



Genesee/Finger Lakes REGIONAL REVIEW

NEWSLETTER OF THE GENESSEE/FINGER LAKES REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Volume 5, Number 1, Spring 2008

G/FLRPC takes on role of *Main Street Regional Coordinator* for the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council is pleased to announce that it has contracted with the Western Erie Canal Alliance (WECA) to fulfill the duties of Main Street Program Coordinator for the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor. This heritage corridor includes Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Monroe and Wayne counties.

The Coordinator staff person will oversee the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Main Street Program, which is funded through the NYS DOS Quality Communities Grant Program. This program seeks to revitalize historic business centers along the heritage corridor. The Coordinator will also provide program services that follow the model of the National Main Street Center™, a division of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

The Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Main Street Program will provide a wide range of technical assistance services to the sixteen (16) villages and small cities that make up the 136-mile section of the canal in Western New York. These municipalities have been challenged by the economic and physical decline of their main streets. Additionally, one local community in each of the rural counties of Niagara, Orleans, and Wayne will be selected to receive financial support for intensive planning work for the revitalization of its main street. The newly established Main Street Advisory Board, comprised of WECA Board members, local government officials, small business and corporate representatives, and other individuals with revitalization expertise, will assist in the appli-

cation and selection process of the three communities as Main Street programs.

The National Trust Main Street Center will be retained to assist with the design of the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Main Street Program, based on its Four-Point Approach™: *Design, Promotion, Economic Restructuring, and Organization*. The Main Street Approach advocates a return to community self-reliance, local empowerment, and the rebuilding of traditional commercial districts based on their unique assets: distinctive architecture, a pedestrian-friendly environment, personal service, local ownership, and a sense of community.

Continued: *Please see Western Erie Canal on Page 4.*

Upcoming Events

Save the Date! Spring 2008 Local Government Workshop: May 9th, 2008 at the Burgundy Basin Inn, 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford N.Y.

(Please see the Yellow Insert inside this newsletter for registration information!)

MORE UPCOMING EVENTS LISTED INSIDE ON PAGE 2!

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
CALL 585-454-0190, EMAIL GFLRPC@GFLRPC.ORG, OR VISIT ONLINE AT WWW.GFLRPC.ORG**

Recent Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Publications

- *Village of Pike Dissolution Plan*
- *Village of Pike Services Inventory Report*
- *Keuka Lake Local Law Assessment and Analysis*

Recent Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council Presentations

- January 11: Keuka Lake Watershed Land Use Leadership Alliance training seminar — *The Keuka Lake Watershed Land Use Management Plan*.
- January 14: Village of Pike Study Committee Public Hearing — presentation on the draft Village of Pike Dissolution Plan.
- February 4: Village of Pike Board Meeting — presentation on the draft Village of Pike Dissolution Plan.
- February 15: Monroe County Supervisors Association — *The Scope and Local Benefits of the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council*

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monroe County Land Use Decision-Making Training Program**, seven individual workshops from March 26 through May 7, 2008, visit <http://www.monroecounty.gov/planning-planning.php#Spring%202007%20Training%20Program>
- **Windustry Community Wind Energy Conference 2008**, April 14-15, 2008, Empire State Plaza Convention Center, Albany, New York, visit <http://www.gflrpc.org/CommunityWindEnergy2008.pdf>
- **GIS/SIG 17th Annual Spatial/Digital Mapping Conference**, April 22, 2008, Burgundy Basin Inn, Pittsford, New York, visit <http://www.gis-sig.org/conference.html>
- **Spring 2008 Local Government Workshop**, May 9, 2008, Burgundy Basin Inn, 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford, visit <http://www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/AdditionalServices/Workshops/Spring2008/Spring2008.htm>

Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) Program Update

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council is acting as the liaison for all participating counties and municipalities in the region by revising the U.S. Census Bureau's Master Address File (MAF). We have now received all necessary county and municipal MAFs and are working diligently to maximize the number of addresses that will be accepted as a result of the LUCA process.

