

# Save the Date

## Expanding the Rural Economy through Alternative Energy, Sustainable Agriculture and Entrepreneurship

Ames, IA

October 24 & 25, 2006

The Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, Consumer and Community Affairs division, in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Economic Development and the Iowa Bankers Association, will host a conference titled, "**Expanding the Rural Economy through Alternative Energy, Sustainable Agriculture and Entrepreneurship.**" The conference will be held at the Gateway Center in Ames, Iowa.

Participants will gain valuable insights from experts who will address the issues and opportunities involved with expanding the rural economy by capitalizing on Iowa's alternative energy potential, sustainable agricultural practices and entrepreneurial talent. The target audience is community development professionals, financial industry professionals, entrepreneurs, researchers, policymakers, and representatives of government agencies, foundations and academic institutions.

Events on Tuesday, October 24, 2006, include on-site tours of the Iowa Energy Center and the Lincolnway Energy ethanol plant, followed by a networking reception. A lunch and transportation between the Gateway Center and the two facilities, which are located in Nevada, Iowa, will be provided.

Topics on Wednesday, October 25, 2006, include: "Making Sense of Alternative Energy," by Dr. Robert Brown, director of the Center for Sustainable Environmental Technologies at Iowa State University; "Sustainable Agriculture, Biofuel Development, and Rural Economic Growth," by Dr. John Miranowski, director of Iowa State Institute of Science and Society; and panel discussions on alternative energy and community revitalization. Jack Schultz, CEO of Agracel and author of the book, "Boomtown USA - The 7½ Keys to Big Success in Small Towns," will give the keynote address, discussing important actions leaders in smaller towns can take to keep their communities growing. An ice cream social with Iowa Senator Charles Grassley (invited) will conclude the conference.

Conference attendance will be limited to allow for active participation by all attendees. As a result, conference reservations will be accepted on a first-received basis. We hope that you will be able to join us at the conference. For registration and other information, visit [www.chicagofed.org/ExpandingTheRuralEconomyConference/index.cfm](http://www.chicagofed.org/ExpandingTheRuralEconomyConference/index.cfm), or call (312) 322-8232.

Visit the Web site of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago at:

 **chicagofed.org**

## Profitwise News and Views

*Profitwise News and Views* welcomes article proposals and comments from bankers, community development professionals, and other readers. It is distributed (either electronically or via U.S. mail) at no charge to state member banks, financial holding companies, bank holding companies, government agencies, nonprofit organizations, academics, and community economic development professionals. You may subscribe by writing to:

*Profitwise News and Views*  
Consumer and Community Affairs Division  
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago  
230 S. LaSalle Street  
Chicago, IL 60604-1413  
or  
CCA-PUBS@chi.frb.org

The material in *Profitwise News and Views* is not necessarily endorsed by, and does not necessarily represent views of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

### Advisor

Alicia Williams

### Managing Editor

Michael V. Berry

### Contributing Editor

Jeremiah Boyle

### Compliance Editor

Steven W. Kuehl

### Economic Development Editor

Harry Pestine

### Assistant Editor

Kathleen Toledano

### Production Manager

Mary Jo Cannistra