



Digital Imaging Workshop—Before you take the plunge

On October 13-14, the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) will sponsor a conference entitled “Building on Appalachia’s Assets.” Hosted by the Commonwealth of Virginia, the conference site is the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center in Abingdon, Virginia.

Appalachia enjoys an abundance of natural assets and heritage resources, from its scenic mountains and small towns to its rivers, forests, music, and crafts. These wide-ranging resources can play an important role in building a strong and sustainable “asset-based” economy, bringing jobs and prosperity to rural communities while preserving their character. Building on Appalachia’s Assets will show how communities can identify and leverage these resources to revitalize their economies. The conference will bring together national partners and community leaders to share lessons and strategies for asset-based development. Session topics will include:

- *Promoting Creative Economies:* Helping local arts and crafts businesses thrive.
- *Developing Tourism and Recreational Assets:* Promoting cultural and ecological resources as visitor attractions.
- *Transforming Liabilities into Assets:* Revitalizing downtowns, adapting unused buildings for new purposes, and redeveloping brownfields.
- *Adding Value to Natural Resources:* Taking advantage of

natural assets through organic farming, aquaculture, and wood products.

- *Financing Asset-Based Development:* Creating strategies to find funding support from private, public, and philanthropic organizations.

In addition to ARC, conference sponsors include the Conservation Fund, the National Endowment for the Arts, the U. S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, and the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

State and local economic, community, and tourism development officials, chamber of commerce staff, and business and community leaders are invited and encouraged to attend the conference.

To view the agenda, register, and find hotel information, visit the conference web site at www.arcfallconference.com.

The South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SCDAH) will conduct a digital imaging workshop in the Appalachian Council of Governments’ boardroom on **Thursday, September 16, from 10:30-12:30 p.m.** Tom Legge, SCDAH Electronic Records Consultant, will provide an overview of the advantages, pitfalls, and costs of government records imaging.



Increasingly, business and government agencies are looking towards digital imaging to enhance productivity and to provide greater access to certain types of information. Digital imaging offers many advantages, including: improved distribution and publication, increased access, streamlined work flow, and a greatly reduced need for physical storage space. Digital images can also be used to create text-searchable files through the application of optical character recognition (OCR) software. Digital images can be made available over the web, allowing government agencies and businesses to pro-

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Development Corporation News

A loan was approved to Step Ahead Learning Center in the amount of \$16,000 for the establishment of a new state-certified childcare center in Gaffney. The project is owned by Janet Harris and Chandra Wilkins. This business will create four jobs within the next two years while offering the additional services.

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ACOG to Update Long Range Transportation Plan

Since 1998 the Council of Governments has worked in partnership with the South Carolina Department of Transportation to prioritize transportation system improvement projects in rural portions of the region



(areas outside of Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) jurisdictions). The original product of this effort was the seven-year, \$154 million Appalachian Region Rural Project Acceleration Program, which runs through FY 2005. As this initial program comes to an end, the ACOG will be looking into the future to develop a long range plan, similar to those currently utilized by MPOs, to prioritize projects over the next 15 years. Unlike with the last program, it does not appear that the region will have access to bond funds, meaning the scope of projects to include will be somewhat reduced, though an annual funding level of \$4.5 to \$7.5 million is anticipated.

For the identification of projects to include in the program, broad input from each of the counties will serve as the foundation of the plan. Community meetings will be held in each county to identify needs and establish priorities. For these sessions, the ACOG will partner with existing organizations or planning forums where available and will make use of existing plans and studies. Through the use of a

newly developed transportation modeling tool, ACOG staff will be able to help local leaders evaluate the effectiveness of various improvement options.

An initial community meeting in Oconee County has already been scheduled for September 20th. ACOG staff will soon be in touch with local officials in each of the other counties to coordinate meeting schedules in those jurisdictions. In accordance with a request from the S. C. Department of Transportation, the agency's goal is to have the plan completed by the end of March.

For additional information on this initiative, please contact either Steve Pelissier or Dan Wagner at the Council of Governments.



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vide information to business partners or the general public quickly and efficiently. **Imaging can also be an investment with potentially high upfront costs and many potential problems.**

Who should attend: county and municipal officials; local government public records and information professionals, including records technicians, records administrators, records and information managers and consultants; information system managers; records managers; information system technicians; records custodians; digital imaging system supervisors; those planning to implement imaging systems; those responsible for e-mail management; anyone with legal authority and/or responsibility for records and information systems.

For information and to register for the workshop, Contact Tom Legge at (803) 896-6100, legge@scdah.state.sc.us



The Appalachian Council of Governments (ACOG) has implemented a web-based mapping application to enhance economic development in the Upstate. The on-line mapping tool is available from eight different web sites, allowing decision-makers from anywhere in the world to interactively view, manipulate and print maps and attribute information for the ten-county Upstate region.