Due to the fact that the Census Bureau was four months late in starting to send out the necessary materials, and in effect shortened the expected review period, we feel that final submittal of revised MAFs should not be until July 2008 (as opposed to April 2008).

The latest response we have received from the Census Bureau indicates that final submittal can not be after May 10, 2008. Many of our county and municipal governments have contacted them, as well as senate and congressional representatives, requesting that the end date for submittal of revised MAFs be moved from May 10 to July 30 2008.

While we are still hopeful that the U.S. Census Bureau will be responsive to the needs of the region and the need for an accurate Census 2010, we are continuing the process of MAF revision.

For more information and for anyone interested in contacting the U.S. Census Bureau and/or your senate and congressional representatives and would like a copy of the letter you can send them, please visit: <http://www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/DTRC/LUCA/LUCALetter.htm>

2008 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council has recently begun work on the 2008 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). The CEDS outlines the economic development activities, objectives, and strategies of the federally designated nine-county Genesee-Finger Lakes Economic Development District (EDD). G/FLRPC is the planning entity for the EDD and develops an updated CEDS annually.

G/FLRPC works in consultation with public and private economic development leaders from throughout the region to develop the regional strategies and objectives for economic development that are outlined in the CEDS. Once complete, the CEDS is adopted by G/FLRPC's Governing Board and then submitted to the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA).

EDA views the CEDS as the template for economic development in the region and makes funding decisions based upon the strategies and priority projects put forth in the CEDS. EDA has provided funding to economic development projects in the region identified in the CEDS numerous times over the years, including recent funding for assistance with the development of the Cornell Agriculture and Food Technology Park in the City of Geneva, sewer infrastructure in the Village of Palmyra that assisted in the retention of the Garlock Sealing Technologies facility, and infrastructure associated with the Infotonics Commercialization Center in the Town of Canandaigua.

By working with regional economic development leaders from both the public and private sectors, G/FLRPC, through the CEDS, is able to craft a strategy that captures a regional vision for economic development, drives G/FLRPC's work plan and economic development services, and helps secure resources for projects that contribute to the long-term economic growth and vitality of the region. For more information on the CEDS visit: <http://www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EconomicDevelopment/>

Village of Pike Completes Dissolution Study

The Village of Pike has completed its dissolution study and has set a date for a vote on dissolution. On Tuesday, March 18th, local voters will go to the polls to decide the future of the Village. The Village's Dissolution Study Committee, working with the assistance of G/FLRPC, prepared a *Services Inventory Report* and a *Dissolution Plan* for the Mayor and Board of Trustees. The Study Committee consisted of representatives from the Village, the Town of Pike, the Pike Fire Department, and interested citizens from both the Village and the Town.

The Study Committee prepared two documents that will help local voters decide how to cast their ballots in March. The *Services Inventory Report* profiles all public services currently provided by the Village and the Town. It identifies how those services will be provided after the Village dissolves, and it also identifies what the Village would have to do in order to continue providing services should it remain intact. The *Dissolution Plan* is a document that describes the process of how the Village will be dissolved. It describes how Village property will be disposed of, how the Town of Pike will take on some Village functions, and how other Village functions will be discontinued. A dissolution plan is not a legally binding document, but it does provide voters with a clear idea of what will happen to Village property and services should the Village dissolve.

The Study Committee's work shows that dissolving the Village has support from the community. There is little interest on the part of local citizens for keeping the Village: voter turnout in local elections is extremely low, many elected positions are uncontested, and while many interested citizens came to the Study Committee meetings to learn about the dissolution process, no one spoke out in favor of keeping the Village.

