

If you have trouble viewing this email, you can [read it through your browser](#).



E-Newsletter of the Montana Association of Community Development Extension Professionals

**September 2008**

## **President's Corner** **MACDEP Happenings/Member News**

Our Community Development (CD) List Serve now has over 75 subscribers; many thanks to you all for the interest and support! Based on your input we have updated and expanded the [CD website](#).

The fall will be a busy time for MACDEP members as we prepare for the upcoming Galaxy III Conference in September and our Extension Annual Conference in early October. Many of us in MACDEP are also involved in the next phase of Horizons. Details on these events are in this E-News. As always, we look forward to receiving by [email](#) information on any CD programs you're developing or delivering to share with the list serve through the MACDEP E-News.

-Paul Lachapelle  
MACDEP Interim President

### **Galaxy III Conference**

The Galaxy III Conference is Sept. 15-19 in Indianapolis, IN. Several MACDEP members are attending and making presentations. You can view the educational programs [here](#).

**MACDEP member Barbara Andreozzi** is presenting a poster titled "Community Business Matching Model: A Sustainable, Systemic Approach to Community Economic Development" on the Community Business Matching (CBM) program that helps communities identify their development goals, the assets that will help them achieve those goals, and the types of businesses that will be most compatible with these goals and assets.

**MACDEP Members Dan Clark and Paul Lachapelle** will be making a presentation titled "Strategic Visioning as a Method of Collective Learning and Community Development: An Analysis from Select Rural Montana Communities" on the Horizons program in Montana. Paul is also presenting a poster titled "Curriculum Development and Implementation of Local Government Board Trainings: Examples from County and Municipal Education Programs in Montana" which details the development and implementation of the curriculum for local government board educational programs. Paul Lachapelle is organizing a Roundtable session titled "Local Public Officials Training Working Group." This session will provide an opportunity for collaboration and information exchange among Extension personnel at all levels whose programming may include research, training and technical assistance directed toward local government officials. Paul has also organized the session titled "Creating, Building, and

## Upcoming Events

### Grant Seeking Workshop

September 10, Billings. The community development specialists at Big Sky Economic Development Authority will present a free introductory workshop about the grant-seeking process. To register contact Mary Lou at 256-6871 ext. 100.

### [Big Sky or Big Sprawl Conference](#)

September 19th at Carrol College in Helena. National experts on smart growth issues will be on hand to address a number of different topics. More information is available at [www.mtsmartgrowth.org](http://www.mtsmartgrowth.org).

### [Broadband in the Rural Economy](#)

September 29-30, Washington D.C. The workshop highlights current research on the value of information technology (IT), with specific focus on the agriculture, food, and rural sectors. For more information contact [Peter Stenberg](#).

### [The High Cost of Fuel:What's Down the Road for Montanan's?](#)

Friends of the Wheeler Center invite you to the 2008 Burton K. Wheeler Fall Forum, October 1 & 2 (noon-noon), Billings, MT. See the program and [registration info](#).

### [Innovations and Collaboration in](#)

Sustaining a Thriving Rural Community" and is serving as the moderator. The session features **Gary Cunningham and Daniel Kemmis from the Northwest Area Foundation** who will speak on how the Horizons program provides new solutions to overcome persistent poverty, racism, and overall deterioration. This session will present the building blocks of community leadership that are key to reducing poverty in rural and reservation communities with histories of economic decline and significant population change.

### NACDEP News

Don't forget - [Save The Date!](#) NACDEP 2009 conference will be April 20-22, 2009 in San Diego. More information is forthcoming! NACDEP Member Paul Lachapelle was recently notified that he is the recipient of the National Association of Community Development Extension Professionals, Educational Package Award, recognizing 'outstanding efforts for materials that educate through accurate, concise information' for his Citizen Board Trainings curriculum. The award will be received on Sept. 17, 2008 at the upcoming Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) Galaxy III Conference, Indianapolis, IN.

### Horizons

Community recruitment is now taking place for the next phase of Horizons. Dan Clark is serving as the Visioning and Community Planning coordinator; **Rick Williams** will be the Community Coach Coordinator; **Dave Young** is serving as the Study Circles Coordinator; Paul Lachapelle will be the coordinator of LeadershipPlenty®. **Jamie Vowell and Halsey Bishop** will be providing support including blogging instruction and helping to coordinate data collection for the surveys. Stay tuned for more info at [www.horizonsmt.org](http://www.horizonsmt.org).

