

Around the South

November 2006, Vol. 2 No. 11

■ SRDC Items of Interest

- **SRDC Releases Southern Region Information Toolkit**

The data you've been searching for is now at your fingertips! A new site, the result of a partnership among the SRDC, Mississippi State University Extension Service and the Delta Data Center, provides instant access to a wealth of data on areas within the Southern region. In the Southern Region Information Toolkit, you'll find a wide variety of economic, demographic and social indicators that can be used by organizations and agencies at the local, state and regional levels; various profiles, historical trends and tools for determining changes in economy and job growth in Southern region areas; specific data broken down by county, state, region and nation; the option to examine data by the metropolitan, micropolitan and noncore-based status of counties in your state or in the Southern region. See for yourself at <http://srit.srdc.msstate.edu>.

■ National Items of Interest

- **AACC Report Compares Community College and University Graduates**

The American Association of Community Colleges brief, *En Route to the Baccalaureate*, compares demographic characteristics and labor market outcomes among individuals who attended community college to college graduates who never attended a community college. Among the baccalaureates, two types of community college attendees—Reverse transfers, students who started at a four-year institution and then returned to a community college, and casual attendees, students who did not complete an associate's degree, but took community college courses while or before attending a four-year institution—earned more than their fellow bachelor's degree recipients who never attended a community college. Reverse transfers exhibited the highest earnings with average monthly incomes above \$2,800. To view the report visit:

http://www.aacc.nche.edu/Content/ContentGroups/Research_Briefs2/B_B_Brief_Final.pdf.

- **ERS Releases New Research on Poverty Measures**

New research from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service shows that adjusting Federal poverty measures to account for geographic cost-of-living differences reverses the rankings of metro and nonmetro poverty. Such a reversal could have important implications for the geographic and demographic distribution of Federal funding of poverty-based programs. For more information, visit

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/AmberWaves/November06/Features/Adjusting.htm>.

- **Financial Education for Preschoolers**

Developed by the Credit Union National Association (in partnership with Cooperative Extension

staff and credit union educators), *Thrive by Five(TM): Teaching Your Preschooler About Spending and Saving* offers free activities and other resources for parents who want to encourage healthy attitudes about money in young children. *Thrive by Five* is a set of eight activities (available in both English and Spanish) for parents of preschoolers to begin teaching basic concepts of financial education. There is a national cooperative extension push to educate parents/caregivers/teachers and the like, for the purpose of educating children around financial stewardship. Find out more about this program at <http://www.creditunion.coop/thriveby5/>.

- **Third Issue of *Rural Realities* Now Available**

As the Gulf Coast hurricanes of 2004 and 2005 made abundantly clear, rural communities are often left on their own to meet the emergency needs of local residents. This is increasingly true in an age when the federal government frequently cedes control to state and local jurisdictions. Although this new responsibility opens the possibility for greater community involvement in local planning, not all communities have the capacity to meet these new obligations. Rural communities often find themselves doing more with less. However, a new approach – the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program – shows promise, not only for disaster response, but also as a tool for building community capacity. This latest issue of *Rural Realities* explores CERT’s role both in helping rural communities prepare for disaster and in building sustainable capacity in those communities. To access the brief, check out <http://ruralsociology.org/pubs/RuralRealities/Issue3.html>.

■ Funding Opportunities

- **2006 Southern Region Sustainable Community Innovation Grants Announced**

The new round of Sustainable Community Innovation Grants have just been announced. A partnership of the Southern Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program, the Southern Rural Development Center and the Appalachian Regional Commission, the deadline date for submissions is November 28, 2006. The grant information is available at <http://www.southernsare.uga.edu/currentcalls/sci.doc>.

- **SRDC's Grant Connections: Rural Development Funding Opportunities**

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<http://srdc.msstate.edu/funding/oct06.htm>

The SRDC staff compiles Grant Connections primarily for the faculty of land-grant colleges and universities in the South to provide funding information in support of activities in agricultural economics, education, human sciences, rural sociology, youth development, and other related disciplines.

