Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs (IIRA) at Western Illinois University.

The report's authors, IIRA staff members Roger Brown and Jeffrey Nemeth, note that Illinois had built slightly more than 300 megawatts (MW) of wind generation capacity by the end of 2007. By comparison, the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) (2007) reports that the United States' wind energy capacity exceeded 16,000 MW-enough to power over five million homes annually.

Data from Midwest ISO, a power management organization, indicates that future development in Illinois could exceed 9,000 MW. Wind energy represents an economic development opportunity for rural communities by providing a source of landowner revenue, jobs, and tax revenue.

One opportunity may be found in direct ownership of generation capacity or indirectly through land leases. This report examines direct ownership of development opportunities by addressing the best practices and opportunities in Illinois. The focus is on rural stakeholders, specifically landowners and local governments who need assistance in properly assessing the viability of a project and how they can take advantage of the opportunity.

A majority of wind energy development occurs through private investment in multiple utility-scale turbines congregated in wind farms. Private equity wind farms make lease payments to land owners, generate jobs, and pay taxes to local governments.

Community wind projects represent the remaining projects with some level of direct ownership by the community. For example, schools, rural or municipal electrics, local government, and/or landowners generate power for their consumption and/or sell excess power to the utility.

These turbines are financed through various arrangements that can include grants, bonds, loans, and equity. Both private equity projects and community-based projects can create value for communities. Understanding the requirements, impacts, and outcomes of wind energy development is complex, however. The key challenge is having access to the information needed to evaluate the opportunities.

The recognition of wind as a resource rather than a nuisance is made possible by improvements in technology, policy, and access to information.

This recognition is creating economic opportunities for communities to engage in wind energy projects. The establishment of renewable energy mandates will assist in the development of wind energy throughout the state. Advances in technology will also create more opportunities.

Communities throughout the state are investigating the potential for generating electricity from wind. It is possible that local electricity generation may be viable for many, thus creating changes in rural electric power unlike anything since the establishment of rural electric cooperatives.

You can obtain a copy of the report by contacting IIRA at the phone number below or from our website at

[http://www.iira.org/pubs/publications/IIRA\\_RRR\\_694.pdf](http://www.iira.org/pubs/publications/IIRA_RRR_694.pdf).

Submitted by Timothy Collins, [t-collins@wiu.edu](mailto:t-collins@wiu.edu)



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