Continued: *Please see Pike Dissolution Study on Page 5.*



On Saturday, January 26th 2008, officials and interested citizens of the Village of Palmyra led G/FLPRC staffers on a tour around the historic streets and sites of the Village. Here, tour participants discuss the condition of nineteenth century brick and cobblestone buildings along Market Street. Like many villages that developed along the Erie Canal, Palmyra features an inviting blend of narrow streets, attractive architecture, pedestrian scaled buildings, and cultural resources that make it a destination for tourists from throughout the country.

Western Erie Canal: *Continued from Page 1.*

The Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor is part of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and the New York State Heritage Area System. The WECA was formed in March 2006 as a non-profit corporation to implement the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Management Plan, which was adopted by former NYS OPRHP Commissioner Bernadette Castro in August 2005. The objectives of the management plan are to promote the development of a vibrant regional economy, enhance the overall quality of life throughout the region, promote natural resource conservation and the re-use of existing buildings and infrastructure, and increase public appreciation of the unique natural and cultural heritage resources found along the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor.

Through the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Main Street Program, the villages and small cities along the western section of the Erie Canal will have an unprecedented opportunity to harness outside resources and expertise for their ongoing efforts to rebuild their main street districts. By combining innovative re-development ideas with traditional planning concepts, these communities can work to breath new life into the urban spaces of our forebears.

For more information about the Western Erie Canal Heritage Corridor Main Street Program, please visit: <http://www.gflrpc.org/WECHCMainStreetProgram.htm> or contact Jayme Breschard, Program Coordinator, at (585) 454-0190 x18 or jbreschard@gflrpc.org



Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council

Spring 2008 Regional Local Government Workshop

Friday, May 9, 2008

Burgundy Basin Inn, Pittsford

Spring Local Government Workshop Co-sponsored By:

New York State Department of State (NYSDOS) ~ New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) ~ American Farmland Trust

Genesee County Planning Board • Livingston County Planning Department • Monroe County Planning and Development Board
Ontario County Planning Department and Board • Orleans County Planning Board • Seneca County Planning Board
Wayne County Planning Board • Wyoming County Planning Board • Yates County Planning Department

For most municipalities Local Government Workshop fulfills state law requiring training for local planning officials

Workshop Registration

Individual: \$40.00 (\$50 after May 1)
Vendor/Exhibitor (includes 2): \$300.00

All registrations include continental breakfast & buffet lunch

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER BY May 1, 2008
PLEASE NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 1

Municipal Board Members • Elected Officials
Planning Board Members • Zoning Board of Appeals Members
County and Municipal Employees • Enforcement Officers
Planners • Land Use Professionals • Attorneys • Consultants
Highway Departments • Public Works Departments
Historic Preservation Commissions • Architectural Review Boards
• Landmark Advisory Committees • Historic District Advisory
Boards • Concerned Citizens

Burgundy Basin Inn

1361 Marsh Rd, Pittsford, NY 14534, 585-248-2660
<http://burgundybasin.com>

Directions

Various ways to I-490. Take Exit 26 to Rt 31 west. Follow Rt 31 west for approximately 1 mile. Turn left onto Marsh Rd. Follow Marsh Rd for approximately 2 miles. Burgundy Basin Inn is on the right. For additional directions visit: <http://www.burgundybasin.com/about1.html>

For more information and Workshop updates visit www.gflrpc.org

Workshop Guide advertisements are available in full page, 1/2 page, and 1/4 sizes. Please contact David Zorn at G/FLRPC for details.

Questions and Information: David Zorn, 585-454-0190 x14, dave.zorn@gflrpc.org

Registration Form - Spring 2008 Local Government Workshop

Name: _____

Municipality/Company/Organization _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number (w/Area Code): _____ Email: _____

Please Circle the sessions you will be attending:

A1	A2	A3	A4	
B1	B2	B3	B4	B5
C1	C2	C3	C4	C5

Registration Fee:
\$40 per individual, \$50 per individual after May 1, \$300 per vendor/exhibitor

Please make checks payable to: G/FLRPC

Mail, Fax, or Email Pre-Registration by May 1 to:

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
50 West Main St, Suite 8107
Rochester, NY 14614
Email: gflrpc@gflrpc.org Fax: 585-454-0191

	Track A	Track B	Track C
8:00-9:00	Registration, Continental Breakfast, and Vendors and Exhibits		
9:00-10:00	<p>A1 Zoning Board of Appeals Overview, NYSDOS</p> <p>This session will address the powers and duties of zoning board of appeals and its interrelationships with enforcement officials, the municipal planning board, and county planning agencies. The statutory requirements relating to the issuance of use and area variances, handling of zoning interpretations, board procedures and findings will be discussed. (CEO, and CLE credit)</p>	<p>B1 Local Planning for Agriculture: What Can You Do? Diane Held, American Farmland Trust, Maria Rudzinski, Ontario County Planning & Research Department</p> <p>Agriculture offers economic, landscape, environmental, and scenic benefits to communities. Come learn about the "tools" available to towns and counties to help support local farms and to protect farmland. Diane Held, New York Field Representative for American Farmland Trust will be joined by local officials who have created a supportive environment for their agricultural businesses.</p>	<p>C1 Protecting Natural Resources through Land Use Regulations, Joe Bovenzi and Jayme Breschard, G/FLRPC</p> <p>This session will explain how municipalities can use their land use regulations, specifically their Comprehensive Plans, zoning laws, subdivision laws, site plan review laws, and design standards/guidelines, to help preserve and protect sensitive natural resources such as wetlands, woodlots, and steep slopes.</p>
10:00-11:00			<p>C2 How to Finance Historic Rehabilitations in Your Community, Jayme Breschard, G/FLRPC, Clinton E. Brown, President, Clinton Brown Company, Joseph G. Eicheldinger, VP, Keybank Community Development Lending, Murray Gould, President, Port City Preservation LLC</p> <p>Securing financing for your historic preservation project is essential—and when combining Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credits with other incentive programs, such as the low-income housing credit and the New Markets Tax Credit, the project becomes even more valuable. Learn from a development team the fundamentals of how to finance the rehabilitation of a historic property and ensure project success with an experienced financial lender, an architect who specializes in preservation projects, and a qualified construction manager.</p>
11:00-12:00	<p>A2 Ethics of Planning & Zoning Boards, NYSDOS and NY Planning Federation</p> <p>A discussion of ethics issues to be aware of when serving on a planning or zoning board and illustrative opinions, cases and examples.</p>	<p>B2 The Comprehensive Plan: Processes and Procedures, Joe Bovenzi, G/FLRPC</p> <p>Is your municipality considering updating/revising its comprehensive plan? Sit in on this seminar to learn about this process and how your community can develop a comprehensive plan that meets New York State mandates, effectively incorporates public comments, and provides a sound basis for future land uses and development in your municipality.</p>	
12:00-1:00	Lunch and Vendors and Exhibits		
1:00-2:00	<p>A3 Adopting, Organizing, Maintaining and Amending Zoning, NYSDOS, Brian Slack, G/FLRPC</p> <p>An examination of the origins of zoning and the purposes for adopting regulations; the role of the municipal comprehensive plan; specific steps a municipality must take to prepare their first set of zoning regulations; procedures for the adoption and amendment of zoning laws and ordinances, including referral to the county planning board, public hearings, and filing requirements; and a brief overview of best practices in local code organization and presentation. (CLE and CEO Credit)</p>	<p>B3 New York State Water and Sewer Infrastructure Co-Funding Initiative, Dwight Brown, Co-Funding Coordinator, NYS EFC, Dave Miller, USDA Rural Development, Rob Brooks, Office for Small Cities, Kathleen O'Connor, NYSEDA, Kyle Wilber, NYSDOS, Anne Hohenstein, Oil Spill Fund</p> <p>There are several State and federal programs that provide financing for water and sewer projects. The Co-Funding Initiative provides a streamlined, coordinated process for applying to government funding programs. This presentation will provide an overview of the participating agencies' programs with representatives from each of the co-funding agencies.