The on-line tool, called *InfoMap*, is an extension of services provided through *InfoMentum*, a decision support system which aids regional marketing and industrial recruitment. The *InfoMap* application is now customized for access from the economic development organizations of the six ACOG counties, as well as the Upstate Alliance and ACOG web sites. Each site is tailored to match the design of the economic development agency's home site. Each agency thus appears to individually possess this cutting-edge technology, while in actuality, the single application resides on the ACOG server. The new Internet applications allow users to run detailed searches of the industrial properties database, create custom demographic reports, and view maps of anywhere in the region.

Funded by a grant from the Economic Development Authority, ACOG worked closely with programmers from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) to create a unique mapping application based on Arc Internet Map Server technology (ArcIMS). ESRI-Charlotte programmers designed the initial template and ACOG staff customized it to match the needs and web designs of the regional partners.

The master *InfoMap* site can be accessed through the ACOG website at www.scacog.org. The Upstate Alliance application is available at

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Pendleton District WIB Has New Youth Services Provider

The Pendleton District Workforce Investment Board (WIB) would like to announce that its new Youth Services will be provided by the Sunbelt Human Advancement Resources, Inc. (SHARE). SHARE was awarded the Youth Services contract for the 2004-2005 Program Year. SHARE will be responsible for providing services to WIA-eligible Title I youth who reside in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties.

SHARE will provide an intensive, comprehensive, year-round program including a summer youth employment component to WIA eligible youth ages 14-21 who are in need of individualized attention to enhance basic education, skills training, and attainment of competencies to compete in the labor market. Particular emphasis will be placed on training for jobs requiring skills and technology offering higher wages, benefits and self-sufficiency. Participants will receive training that enables them to enter and maintain unsubsidized jobs.

The overall goal of the WIA Youth Program is to reach 150 eligible youth and build their capacity to become independent. SHARE will have programs in each of the three Pendleton District counties. There are five case managers who will be providing Youth services in Anderson, Oconee, and Pickens counties. They are: Jennifer Burns, Emma Campbell, Cicely Gambrell, Veronica Patterson, and Larry Allen. For more information, please contact Jennifer Burns, Program Coordinator, at (864) 224-7028.

Cornerstone of Care: Residents' Rights



- *Step Up—know your rights.
- *Speak Up—residents must be treated with dignity.
- *Advocate for good care—participate in care planning.

It's the little things – savoring an early morning cup of coffee, meeting a friend for lunch, and watching a late movie – that people miss the most if these are no longer possible. Living in a nursing home can completely disrupt lifelong routines and greatly diminish options for personal choice. Because of these factors, residents need support and encouragement to exercise their rights to make as many decisions about their daily lives as possible.

Why are there Residents' Rights? Federal nursing home laws and many state laws contain specific provisions that protect residents' rights – basic human and civil liberties that most of us take for granted every day. For example: the right to visit with any one you choose, or the right to get up and go to bed when you wish. Who wouldn't expect to make such decisions? You don't lose any rights when you move into a nursing home. But nursing home staff tend to focus on routine and efficiency. They must care for large numbers of frail, dependent people. Respect for the rights of individual residents sometimes gets lost in the drive to oper-

ate efficiently as a business.

The nursing home is an institution, with institutional bureaucracy and management. Staff may be hurried, have too many residents to care for, many who are physically frail and often mentally confused. These factors help explain why the law places so much emphasis on residents' rights.

Residents and their families generally receive a copy of the nursing home's policy on residents' rights upon admission. This important document can help residents receive the best possible care. It's a good idea for both residents and family members to reread it from time to time. If you have misplaced your copy, please be sure to ask the facility for another copy. Most facilities have it posted for any and all to read.

Nursing Homes: getting good care there: S. Burger, V. Fraser, S. Hunt and B. Frank. Second Edition, 2002.

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A loan to IDC was approved in the amount of \$100,000. IDC, a current borrower of the ADC, is relocating to a new building in Duncan. IDC provides upholstery material to the automotive, boat, and recreational vehicles industries in Upstate South Carolina and Southern North Carolina. SouthTrust is providing the primary funding for this project. At least four new jobs are to be created and five existing jobs are to be retained.

A loan to Anderson Kitchen & Bath was approved in the amount of \$100,000, with the ADC partnering with the Peoples Bank in Anderson to provide the funding. Anderson Kitchen & Bath installs and remodels kitchens and baths in the Upstate area. With these funds, the business will be able to put on an additional crew and employ four to five more people while retaining the existing work force of ten.

A loan in the amount of \$229,000 to Gravan Enterprises (Splash and Dash) was funded through the ADC's SBA 504 program, assisting in the construction and opening of a new car wash in Gaffney. The business will employ up to four people.

VIEWPOINT

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Address Correction Requested

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www.upstatealliance.com, and the customized templates for Pickens and Oconee Counties are located at www.alliancepickens.com and www.oconeesc.com/econdev, respectively. The sites for Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, and Spartanburg Counties will be available soon via their individual economic development host sites.

For more information, please contact Carol Andersen at ACOG, andersen@scacog.org.