### Extension Annual Conference

We heard from several of you about participating in our pre-conference CD workshop on Monday afternoon, Oct. 6 in Bozeman (location TBA). We'll also likely schedule a time for a meeting to discuss the next Horizons program for the new agents who will be participating. We will have specific meeting time for NACDEP and "discipline updates." The conference will take place at MSU in the Student Union Building. The schedule is still tentative but here is a sample: NACDEP Business Meeting will be on Tues, Oct. 7 from Noon to 2PM (location TBA); The Specialist's Roundtable is scheduled for Wednesday October 8th from 4:00-5:00PM and CD Specialist Paul Lachapelle is planning to provide information at a table. Discipline Updates for community Development will be Thurs. Oct. 9th, 8:15-9:45 AM in Room B. All are welcome to attend and contribute. Please contact Paul at [Commdev@montana.edu](mailto:Commdev@montana.edu) if you are interested to

### **Affordable Housing**

October 3 - 5, 2008 Phoenix  
Urban Research Laboratory  
(PURL) Phoenix, AZ

### **Broadband - Local Gateway to Global Opportunities**

October 5-8, Smuggler's  
Notch VT. Hosted by the  
Rural Telecommunications  
Congress (RTC), in  
partnership with the  
Economic Development  
Council of Northern  
Vermont, the conference  
will showcase innovative  
approaches to building local  
capacity to improve the  
quality of life for people in  
rural communities. Contact  
Greg Laudeman by  
clicking [here](#).

### **2008 Rocky Mountain Conference on Aging**

October 23, Loveland CO.  
The workforce of the United  
States is changing! Older  
workers will play a key role  
in meeting the needs of  
employers.

### **Great Falls Small Business Expo**

October 16, Great Falls.  
This year's expo will offer  
sessions on a variety of  
topics to help small  
businesses grow and  
develop. Click [here](#) or  
email [Rebecca Engum](mailto:Rebecca.Engum) for  
more information

## **Grant/Award Opportunities**

### **AmeriCorps Education Award Opportunity**

Thursday, September 18,  
young adults ages 17-24  
and nonprofit organizations

present CD information.

## **2009 Rural Community Conference**

The second Rural Community Conference is being planned for the late spring of 2009. Information about the previous conference is available [here](#). Paul Lachapelle, Dan Clark and Jamie Vowell are leading this planning team. If you are interested in learning more about the conference or want to help with planning, please contact us at [Commdev@montana.edu](mailto:Commdev@montana.edu). More information about the conference will be forthcoming.

## **Community Development Website**

Check out the newly expanded Community Development Website. We now have all our archived web conferences available to view as podcasts; the events calendar is now updated; we have a separate MACDEP page with the bylaws, archived web conferences of the meetings and minutes; an updated publications page; and CD related links. Special thanks to Eric Wold for all his efforts updating the site.

---

## **New Reports/Resources**

### **Bridge to Benefits**

Montana Bridge to Benefits is the product of a partnership between Rural Dynamics Incorporated and the Children's Defense Fund of Minnesota. Bridge to Benefits is a multi-state project sponsored by the Children's Defense Fund Minnesota focused on improving the well-being of families and individuals by linking them to public work support programs and tax credits.

### **Current Population Survey**

The U.S. Census Bureau recently released its annual Current Population Survey (CPS) data series which tracks income, poverty and health insurance coverage at the state level. Access this information from Montana's Census and Economic Information Center (CEIC) by clicking [here](#).

### **American Community Survey**

The American Community Survey (ACS) is a new nationwide survey designed to provide communities a fresh look at how they are changing. It will replace the long form in future censuses and is a critical element in the Census Bureau's re-engineered 2010 census plan. The ACS table below shows the percent of Montanans below the poverty level. More detailed income, poverty and earnings data can be accessed from the CEIC's website [here](#).

2007 Percent of Montanans Below the Poverty  
Level

that engage young adult volunteers are invited to attend an orientation and registration meeting at the Bozeman Public Library to learn about a new AmeriCorps program that rewards community service with resources for future education. Click [here](#) or call Liz Mack at (406) 586-2455 for more information.

**Tony Hawk Foundation**

The mission of the Tony Hawk Foundation is to foster lasting improvements in society, with an emphasis on supporting and empowering youth. The principal focus of the Foundation's grant program is to facilitate the design, development, construction, and operation of new, quality skateboard parks located in low-income communities throughout the United States. Upcoming application deadlines are October 1, 2008, and March 2, 2009. Click [here](#) to access the online application information.

**Community-Friendly Grants**

NEW Community-Friendly Grants have been added to the Extension Community Resources Program website.

