

C3 Group Promotes Statewide GIS

The use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in the private sector has increased dramatically over the last 5 to 10 years throughout the United States. The two driving factors behind this increase are cost effective technology and data availability. South Carolina is lagging behind in the adoption of this technology in the private sector primarily due to the lack of a focused effort for coordinated data collection and sharing. In order to catch up with the rest of the world, the GIS climate and business model must change to reflect the dynamic needs of both the public and private sector in South Carolina.

In a shift from previous GIS initiatives directed by state and local government, the most recent effort is driven by the private sector and universities in the name of economic development. A new GIS Working Group now operates under the auspices of the Carolina Crescent Coalition (C3) Centers of Excellence to foster the development of GIS and communication between South Carolina stakeholders in the areas of data sharing and partnerships, standards and procedures, and GIS training.

The Carolina Crescent Coalition (C3) fosters the collaboration of executives, research scientists, information technologists, and economic development professionals to identify ways to recruit knowledge organizations and foster high-growth, independent companies. C3 builds on the strengths of existing industries and universities to attract and develop best-in-the-world talent critical to them. In addition to the GIS initiative, other C3 focus groups include Bioinformatics, Fuel Cells, and

Supply Chain Management. (Find out more at <http://swampfox.dominohosting.biz/swampfox/c3webapp.nsf/pages/whatis3.htm>).

The GIS Working Team is comprised of industry and university representatives, under the leadership of Ron Anderson, Director of Market Research for Edens & Avant. Representatives from the Appalachian COG and Central Midlands COG participated in the planning meetings. The draft mission statement affirms that the group is "...dedicated to facilitating the growth and utilization of GIS at all levels in South Carolina. The group will work to promote and expand relationships between public, private, non-profit, and educational entities throughout the state through cooperation, education, and data standardization."

The C3 Working Group on GIS identified the following action items in a draft position paper:

- Support for the passage of legislation that will facilitate a coordinated statewide GIS effort to eliminate the duplicate work and expenditures on GIS data creation and maintenance.
- Outline organizational and timeline coordination responsibilities and identify resources including, but not limited to, a state GIS coordinator.
- Development of data standards and plan for implementation.
- Assignment of responsibility for data creation and maintenance.
- Creation of framework for a statewide GIS Clearinghouse to function as a central point for distribution of public data.

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Landrum Updates Comprehensive Plan

The Town of Landrum Planning Commission is currently reviewing the update to the Landrum Comprehensive Plan. The Plan update is part of Landrum's efforts to meet the requirements of the South Carolina Comprehensive Planning Enabling Act of 1994 (SC Code, Title 6, Chapter 29). This legislation requires all counties and



municipalities with planning programs to review their comprehensive plans at least once every five years.

The Town of Landrum Comprehensive Plan examines current growth and development trends, existing land use conditions, forecasts future demands, and sets goals for future development. It creates a framework for balancing competing interests while planning for improving infrastructure and services, and guiding decisions on land use changes in the future. The Plan sets priorities for community development to serve as the guide for evaluating development requests by the planning commission and town council, and establishes strategies for preserving the unique character and integrity of the community. The document consists of

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ARC Again Collaborating with Oak Ridge National Lab

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) has announced that it is again collaborating with the U. S. Department of Energy's Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) and the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, to provide a two-week residential hands-on learning institute focusing on math, science, and technology for high school students and teachers from July 10-23, 2004.

Twenty-six students and twenty-six teachers from throughout the thirteen-State Appalachian region will come together to participate in a hands-on learning program that will focus on the application of math and science principles in the world of work. Student participants must be at least 16 years old by July 10, 2004, and all participants must be U. S. citizens.

The ARC/ORNL Institute is a unique opportunity for students and teachers to work with research scientists on relevant math and scientific topics facing the world in the 21st century. Students and teachers work in teams on research projects during the two-week institute, with each team being comprised of three to six students or teachers. The team approach provides an opportunity to conduct research activities and solve problems in a group setting. Examples of the research and other activities engaged in during previous Summer Institutes can be seen at <http://www.ornl.gov/orise/edu/events.htm>.

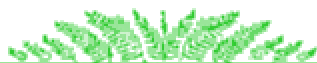
The 2004 participants will be housed at a hotel in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, near ORNL and ORISE facilities. Student participants will be chaperoned 24-hours a day by experienced teachers who have worked with ORNL programs for several years. Participant teachers will not be responsible for chaperoning students.



All major expenses, including meals, lodging, transportation to and from the participant's home and local transportation, will be covered for participants. Teacher participants will receive a stipend of \$750.

The participants will spend most days in one of several ORNL research laboratories, but field trips to nearby industries, universities, and museums will be scheduled to enhance learning more about Appalachia and some of its unique characteristics.