</p>	<p>C3 Introduction to the Historic Preservation Commission, Jayme Breschard, G/FLRPC and Jessica Evans, Preservation Director, Historic Ithaca</p> <p>While a municipality has a variety of options in how to protect its historic resources, usually some type of local commission administers the program. These commissions are known as Historic Preservation Commissions, Architectural Review Boards, Landmarks Advisory Committees, Historic District Advisory Boards—sometimes even the Planning Commission. No matter the legalities of local regulation, having a good sense of procedure, comprehensive design guidelines, and communication with the public and other municipal departments is standard for any local preservation commission. Planning board members and municipal planning and zoning officials are also encouraged to attend this session.</p>
2:00-3:00		<p>B4 Financing for a Sustainable Future: Funding for Water and Sewer Projects and New Programs for New York's Revolving Funds, NYS EFC</p> <p>The first part of the presentation will focus on the funding programs that are available through the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation. Emphasis will be on the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds. The second part of the presentation will provide information about the new SRF Guarantee Program for financing water and wastewater projects for up to 30 years regardless of project score. It will also discuss the EFC/NYSERDA Joint Energy Efficiency Pilot Program for wastewater projects and the 2008 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey.</p>	
3:00-4:00	<p>A4 Planning Board Overview, NYSDOS</p> <p>This session will address the powers and duties of town, village and city planning boards and commissions. Administrative and regulatory roles of the planning board will be discussed, including comprehensive planning, site plan review, special use permits, subdivision review, the role of the board in making recommendations to the zoning board of appeals, the importance of board procedures, referral to the county planning agency, and making findings. (CEO, and CLE credit)</p>	<p>B5 Municipal Implications of Watershed Planning and Implementation, Stephanie Wojtowicz and Andrew Labruzzo, NYSDOS Division of Coastal Resources</p> <p>Watershed planning is an important tool for municipalities to address land use and water quality. The Department of State Division of Coastal Resources and the Department of Environmental Conservation Division of Water have developed a new multi-media package including a video, guidebook and web pages, entitled Watershed Plans: Restoring and Protecting Water Quality. This guidance was designed to assist communities with the preparation and implementation of watershed management plans— from developing partnerships to identifying management strategies. Presenters will review the watershed planning process and provide examples of watershed planning from throughout the State.</p>	<p>C4 Designing New Centers, NYSDOS</p> <p>How to create lively and attractive new centers of higher density, mixed use, and pedestrian oriented development.</p>
4:00-5:00			<p>C5 Land Use Tools for Walkable Communities, NYSDOS</p> <p>Increasing the availability and attractiveness of pedestrian facilities can help revitalize downtowns, provide an alternative means of transportation, and encourage a healthier lifestyle. This session provides an overview of several common municipal land use tools (zoning, site plan review, subdivision regulations, and special use permit). The program then explores how these tools can be tailored to improve pedestrian conditions by the requirement of sidewalks, pathways and other pedestrian facilities, as well as through the encouragement of better site design.</p>