■ Conferences & Trainings

- **Southeast ICT**
 November 13-14, 2006
 Chapel Hill, North Carolina
<http://www.e-nc.org/WirelessICT2006/index.asp>
- **3rd Annual Community Capitals Framework Institute**
 "Linking Theory and Practice: A Systems Perspective"
 November 30 - December 1, 2006
 Ames, Iowa
<http://www.ncrcrd.iastate.edu/projects/commcap/2006/index.htm>
- **64th Annual Professional Agricultural Workers Conference (PAWC)**
 "Meeting the Challenges to Sustainable Growth and Development of Rural Communities"
 December 3-5, 2006
 Tuskegee, Alabama
<http://www.pawc.info/>
- **Third Annual Tri-State Diversity Conference**
 Hosted by Kentucky State University, University of Kentucky, Purdue University, and The Ohio State University
 January 11-12, 2007
 Covington, Kentucky
<http://www.ces.purdue.edu/dearborn/diversityconf.htm>
- **2007 Outlook Forum -- Agriculture at the Crossroads: Energy, Farm & Rural Policy**
 March 1-2, 2007
 Arlington, Virginia
<http://www.usda.gov/oce/forum/>
- **2007 NACDEP Conference**
 "Declaration of Interdependence: The Fabric of Community"
 April 16-19, 2007
 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
<http://nacdep.net>
- **21st Century Families Conference: From Research to Reality**
 April 17-19, 2007
 Little Rock, Arkansas
http://www.arfamilies.org/21st_century/default.htm
- **Public Issues Leadership Development Conference**
 "Connectivity: Community to the Capitol"
 April 23-25, 2007

Washington, DC

<http://www.icep.org/pild.htm>

- **Children, Youth and Families at Risk Conference**
May 2-4, 2007
Chicago, Illinois
<http://fyics.ifas.ufl.edu/cyfar/call.html>
- **Exploring Innovation: A Conference on Community Development Finance**
May 2-4, 2007
St. Louis, Missouri
Call for Session Proposals ends November 30
<http://www.stlouisfed.org/community/innovation/>
- **National Urban Extension Conference**
"The Future Urban Extension Agenda: Reaching New and Diverse Audiences"
May 7-10, 2007
Kansas City, Missouri
<http://extension.missouri.edu/urbanconf/>
- **Society for the Study of Social Problems 57th Annual Meeting**
"Research Matters: Creating Knowledge, Policy, and Justice"
August 10-12, 2007
New York, New York
Call for Session Proposals ends January 31
<http://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/23>
- **Transatlantic Conference on the Science and Education of Land Use**
September 24-26, 2007
Washington, DC
Call for Papers/Abstracts ends January 22
<http://nercrd.psu.edu/taluc/>

■ People in the News

- [Mark Cochran has been named Associate Vice President for Agriculture-Research and Director of the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station, effective Nov. 1.](#)
- H. Charles Goan was recently appointed interim director of University of Tennessee Extension.

■ Job Opportunities

- Assistant/Associate Professor
Department of Sociology
University of Tennessee
View announcement: <http://uthr.admin.utk.edu/emplcomp/FacultyVacancy.shtml>
- Assistant Professor
Department of Rural Sociology
University of Wisconsin-Madison
View announcement: <http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/jobs/wisc.doc>
- Community Development Specialist
University of Missouri Extension
View announcement:
<http://extension.missouri.edu/careers/positionannouncements/CDV075.html>
- Director of Cooperative Extension
Colorado State University
View announcement: <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/coop/job011722.html>
- Director, US Latino/a Studies
Iowa State University
View announcement: <https://www.iastatejobs.com/> (Vacancy ID # 060880)
- Extension Specialist, Sustainable Economic Development
West Virginia State University
View announcement: http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/jobs/wvsu_extspec.doc
- Program Associate - Community and Economic Development
University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service
View Announcement:
<https://jobs.uaex.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/frameset/Frameset.jsp?time=1160771626210>
(Posting # 0060009)
- Program Vice-President
Mountain Association for Community Economic Development (MACED)
View announcement: <http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/jobs/maced.doc> (deadline has been extended)

■ Submit Announcements

Job announcements and other items of interest may be sent to Emily Shaw, emilye@srdc.msstate.edu, for possible inclusion in future issues.

■ Subscribe to Around the South

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