



Community Development e-Newsletter April 2006

Edited by Greg Davis, Extension Specialist, CD



The CD e-Newsletter attempts to help strengthen ties and foster collaborative working relationships among people working in the midst or at the periphery of Extension CD programming. Conceived by CD Specialists as a monthly update, the newsletter includes recent and future program and workshop offerings, opportunities for collaboration, various community development resources, and recent announcements of relevance. Your comments and suggestions for improvement are always welcomed. To offer input, go to: <http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB224W9VH36DP>

From the Desk of Dr. Ken Martin, AD/Community Development

Initiatives are underway to strengthen capacity and enhance Community Development program responsibilities.

The Community Development In-Service Committee is developing a Basic Community Development Orientation comprised of key modules that represent a standard program for professional development. The orientation serves as an introduction to Community Development programs and resources in Ohio and is targeted to new hires as well as current faculty and staff who want to refresh or build their skills and expertise to better address current program opportunities. Eight two-hour modules are being considered: Key Concepts in CD, Leadership Development, Local Government, Economic Development, Land Use and Community Planning, Basic Community Development, and Introduction to GIS. The committee consists of Talia Brown, Greg Davis, Don Lacy, Ken Martin, Mary Roenker, Jeff Shaner, Sharon Strouse, and Deanna Tribe. Our plan is to have the modules developed and ready for release by the end of the year or early next year.

For those who wish to further develop their Community Development skills and expertise, consider the [Foundations of Practice Core Competencies Community Development program](#) offered through the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development. The first component, Understanding Communities and Their Dynamics, is delivered through seven 90-minute sessions using the web and a conference call approach. The second component, Developing Successful Community Initiatives, will use a train-the-trainer approach to build the capacity to offer programs at the state level. The three areas covered are: Civic Engagement and Community Partnerships, Facilitation, Community Assessment and Analysis. I will be putting together a team to attend the train-the-trainer workshop, scheduled for November 1-3, 2006 in St. Louis. Let me know if you are interested in participating.

Another group is working on an All-Extension CD event scheduled for September 7, 2006. Mark your calendars. The keynote presentation by Scott Peters, Cornell University, will discuss the importance of building community in our Extension programs. The goal of this event is to highlight successful programs and provide ideas and insights for educators on incorporating Community Development processes and resources into their Extension programs. A series of roundtables will allow participants to learn how to use and implement the various Community Development program resources, the expected impacts of these resources, potential partners, and how the program relates to the seven themes.

Mike Lloyd Recognized for Outstanding Community Involvement

Mike Lloyd, Noble County Extension Community Development Educator, was recognized for his outstanding community involvement when he received the Joyce M. Davis Memorial Award at the Noble County Chamber of Commerce Annual banquet on March 16, 2006. The highest award offered by the chamber, the Joyce M. Davis Memorial Award winner is chosen by the president of the chamber. Mike's plaque read: "In recognition of your dedication to serving Noble County as Economic Development Director. Your dedication to promote business and industry in Noble County is very much appreciated for our future growth."

Ohio State Launches Center for Farmland Policy Innovation

A new center designed to promote innovative ways to protect Ohio's farmland is up and running at Ohio State University, thanks to \$400,000 in funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service. "This will be an 'action' center," said Jill Clark, interim director of the Center for Farmland Policy Innovation.

"The vast majority of our resources will go directly to fund local projects. We'll be doing much more than research and planning." The center is a response to the needs of local leaders and landowners in their communities who want to retain viable farming while expanding development but are unsure of how to balance the two. The center will serve to match expertise and resources to local priorities. While in planning stages now, the center soon will be accepting applications for funding farmland protection projects under the center's first objective, the Farmland Policy Partnership Program. For additional information about the center or its upcoming call for proposals, contact Jill Clark at (614) 247-6479; clark.1099@osu.edu; <http://cffpi.osu.edu>.

Stark County Local Government Leadership Academy: First Class Success

The Stark County Local Government Leadership Academy, designed to develop positive relationships among elected officials within Stark County while giving them a strengths based view of themselves and the community, was the culmination of two years of collaboration between Leadership Stark County, the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, Ohio State University Extension and the Stark County District Library.

At the end of six weeks of two hours per day, two days per week, 31 local elected and appointed officials and potential candidates received a plaque acknowledging their participation. The course curriculum, which was created by Chester Bowling, included the following:

- Who am I as a leader? How can I organize and use my strengths in ways that make my weaknesses irrelevant?
- How do good people make tough choices and choose between right and right?
- How do I get the job done when it requires working with all the people; those who voted for me and those who didn't?
- How do we get the media more interested in our accomplishments and less in our conflicts?
- What are the right jobs for our community? How do we get them and how do we keep them here?
- How is regional cooperation created and what is in it for me?

Preliminary feedback from participants was very positive and Fran Wells, the Executive Director of Leadership Stark County, reported that they have a waiting list of people to take the course. The course will probably be offered again in February of 2007.

Extension Facilitates Community Collaboration for EPA Grant Application

Chester Bowling, Dana Oleskiewicz, and Cheryle Jones-Syracuse, in collaboration with LEADERShip Ashtabula County, The City of Ashtabula, The Ashtabula River Partnership, The Ashtabula County Growth Partnership, The Ashtabula Chamber of Commerce, Ashtabula County Metro Parks, and other yet to be named organizations have come together to apply for a US EPA Level I Community Action for a Renewed Environment grant. The \$75,000 grant will focus on the Ashtabula River watershed and will bring stakeholders from all across the watershed together to identify and prioritize environmental risks across all environmental media (air, both indoor and outdoor, water and land).

