

# Pioneer Valley Relocalization Workshop

Sunday, Sep. 30, 2007, Northampton Center for the Arts

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- **9:00 AM Registration Begins** (coffee, cider, & goodies provided for early birds)
- **10:00 AM Welcome and introduction** (*Jill Stein, MCHC*)
- **10:15 AM Plenary presentations**
  - **A. Peak Oil & Global Warming** (*Nat Fortune, Smith College Physics Professor*)
  - **B. Reclaiming & Redefining Democracy** (*Carolyn Toll Oppenheim, Shays 2*)
  - **C. Local Energy Conservation & Production** (*Lynn Benander, Co-op Power*)
  - **D. Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security** (*Jack Kittredge, NOFA/Mass*)
  - **E. Achieving Justice in Relocalized Communities** (*Ruth Trujillo, Greensboro Justice Fund*)
  - **F. Revitalizing Local Economies** (*Michael Garjian, E2M*)
  - **Questions & Answers with all plenary speakers**
- **12 Noon – Lunch / networking / tabling**
- **1:00 – 2:25 PM – Breakout Session 1**
  - **Sustainable Energy Production & Conservation – Main Ballroom**

What would energy production and consumption and transportation look like in a re-localized future? How would we want policy and decision making to be done differently? Where are the opportunities in our midst to push for both the technological and political changes needed for a re-localized energy and transportation system? *Presenters include: Lynn Benander (Co-op Power), Peggy MacLeod (Center for Ecological Technology), Suel Bartone (Easthampton Master Plan Committee)*
  - **E2M: A Model for Revitalizing Local Economies – East Gallery**

Laying out an infrastructure and road map showing exactly how communities can become as wealthy and economically powerful as large corporations. E2M, a model of community capitalism, has three main elements, the community, the E2M Regional Economic Council and E2M Sponsoring or Certified businesses which contribute a portion of their income or equity to the council. *Presenter: Michael Garjian (Founder, E2M.org)*
  - **Local and Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security – West Gallery**

What vision of a re-localized agriculture do we want to make our work aspire towards? What steps should we be taking as organizations and as communities to bring about the changes in land use, cultural patterns (including attitudes about food and agriculture), political and economic power and other areas in order to achieve a re-localized food system and society? *Presenters include: Annie Cheatham, Communities Involved in Sustaining Agriculture (CISA); Jack Kittredge & Ben Grosscup, Northeast Organic Farming Association, Mass. Chapter (NOFA/Mass); Helen Harrison, Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, Jill Stein, MCHC.*
- **2:30 – 3:55 PM – Breakout Session 2**
  - **Revitalizing Local Economies – Main Ballroom**

How would the economy look different in a re-localized society? How might we redefine economic concepts like “prosperity,” “wealth,” “property” and “development.” How can current local and alternative economic projects further the values of justice, ecology, and self-management/local control in our society? How can we shift from competitive to cooperative endeavors? What efforts do we need to make at the regional or state level to support the new economic model? *Presenters include: Michael Garjian (E2M), Joanne Campbell (Valley CDC), Julie Graham (UMass Professor of Economic Geography), John Reske (UMass 5 College Federal Credit Union)*

- **Reclaiming & Redefining Democracy – West Gallery**

How would we want our system of governance to work in a re-localized society? What exactly do we mean by "democracy" anyway? What interventions can we be making now to transform the political life of our communities toward an empowered, democratic, and participatory one? How can we confront the many obstacles and threats to the democracy we want while also beginning to enact it? *Presenters include: Jill Stein, Massachusetts Coalition for Healthy Communities; Ben Grosscup, Northeast Organic Farming Association, Massachusetts Chapter (NOFA/Mass); Ward Morehouse & Carolyn Toll Oppenheim, Shays 2: The Western Massachusetts Committee on Corporations & Democracy.*

- **Achieving Justice in Relocalized Communities – East Gallery**

In an era of harsh and growing economic and racial disparities, what are the opportunities for achieving justice in relocalized, sustainable communities? How can we ensure that our transition to a post-carbon world will happen equitably and peacefully? What are some of the exemplary initiatives already underway in low income and communities of color to achieve justice in food, jobs, housing, the environment etc.? What are the barriers to strengthening and propagating these initiatives? What opportunities exist for empowering our communities as we relocalize our economies, our food system, our energy production, and our social and cultural lives? *Presenters include: Jon Weissman (Western Mass Jobs with Justice), Helen Harrison (Food Bank of Western Mass), Emily Kawano (Center for Popular Economics), Ruth Trujillo (Greensboro Justice Fund)*

- **4:00-5:00 PM – Keynote – Frances Moore Lappé**

World renowned author Frances Moore Lappé, who revolutionized our understanding of a sustainable, healthy food system with her 1971 book *Diet for a Small Planet*, will give a keynote address, and will be unveiling her latest work, *Getting a Grip: Clarity, Creativity, and Courage in a World Gone Mad*. Lappé will report on emerging forms of citizen involvement that are breaking out across the country producing what she calls "living democracy".

- **5:00-6:00 PM Book signing / tabling / music / kids art**

Buy Frances Moore Lappé books from Broadside Bookshop table & get it signed.

**Music by**

-Ben Grosscup, Dan Inglis, and Dhyana Miller represent the new generation of folksingers. Their high energy vocal harmonies will strike the chords in your soul that make you hate oppression and desire liberation. They tell history and personal story. Their singing arms you with laughter, softens your heart, enlivens your rage, and nurtures your hope. *The Shaking of the Ground* is their first CD.

-Ken Selcer (and occasional surprise guests) brings a sizzling and satisfying blend of roots rock blues reggae and everything in between. His candid storytelling, inspired guitar play, and infectious melodies will uplift and move you to your feet. Selcer's latest solo CD, *Breaking the Glass*, defies categories, breaks down barriers, and weaves a masterful musical thread through it all.

**OTHER NOTES**

On-street parking is available. As a back-up, there is free parking at the Smith College Parking Garage at 42 West Street (Rt 66). The white spaces are available (green spaces require permits).

Food by the Evolution Café, Vegan wraps for \$7, coffee, tea, local fruit, goodies, available from 12-3PM.

Come early to register (9:00 – 10 AM)! Jump start a day of networking and community empowerment with fair trade coffee and local goodies.

Stay tuned to [www.masschc.org/RelocalizeSep30.html](http://www.masschc.org/RelocalizeSep30.html) for information on next steps

Thanks to all who have made this event possible!