Geographic Region	Percent
<b>Montana</b>	14.1
<b>Urban and Rural</b>	
Urban	15.7
Rural	12.3
<b>Inside and Outside Metropolitan and Micropolitan Statistical Area</b>	
In Metropolitan or Micropolitan Statistical Area	13.1
In Metropolitan Statistical Area	12.6
In Principal City	14.1
Not in Principal City	9.8
In Micropolitan Statistical Area	13.6
In Principal City	19.0
Not in Principal City	10.2
Not in Metro or Micro Statistical Area	16.2

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 American Community Survey

**Community Development "In the News"**

**[Harvest Time Arrives for Montana Tribes](#)**

There are four community tribal gardens on the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana, part of the Field Home Community Garden Project funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Nutrition Education Grant Program, and harvest is under way. Char-Koosta News; Aug. 29

**[Homeowners Around Montana Lake Ask County for Zoning Help](#)**

Georgetown Lake is dissected by the Deer Lodge-Granite county line, and dozens of homeowners around the Montana lake attended a hearing Wednesday before Granite County Planning Commission to show their support for zoning; Deer Lodge County has zoning in place for that area of the lake. Montana Standard; Aug. 28

#### [Melstone, Montana Residents are Growing their City After Years of Dwindling Population](#)

The community 90 miles northeast of Billings was incorporated 100 years ago, and, though its in-city population now rests at a number roughly equal to its age, Melstone drew more than a third of that number when it began a re-visioning and revitalization program in 2006. MSU News Service; August 27

#### [Montana Must Mix Land-Use Policies Into Firefighting Policy](#)

The report from Headwaters Economics presented to an interim committee of the Montana Legislature put a price tag on what it costs to save homes built in areas of the state where forests meet subdivisions, and while the report held few surprises, it highlighted the need for land-use policies that could reduce the state's cost of fighting wildfires. Great Falls Tribune; Aug. 27

#### [Highway Funding Concerns Loom Large in Montana, Other Rural States](#)

Americans are driving less, especially in rural areas, the U.S. Department of Transportation [announced](#) last week. NewWest.net; August 22

#### [Butte Wind Turbine Plant Put on Hold](#)

Barrett said, despite the high demand for turbines, a regional market for the Butte plant needs to be developed. "So we're contacting all the wind energy companies and saying, 'Have you thought about buying turbines for the Butte plant?' because the longer there's a cue of purchasers, the longer the more viable a plant is. Montana News Station.com; August 19

#### [From Homegrown to Global - Growth Rate of Montana's Exports Among Highest in Nation](#)

Montana has benefited immensely from federal free trade agreements, with its number of exports growing at nearly the highest rate in the nation. Tiny businesses and large companies alike are taking advantage of the new markets. Flathead Beacon; Aug. 19

#### [Montana's Home Affordability Dilemma](#)

Maps propped up in Missoula City Council chambers Tuesday showed three Montanas. The first was Montana in 1996. The few counties highlighted in red-including Missoula County-indicated where the average home price outpaced the average household income. NewWest.net; Aug. 19

#### [NorthWestern Energy Donates \\$500,000 to Help Low Income Customers in Montana Struggling with Rising Energy Costs.](#)

NorthWestern is donating \$200,000 to home weatherization for low-income residents through Gov. Brian Schweitzer's Warm Homes Warm Hearts program. Schweitzer has recently released \$1 million in emergency funds for low-income weatherization. NorthWestern also donated \$200,000 to Energy Share of Montana and \$100,000 to the Montana Food Bank Network. Montana News Station.com; August 19

#### [MAEDC Asks the State for Help as Montana's Wood Products Industry Struggles](#)

One week ago Missoula's economic development corporation asked state leaders to help, and the state responded. Montana News Station.com; Aug. 18

### [Traffic Stoppers](#)

An increasing number of cities are temporarily closing streets to cars and opening them to pedestrians and cyclists. It fosters a greater sense of community. Christian Science Monitor.com; Aug. 18

### [North Corktown: A Model of Neighborhood Revitalization](#)

Not every story of urban neighborhood revival involves grand architectural visions, elegant master-planning or even gentrification. Sometimes, a neighborhood can be improved just by diligently matching up potential homeowners with houses that otherwise would be abandoned, and developers with empty lots, says architect Michael Poris. Planetizen; Aug. 18

### [President Signs Bill That Will Funnel \\$1 Billion to Tribal Water Projects](#)

President Bush signed legislation on Wednesday that will provide \$2 billion in funding for tribal water, health and law enforcement projects. Indian Country Today (AP); Aug. 15

### [Largest Annexation Request in Montana City's History Moves Ahead](#)

The Hamilton City Council will make the final decision on annexation of 494 acres adjacent to the Montana city on which a 622-unit "planned community" will be built, but the project was approved Thursday by the zoning commission and the city's planning board. Ravalli Republic; Aug. 15

