

2007 National Summit on Agriculture & Rural Life

Building a Prosperous Rural Economy - Securing America's Future

October 27, 2007
Ames, Iowa



Main Street
Project



Join Us

This non-partisan event is being organized to raise the visibility of rural policy issues and to advance the conversation about rural America's future. Add your group to the growing list of co-sponsors. For more information or to register for this historic event, visit www.leagueofruralvoters.org or call Conference Administrator Kathy Hiltzley at the League of Rural Voters, 612.879.7578.

Agenda

- 7:30-9:00** **Registration and continental breakfast**
9:00-9:15 **Welcome and opening remarks**
Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey, (invited)
- 9:15-10:15** **Opening Plenary Session: The State of Rural America**
10:20-11:50 **Breakout Sessions**
- *The emerging bio-economy: opportunities and obstacles.*
 - *The changing face of rural America: globalization's impact on immigration and rural life.*
 - *Bridging the digital divide: is technology the key to rural America's future? (Health care, Education, Commerce)*
 - *Connecting the dots: Healthy farms, healthy foods, and healthy communities.*
- 12:00-1:15** **Lunch and networking**
1:30-4:45 **Plenary Session/Presidential Candidate Forum (All invited)**
Iowa Public Radio's Jeneane Beck, (Moderator)
Al Cross, Institute for Rural Journalism, (Moderator)
- 4:45-5:00** **Closing remarks**

Confirmed speakers:

Cornelia Flora—North Central Regional Center for Rural Development
Mil Duncan—Carsey Institute, University of New Hampshire
Ralph Paige—Federation of Southern Cooperatives
Amalia Anderson—Main Street Project
Linda Meschke—Rural Advantage
Jim Kleinschmit—Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy
Al Cross—Institute for Rural Journalism
Carol Smith - Iowa Network for Community Agriculture
Jessica Riedl - Iowa State University Extension/Center for Industrial Research and Service (CIRAS)
Richard Bender

Co-Sponsors:

American Corn Growers Association-Center for Economic Options - Center for New Community - Center for Rural Strategies - Federation of Southern Cooperatives - Generation Engage - Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy - Iowa Farmers Union - Iowa Policy Project - Missouri Farmers Union - My Rural America - National Catholic Rural Life Conference - Northern Great Plains - Renewing the Countryside – Rocky Mountain Farmers Union - Rural Advantage - Rural Coalition-The White House Project - Windustry

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