



BEYOND THE BORDERS

Community Economic Development and Leadership Online Newsletter

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Building Communities

Practical Tools and Information

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NDSU Extension Service, community economic development specialist*

*This newsletter is meant to share practical tools and information to assist you in your important role in community and economic development work. We welcome comments on current letters plus encourage your advice for future articles.
Kathy*

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Editorial – "Rural Leadership North Dakota Recruiting??"

Many of our communities are in critical need of new people to step up to the plate and become active leaders in their community. Why don't people volunteer? I find that most people really do care about their community, so what's stopping them? My colleagues who work in the area of leadership development tell me national surveys show the No. 1 reason people don't volunteer is because no one asked them, but the next major reason is confidence to try. Helping emerging leaders to develop the skills and confidence to become active in their communities is what the Rural Leadership North Dakota program is all about. Following is a recent article highlighting the class experience. RLND has just begun its recruiting effort for its next class. I would encourage you to nominate people in your community. Go to www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/rlnd/ for application information.

As one alumnus of the program recently said, "It was a life-changing experience!"

Sincerely,
Kathy Tweeten
NDSU Center for Community Vitality Director and
Community Economic Development Extension Specialist

Rural Leadership Class Ends 1st Year of 2005-07 Program

Source: Marie Hvidsten, RLND program director, NDSU Extension Service

Beach City Auditor Kim Nunberg says the Rural Leadership North Dakota program has helped her become a more creative, innovative and resourceful leader. Nunberg is one of 18 members of RLND's second class. The class recently wrapped up the first year of the 2005-07 program.

"The first year of RLND has proven to be an overwhelmingly positive experience," Nunberg says. "I anxiously await year two of RLND."

RLND is an interactive study and travel program offered through the North Dakota State University Extension Service. It's designed to produce graduates with the vision and commitment to lead themselves, their organizations and their communities into the future. It helps them develop skills in working with people, using technology, speaking in public and bringing about positive change in their communities.

"RLND has inspired me to grow personally and professionally, and has created a valuable network of contacts, along with creating friendships that will last a lifetime," says Janel Lee, a bank cashier and bookkeeper from Grassy Butte.

Members come from communities across the state and hold a variety of occupations. In addition to city auditor and bank employee, the group