G/FLRPC's Revolving Loan Fund: Helping to Create Jobs in the Region

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council manages a revolving loan fund which serves small and medium sized manufacturing and service businesses located in Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates Counties. One issue that is frequently associated with small and medium sized businesses is a lack of available capital. The revolving loan fund works to mitigate that issue and strengthen what we consider our regional economy's backbone — small and medium-sized businesses.

The revolving loan fund provides \$20,000 to \$200,000 fixed asset and working capital loans at a low fixed-interest rate for up to 8 years. Loans can be used to purchase machinery and/or equipment, rehabilitate and/or purchase industrial property, or for site development and expansion.

If you would like to learn more about the Revolving Loan Fund please visit:
www.gflrpc.org/ProgramAreas/EconomicDevelopment/RLF.htm
or contact David Zorn at 585-454-0190 x14 or dave.zorn@gflrpc.org

Pike Dissolution Study: *Continued from Page 3.*

Village officials made it clear from the beginning of the process that they wanted all interested citizens to have a say in the Village's fate; all those who participated in the process have expressed support for the Village's dissolution or indifference to its continued existence.

From a financial standpoint, the dissolution of the Village is a sound proposition. The current tax rate for property owners in the Village is \$10.41 per \$1,000 of real property. The estimated post-dissolution tax rate is \$9.92 per \$1,000 of real property. While this estimated tax rate will probably change when local officials prepare the first post-dissolution budget in summer 2009, the projected post-dissolution budget indicates that village taxpayers will see a reduction of about \$0.50 per \$1000 of the taxes that they currently pay. This reduction is a result of the elimination of certain costs associated with operating the Village, such as salaries for the Mayor and Trustees, attorney's fees, and election costs.

More information about this process will be provided following the dissolution vote – please check the next issue of this newsletter to learn about the vote's outcome and the Village's next steps.

For more information on the Pike dissolution study project, and the village dissolution process in general, please contact Joe Bovenzi at (585) 454-0190 or jbovenzi@gflrpc.org

Planning for the Keuka Lake Watershed: Land Use Leadership Alliance (LULA) Training Program and Land Use Action Strategy

A landmark land use training program, known as the Land Use Leadership Alliance (LULA), is currently underway in the Keuka Lake watershed. Staffed by trainers from Pace University's Land Use Law Center and Cornell University's Community and Rural Development Institute, this program is serving key stakeholders from across the watershed. The LULA program is designed to provide local officials with the most up to date information available on land use planning and development techniques. In addition, this program focuses on ways in which local officials can work to build widespread consensus around land use issues from various interest groups in their communities.

A broad range of local stakeholders are participating in this invitation-only training program. Participants include the members of municipal boards such as legislative boards, planning boards, and zoning boards; code enforcement officers; farmers; developers; local small business owners; citizen activists; and many others who are concerned about land use issues in the watershed. All the participants are interested in learning about how they can balance the protection and preservation of the watershed's irreplaceable natural resources with an interest in attracting new development to the region.

Continued: *Please see Keuka Lake Watershed on Page 6.*



A view of the slopes above Keuka Lake in the Town of Barrington. This image shows the mixture of wooded hillsides, open fields, and dense lakeshore development that characterizes land use throughout the Keuka Lake watershed. Local leaders from the watershed are interested in balancing the pressures for new development with the preservation of scenic landscapes such as this. Photograph courtesy of Mr. Steve Knapp, resident of Barrington.

Keuka Lake Watershed: Continued from Page 5.

This program consists of four individual workshops, each a day long, in which the participants learn about land use issues and problem solving techniques through a mixture of lectures, group discussions, and participatory activities. The participants are encouraged to discuss topics amongst themselves and rely on their co-participants' diverse backgrounds for ideas on solving potential problems. When the program is over, participants will come out with a solid understanding of how they can use land use policies and laws to guide future development in their communities.

Specific topics of concern that the participants have discussed in the training sessions include safeguarding the water quality of Keuka Lake; protecting sensitive environmental features such as wetlands, woodlots, and steep slopes; preserving working agricultural and viticultural land; ensuring new development is environmentally sound and in line with the existing rural and agrarian character of the area; directing, as much as possible, new development into village and hamlet areas; and providing opportunities for long term economic development initiatives aimed at expanding and stabilizing local tax bases.

In addition to providing local officials and citizens with knowledge they can use to shape the growth of their communities, this program will inform a written report that will serve as an additional resource for the watershed municipalities to draw on for their own planning programs. G/FLRPC staff will work with representatives from the watershed to develop the *Keuka Lake Watershed Land Use Action Strategy*.

