SRDC Releasing 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.

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/](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](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](http://www.southernsare.uga.edu/currentcalls/sci.doc).
  - **SRDC's Grant Connections: Rural Development Funding Opportunities**
    Volume 9, Number 1, October 2006
    [http://srdc.msstate.edu/funding/oct06.htm](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  

• 3rd Annual Community Capitals Framework Institute  
  "Linking Theory and Practice: A Systems Perspective"  
  November 30 - December 1, 2006  
  Ames, Iowa  

• 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/](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](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  

• 2007 NACDEP Conference  
  "Declaration of Interdependence: The Fabric of Community"  
  April 16-19, 2007  
  Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
  [http://nacdep.net](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](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.jcep.org/pild.htm

- **Children, Youth and Families at Risk Conference**
  May 2-4, 2007
  Chicago, Illinois
  http://fycs.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/

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**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.

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**Job Opportunities**
- **Assistant/Associate Professor**  
  Department of Sociology  
  University of Tennessee  
  View announcement: [http://uthr.admin.utk.edu/emplcomp/FacultyVacancy.shtml](http://uthr.admin.utk.edu/emplcomp/FacultyVacancy.shtml)

- **Assistant Professor**  
  Department of Rural Sociology  
  University of Wisconsin-Madison  

- **Community Development Specialist**  
  University of Missouri Extension  
  View announcement: [http://extension.missouri.edu/careers/positionannouncements/CDV075.html](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](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/coop/job011722.html)

- **Director, US Latino/a Studies**  
  Iowa State University  
  View announcement: [https://www.iastatejobs.com/](https://www.iastatejobs.com/) (Vacancy ID # 060880)

- **Extension Specialist, Sustainable Economic Development**  
  West Virginia State University  

- **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](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](http://srdc.msstate.edu/news/jobs/maced.doc) (deadline has been extended)

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**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.
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