In order to assure adequate time to process all of the security clearances and other paperwork, applications must be received by Dirk Reis at the Appalachian COG by March 26, 2004, to be considered for participation. For more information, or to obtain an application, please contact Dirk Reis at 864-242-9733.



Did You Know . . .

The Stumphouse Tunnel, located in Oconee County, was the result of an attempt to connect Charleston with the Midwest! Before the 1860s, the Blue Ridge Railroad started the tunnel as a rail link; however, work came to a halt when the contractor went bankrupt!

Pendleton District Contractors Retreat

On February 4, 2004, a retreat was held for the Pendleton District Workforce Investment Area Contractors and Board staff. The retreat was conducted by Dr. Connie Pritchard with the Pritchard Group, Inc., and was held at the Clemson University Madren Center. The purpose of the retreat was to enhance the relationship between each of the Contractors, as well as the relationship between the Contractors and the Board staff. Dr. Pritchard used the "Fish" philosophy derived from the book by Stephen Lundin, Harry Paul, and John Christensen. The "Fish" philosophy is a tool used to boost morale and improve results.

There are four principles of the "Fish" philosophy: choose your attitude; play; make their day; and be there. The groups were divided by One-Stop Center staff, Intensive Services staff, Youth Services staff and Workforce Investment Board staff. As a part of our team development, each group was asked to consider how their attitude affects people. We discussed the impact that attitude has on a customer's perception and others. The groups also explored "Ideas for Fun at Work." Groups were asked to consider several ways fun could become a part of work. Things identified were laughter, stress relief, motivation, competition, relaxation, and recognition. Another activity was to discuss ways to keep the vision of the organization when others may not. Each group shared their ideas and described their visions of a professional, and then made a commitment to each other.

The twenty Contractors and three Board staff members who participated in the Retreat came away with a new unified vision of what it means to be a professional, along with a commitment to work together. The retreat was a wonderful morale booster!

Ricin — WMD in Our Own Backyard

Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) are no longer confined to the pages of cheap suspense novels. Americans have suffered at the hands of foreign terrorists in New York and our nation's capital on 9/11. We have had bombings by domestic terrorists at the Atlanta Olympics, Oklahoma City, Alabama abortion clinics, and Georgia bars. Military-grade Anthrax has been spread through the U.S. postal system. More recently a deadly organic poison, Ricin, was found in a package addressed to the White House and in one of our own post offices here in the Upstate.

Ricin is one of a number of chemical, radiological, and biological weapons available to foreign and home-grown terrorists and murderers. Ricin is an organic toxin, a chemical protein found in the seeds of the common castor bean plant. By grinding two or three castor bean seeds in a blender, a criminal could produce enough poison to kill a full-grown adult. By processing a handful of castor bean seeds using common household appliances and chemicals, a purer and deadlier form of the toxin can be produced, resulting in a true WMD weapon. The seeds and the formula are readily available on the Internet.

The FBI is circulating information posters and is seeking information concerning the Greenville Airport Post Office Ricin incident. Local officials or private individuals can contact the FBI directly or by calling 1-866-839-6241. Detailed information about Ricin and other threats can be obtained from the Centers for Disease Control at their web site at www.cdc.gov

Emergency first responders have a number of training opportunities to learn how to recognize and deal with Ricin and other WMD threats. The Appalachian Council of Governments conducts monthly WMD Awareness classes at no cost to responders. The S. C. Emergency Management Division web site at www.state.sc.us/emd/training/



courses.htm lists a large number of resident and on-site training programs.

The Importance of Smell and Taste Sensations in the Healing Process

The sense of smell plays an important role in the enjoyment of life. Some scents are associated with warm and healing experiences such as the aroma of freshly baked bread, herbal tea, or steaming broth. Others conjure up feelings of disgust and are associated with decay and destruction, which create barriers to both awareness and healing.

For example, in a healthcare setting the presence of bathroom odors may distract an individual from resting and feeling at harmony with the environment. Similarly, a resident may be nauseated when being visited by a friend, a nurse, or any other healthcare provider wearing strong perfume or cologne. Such an aroma can interfere with the healing process; and, some smells that typically evoke a positive response in the well person may suddenly be detrimental to the person who feels ill.

The sense of smell can contribute to a harmonious environment conducive for healing. Fresh flowers

and plants are often brought to cheer up ill people, not only for their visual beauty, but also for their refreshing and stimulating aromas. Hot meals, especially those that include soup and broth with rich, tempting smells, have also been associated with healing and strength. These aromas lead directly to healing responses such as relaxation within the body. Symbolically, these smells may suggest a time and/or place when the person was safe and happy. Such aromas are also typically associated with the feeling of being cared for or about. These olfactory sensations may even lead to harmonious visual images that also contribute to the healing process.