Continued: *Please see **Keuka Lake Watershed** on Page 7.*

Historic Preservation Planning News*

An informational meeting with G/FLRPC was arranged by Warsaw Town Historian, Suzanne Miller, for the Village and Town of Warsaw in Wyoming County. G/FLRPC met with various town and village officials/employees and interested citizens about the potential for historic preservation planning. Recommendations for the Town and Village of Warsaw to continue and enhance their historic preservation activities at the local government level—which highlights intermunicipal cooperation—are being developed.

G/FLRPC met with Mayor Vicky Daly and other interested citizens of the Village of Palmyra, Wayne County for an architectural tour of the village's historic downtown, residential neighborhoods, and canal front areas. The Village of Palmyra adopted a local historic preservation ordinance in November 2007. The village's ordinance is unique in that it requires members of its Historic Preservation Commission to receive a minimum of four hours of training each year, which is only mandated for municipal planning

and zoning officials and county planning board members under New York State law. The Village of Palmyra is continuing to establish its Historic Preservation Commission.

The Town of Bethany has established an Old Town Hall Committee that meets regularly to discuss the structural conditions of the 1832 Greek Revival style building. In addition, this committee is dedicated to finding a use for the building and its possible transfer of ownership. G/FLRPC has been working with the Town of Bethany on recommendations for local historic preservation planning and will consult with the committee on grant development and assistance once a decision has been made regarding the use of the old Bethany Town Hall.

The Spring 2008 Local Government Workshop will feature several sessions about historic preservation, including the financing of historic property rehabilitations, an introduction to the historic preservation commission, and environmental protection through local land use laws. See the workshop brochure in this newsletter (yellow insert) for more information.

G/FLRPC is currently collecting local historic preservation ordinance/laws and contact information for members that serve on local historic preservation commissions/architectural review boards/historic districts advisory committees/etc. throughout the nine county region. If you don't think we have your municipality's information, please contact us!

Attention: Does your municipality operate out of a building that is 50 years or older? Is that building listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places, or reside within a historic district that is listed on the State or National Registers of Historic Places? If the answer is "YES" to any of these questions, please let us know!

Please direct all historic preservation planning inquiries, comments, and/or requests to Jayme Breschard at (585) 454-0190 x 18 or jbreschard@gflrpc.org

*G/FLRPC will provide periodic updates in this newsletter as it responds to municipal requests for assistance with historic preservation planning activities.

Keuka Lake Watershed: *Continued from Page 6.*

This report will provide a general overview of current and future land use development conditions in the watershed. It will offer a number of planning recommendations that each of the eight municipalities in the watershed can refer to when updating their comprehensive plans, zoning laws, subdivision regulations, site plan review procedures, and other local plans and laws related to land use.

Development of the *Keuka Lake Watershed Land Use Action Strategy* will begin following completion of the LULA program in late February 2008. LULA participants will develop a process by which representatives of the municipalities will work with G/FLRPC staff to develop this Plan. The aim is to produce a draft report by fall 2008.

Please check future editions of this newsletter for more information on the LULA program and the *Keuka Lake Watershed Land Use Action Strategy*.

A Sense of Place

The “Three Bears” in Ovid, Seneca County, is a unique and delightful grouping of three Greek Revival public buildings. The largest, known as “Papa Bear” was built in 1845 to serve as the County Courthouse. The smallest, “Baby Bear,” was built at the same time to serve as the County Clerk’s office. “Mama Bear” was built in the early 1860s to house the Clerk’s office when the Clerk needed more work space.

Since the mid 1800s these buildings have served a variety of uses, mostly related to County agencies such as the Clerk, Sheriff, and Health Dept. Mama Bear once housed a library and Baby Bear was once the meeting place for the local G.A.R. chapter. These buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a local group known as the “Friends of the Three Bears” is currently working to preserve them for the use and enjoyment of future generations.

Source: *The Three Bears* by Walter Gable, Seneca County Historian, September 2004.

Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Review

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Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council
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counties* with planning, economic develop-
ment, data resources, and other program areas.

**Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans,
Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates*

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