OSU Extension Land Use Conference, in Memory of Jennifer McSweeney

On March 31, 2006, the OSU Extension, Jennifer McSweeney Land Use Conference involved 70 participants, most of whom were appointed and elected officials from throughout Ohio. The event was held at Fisher Auditorium on the OARDC Campus in Wooster.

Kirby Date, of Cleveland State University, and Coordinator of The Countryside Program, was the Keynote Speaker. She discussed using public and private tools to balance conservation and development. Other topics covered in the conference included: competitive advantages of regional planning, planning for healthy and safe communities, laws and options for addressing land use issues at the rural-urban fringe, watershed planning, farms, factories and fish, sprawl, estate planning-related to farm ownership, and panel discussions on zoning administration.

Many thanks go out the planning committee which included the following educators and specialists:

- John Conglose, Extension Specialist, Center at Wooster
- Joe Konen, Extension Specialist, Center at Wooster
- Jennifer Cowley, OSU, Dept. of City and Regional Planning
- Nancy Kukay, Extension Educator, Wyandot County
- Jerry Mahan, Extension Educator and Director, Green County
- Jim Skeeles, Extension Educator, Lorain County
- Stephanie Hines, Extension Educator, Clermont County
- Mary Roenker, Extension Educator, Clermont County
- Harold Watters, Extension Educator, Champaign County
- David Civittolo, Extension Educator and Director, Medina County

Anyone who wants to be part of the planning committee for next year's program should contact John Conglose conglose.1@osu.edu.

Knowledge Economy Website to be Launched

Funded by a Community Development Strategic Plan seed grant, a web-site focused on the Knowledge Economy is expected to be launched in the next 45 days. The site will serve as a virtual convening point for anyone interested in the Knowledge Economy. Examples includes Extension Professionals, local officials, economic development practitioners, researchers and educators.

Expected features for the site include: contact information, curriculum, research reports, whitepapers, fact sheets, an active weblog, and audio and video podcasts. Other ideas and suggestions are welcome. All

Extension Professionals are welcome to participate. A peer review process will be used for educational and research content. Other content may be posted by request.

For information about the site or opportunities to participate please contact [Jerry Thomas](#).

OSU Knowledge Economy Conference to Feature President Holbrook Address

“Innovation begins at the intersection of the disciplines”

Innovation U. New University Roles in A Knowledge Economy:
Tornatsky, Waugaman and Gray

On May 2, 2006 from 8:00 am – 3:00 pm at the Longaberger Alumni House please join with your colleagues across campus in the creation of a community of scholars engaged in the understanding and promoting of the University’s role in the Knowledge Economy. Dr. Karen Holbrook will be the opening speaker at what promises to be an exciting and informative day during which you will have the opportunity to interact with your OSU peers to discover their interest and engagement in research and initiatives relevant to this timely topic.

The purpose of this conference will be to define the scope of the Knowledge Economy, discover what is happening in the University on this topic, identify potential and ongoing research opportunities, and share information about our work with students and other peers. The outcome of this conference will be to identify and enhance collaborative opportunities between disciplines. To set the stage for these sharing initiatives, the Conference is *inviting poster or two page summaries of activities* that The Ohio State University Faculty are participating in to Build Human and Social Capital for Ohio’s Knowledge Economy. Information about this poster/paper request and submission is on the web site listed below.

There is no cost for the conference but space is limited, so please register early. The conference web site, complete with online registration, is at: <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~admin/kec/index.htm>

Development Workshop to be Offered

Folks facing development and housing issues, or are interested in planning and zoning may want to attend the Annual Hamilton County Development Workshop on Friday, April 21, 2006. Two sessions are offered at a cost of \$30 each. For more information, contact Debbie Carney at 513-946-8994.

New Tourism Resource Published

Persons interested in travel and tourism may want to check out the resource, *The Power of Travel 2006*. This report, published by the Travel Industry of America, replaces *Tourism Works for America* which was published from 1991 through 2004. According to the report’s Foreword, the reader will learn about vital economic, cultural and social impacts of travel and tourism on the U. S., while providing an understanding of the interconnectedness, unity and power of the tourism industry. It further validates travel and tourism as one of America’s greatest assets whether measured through jobs, tax revenues, expenditures or quality of life indicators. The Extension Tourism Team has utilized this reference for several years. Go to www.tia.org (Travel Industry Association of America, U. S. Dept. of Commerce Office of Travel and Tourism Industries) for ordering information or more resources. A single copy of the report is \$20; bulk ordering is available that reduces the cost to \$5 per copy.

See America Week: May 13-21

Also revised this year is national tourism week which is now named See America Week and occurs May 13-21, 2006. To help Educators promote national tourism week, the Extension Tourism Team has programs and informational news articles available for use. For more information, contact Extension Tourism Team co-leaders: Deanna Tribe or Treva Williams (tribe.1@osu.edu, williams.973@osu.edu)

Roundtable Discussion on Land Use

The Top Land Use Issues Facing Ohio was held on April 10, from 10:00 – noon in the Ag Admin Auditorium. The program, sponsored by the OSUE Land Use Team, featured thoughts from Larry Long, Executive Director of the CCAO, with responses from a panel of academics and practitioners involved in land use planning. For more information on this program or other Land Use Team programs, contact Peggy Hall or Stephanie Hines (614-247-7898 or 513-732-7070).

Special Rates Offered: Ohio Economic Development Association (OEDA) Membership

Extension Professionals who wish to join the OEDA can now do so at a reduced rate. The regular OEDA yearly membership cost is \$225.00 per individual. Extension can however join for a reduced yearly rate of \$50.00. When completing the membership application simply check the Associate Member classification. Please be aware when making the Associate Membership choice that you will not be a voting member of the organization and you will not have access to the OEDA Resource Center. All other privileges apply.