Because of its role in the growth and repair of tissues, nutrition also has long been associated with the healing process. Appetite is affected by illness, and the return of appetite is an indicator that the person is on the road to recovery. In fact, people who are ill often report that the foods they usually like no longer taste good, but when they are on the mend, those familiar foods taste unusually good.

One aspect of the relationship between the sense of taste and the awareness of the person is the connection that exists between the actual chemical and nutritional value of the food and its presentation. That is to say, food presented in an aesthetically pleasing way evokes a more positive emotional and physiological response than the exact same food presented straight from a box or can. In fact, early nursing education in the United States emphasized the importance of the patient's meal tray in the hospital and in the home. Adding a fresh flower, a small candle, or a brightly colored napkin to the tray were a few of the suggestions for cheering up an acutely ill or convalescing patient.

During his lifetime, a person collects a variety of experiences that create an association between food and eating and either positive or negative feelings. Many of a family's rituals about mealtimes are closely connected with emotions that contribute to feeling

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ARC to Hold Strategic Planning Forums

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) is holding a strategic planning forum in Dalton, Georgia, on Tuesday, March 23, to assist them in the development of a strategic plan to guide future economic and community development work in the Appalachian region. This forum is one of a series of four scheduled in Appalachian communities to help ARC develop a strategic plan that reflects the vision of the region's citizens. Participants will include citizens and representatives of private, public, and nonprofit organizations in the Appalachian regions of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.

Some of the key issues the forum will cover include:

- The region's population trends;
- Infrastructure, transportation, and development;
- Education and health challenges; and
- The new economy.

The forum will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Northwest Georgia Trade & Convention Center, 2211 Dug Gap Battle Road, Dalton, Georgia 30720. There is no cost to attend, and lunch will be provided.

You are invited and encouraged to attend and participate in this forum. To reserve your space at the forum, please pre-register by **March 18**. On-site registration will be accepted as space allows. To obtain a registration form, please contact Dirk Reis at the ACOG offices at 864-242-9733, or by e-mail at reis@scacog.org.

Your participation is critical to helping ARC address Appalachia's economic challenges and opportunities and improving quality of life for its residents.

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- Establishment of working relationships between Public and Private Sector
- GIS that will benefit the Economic Development of South Carolina.
- Examine funding mechanisms for coordinated efforts within governmental budgets and explore funding partnerships including the private sector.
- Develop a data sharing distribution model that encourages access and sharing by private sector while offsetting costs to local government.

In the short term, the group needs interested leaders in industry from across the state to serve on the steering committee. They are actively compiling a catalog of GIS education opportunities and working to create a web site for exchange of data.

James Barnhill, Chair of the Carolina Crescent Coalition Midlands Chapter, comments, "I can't think of an issue which is likely to have broader and more significant impact on the economic development community in our state than a standardized, well funded Geographic Information System which takes into account the many vital needs of existing businesses and planned commercial growth."

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findings of the planning process, policies on which future decisions should be based, and a future land use map representing desired patterns of growth and development.

This effort was initiated by the Town of Landrum who identified continuing their planning efforts as a priority. The Planning Commission took on the challenge of preparing the plan update with assistance from Council of Governments staff. The Planning Commission will present the updated Plan to Town Council. A public hearing will be scheduled before final approval by the Town Council to allow for community input. For more information please contact the Town of Landrum or Chip Bentley with the Council of Governments.

Development Corporation News

The Appalachian Development Corporation was notified by the Small Business Administration that the project to The Spa at West End was approved for funding in the amount of \$271,000. This project involves the company's purchase of the premises it has been leasing on Pendleton Street in downtown Greenville. Branch Banking and Trust of South Carolina is providing the primary financing for this transaction.

A loan approved to Innovative Container Corporation in the amount of \$115,000 has been closed and funded. ADC funds were combined with Carolina First funds to purchase equipment for a second manufacturing line. The company makes 55-gallon drums used for shipping. The company currently employs over 80 people.

A loan in the amount of \$25,000, approved for Indexx, Inc., was closed and funded. The ADC funds are being combined with Palmetto Bank funds to purchase equipment used in this printing operation. The business currently employs approximately 50 people.

A loan in the amount of \$300,000 to Farrell Enterprises (doing business as Lenora's Legacy) was closed and funded through the ADC's SBA 504 program, allowing this new events center in the Campobello area of Spartanburg County to begin operations. This center is available to host weddings, corporate events, social gatherings, or other meetings.



VIEWPOINT

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loved and healthy. Such connections can be used to the benefit of the ailing person in the long-term care facility.

Both the senses of smell and taste play important roles in the healing process of an ailing individual by creating a harmonious environment, evoking pleasant memories, and stimulating the appetite.

Information gathered from: Monthly Mini-Lessons in Care of the Aging, Volume 18, Number 12, December 2003.
(Adapted from: *Awareness in Healing*, by Lynn Rew, EdD, RN. Delmar Publishers).