### [Landowners Push for Protection of Montana Lake's North Shoreline](#)

The wild northern shore of Flathead Lake provides an important corridor for wildlife moving across Montana's Flathead Valley, and the first of what the Flathead Land Trust hopes will be many parcels of land needed to keep the corridor free of development was placed under a conservation easement. Missoulian; Aug. 13

### [UM Researcher Lays Out Challenges for Montana's Timber Industry](#)

Todd Morgan, director of forest industry research at the University of Montana's Bureau of Business and Economic Research said the national housing market and lack of available timber hit the state's timber industry hard during the first half of 2008, and that timber availability will be key to the industry's ability to recover during the second half of the year. Missoulian; Aug. 12

### [Sen. Baucus Invites Foreign Ambassadors to Tour Montana to Develop Trade Opportunities](#)

Montana Senator Max Baucus has invited ambassadors from five countries to tour Montana. The Democrat has asked the ambassadors from Colombia, Morocco, New Zealand, Peru, and Vietnam to the Treasure State to discuss possible trade opportunities. Montana News Station.com; Aug.11

### [\\$8,500 Mesh Network Creates Low-Cost Muni Wi-Fi for Kentucky Town](#)

Prestonsburg, Ky., was hardly the first city to turn to municipal Wi-Fi in hope of spurring economic growth. Like counterparts throughout the country, local leaders figured that free wireless Internet access could help them attract new businesses. They also thought it might draw tourists, offer opportunities for telemedicine and distance learning, and keep young people from leaving Prestonsburg, a city of less than 4,000 residents at the rural, eastern edge of the state. Government Technology; August 10

### [Plum Creek Negotiates New Easements with State of Montana](#)

As Plum Creek Timber repositions itself as a real estate company, it is working with the state of Montana to expand its logging road easements, so it can bring improved access and underground utilities to land that it can later subdivide into rural communities. The state negotiations may shed some light on private talks held between Plum Creek and the U.S. Forest Service. Missoulian; August 10

#### [Different Groups use Varying Methods to Raise Cash for Montana Food Bank](#)

A group of financial planning companies raised more than \$8,000 for the Missoula Food Bank; a steel recycling company in the Montana city pitched in another \$5,000; a volunteer at the food bank went door to door and a Frenchtown teenager played his alto saxophone at the Saturday Farmers Market to raise money, too. Missoulian; Aug. 8

#### [Stimson Lumber Co. Puts Montana Millsite Up for Sale](#)

Oregon-based Stimson Lumber Co. said it will try to sell its shuttered Bonner mill in Montana for six weeks, and if the company doesn't get the \$16 million it wants for the property, it will sell the site and the equipment at auction Sept. 30 and Oct. 1. Missoulian; Aug. 8

#### [Missoula Plans for Future Downtown Parking](#)

Parking in downtown Missoula may be difficult sometimes, but that's nothing compared to planning the city's parking layout for the next 20 years. NewWest.net; Aug. 7

#### [Montana Department of Commerce, Block Grant Program Awards Funding to the City of Kalispell to Develop a Welding Program for Flathead Community College](#)

[The Montana Department of Commerce](#) has awarded funding from the Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development (CDBG-ED) Program to assist with a welding and metals fabrication program. MATR; Aug. 6

#### [Go Eastward \(from the West Coast\), Young Americans](#)

There's a reverse flow of population in the West, drifting from expensive coastal cities to interior boomtowns. Truth is, the coastal West is moving into the Interior West, as mobile knowledge workers head for places with good schools, nearby fishing streams, and plenty of people like us. Crosscut.com; Aug. 5

#### [Asarco Commits \\$148 Million to Clean Up Contaminated Sites in Montana](#)

Montana officials said that even though Asarco is in bankruptcy, with copper trading at \$4 a pound, the mining giant has plenty of cash to pay the \$148 million it promised the state to clean up mining and industrial sites around the Big Sky State, but the settlement must still be approved by the bankruptcy court and will probably be challenged by Grupo Mexico, Asarco's parent company. Helena Independent Record; Aug. 1

#### [Navigating Development, Food & Soil in Missoula County](#)

This year, the Missoula City Council rejected the first subdivision in part because of the agricultural value of the land it would divide. Thursday, developers, regulators and advocates gathered to start unraveling the knotty issue of how food, ag, soil and houses can coexist in the county. NewWest.net; Aug. 1

#### [Panel Suggests How Montana City Should Grow](#)

Staff members of the Missoula Office of Planning and Grants gave their recommendations on just where and how the Montana city should allow the growth should occur over the next 20 years. Missoulian; July 31



**MSU Extension Community Development**

Wilson Hall 1156 P.O. Box 172240

Bozeman, MT 59717-2240

[CommunityDevelopment@montana.edu](mailto:CommunityDevelopment@montana.edu)

Tel: (406) 994-3620