

Topics:

PBS SERIES: What do a coffee farmer, pickle maker, board game entrepreneur, Mozambican doctor, funeral director, beer brewer, grocery store deli clerk and president of a credit union have in common? They are all members of the global cooperative movement.

“Visionaries” produces media that can have a measurable impact on the greater good. Their documentaries are created to inspire through a sense of shared experience

WEBINAR I:

Congratulations! You’ve been elected to the co-op board to manage a business. What do you need to know? Here is an overview of board responsibilities.

Questions?

Please contact

James Barham

USDA Rural Development

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October Is Cooperative Month!

October is National Cooperative Month! As part of this month’s celebration, USDA’s Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) is holding a series of events and informational webinars to showcase the many important ways cooperatives empower our daily lives. Customers and stakeholders are encouraged to participate in these opportunities to engage with diverse partner organizations, ask questions, and learn more about Cooperatives

Visionaries PBS Series Documentary: September 29, 2016, 5:30-7:00 pm Eastern Time

Highlights 7 Cooperative’s Stories in U.S. and Around World

- Location: Capital Visitors Center Washington, D.C.
- National Cooperative Business Association (NCBA) - Celebrating 100 years of service

Interagency Working Group on Cooperative Development (IWGCD): October 4, 2016, 2:00-4:00 pm Eastern Time

- The IWGCD’s objective is to foster collaboration across the federal agencies in support of cooperatives and increase our partnership with Co-op stakeholders.
- Host: Department of Commerce, U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA) – Invite Only

WEBINAR I: October 11, 2016, 1:00-2:15 pm Eastern Time
Cooperative Board Training 101

- Margaret Bau, Cooperative Development Specialist, USDA Rural Development
- Link to webinar with audio.
<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/x3d3w44ec7ex&eom>

Topics:

WEBINAR II: Why a cooperative? How do I start one? What about capitalization, and tax? Who can be a member? What about patronage? What should be in the articles and bylaws? And how do board members fulfill their responsibilities?

WEBINAR III: Some 30-40 years ago, every small town had a family owned grocery store. But as rural populations dwindle, rural communities are losing their last grocery stores. This discussion will serve as an introduction to a series of webinars, each featuring an innovative cooperative approach to keeping grocery stores open and viable.

WEBINAR IV: October is not only National Co-op Month but also National Farm to School Month so join us for a webinar that looks at the impact of cooperatives on local food sourcing at schools.

Questions?

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WEBINAR II: October 13, 2016, 2:00-3:15 pm Eastern Time *Cooperatives Legal Basics for Entrepreneurs*

- Todd R. Eskelsen, Partner, Schiff Hardin LLP
- Marlis Carson, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, National Council of Farmer Cooperatives
- Link to webinar with audio.
<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/fjn0raup3sqh&eom>

WEBINAR III: October 18, 2016, 2:00-3:15 pm Eastern Time *When the Last Grocery Store Closes – Exploring Cooperative Options*

- Dr. David Proctor, Rural Grocery Initiative, Kansas State University
- Marnie Thompson, Fund 4 Democratic Communities, North Carolina
- Link to webinar with audio.
<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/v92f7ysqo9k0&eom>

WEBINAR IV: October 19, 2016, 2:00-3:15 pm Eastern Time *Farm to School & the Role of Cooperatives – Producer & Buyer Perspective*

- Andrea Northup, USDA Food Nutrition Service
- Jennie Rengert, Fifth Season Cooperative, Wisconsin
- Krista Garand, Durango School District, Colorado
- Janet Fogel, Mancos School District, Colorado
- Link to webinar with audio.
<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/jlm99m0d6tul&eom>

Topics:

WEBINAR V: This webinar seeks to provide context and stories about one group that has been left behind in the conversation: the youth. We explore the journey of three young cooperators and their work advancing the coop youth movement across the U.S.

NATIONAL PRESS CLUB EVENT:

A vital component to starting a Cooperative is knowing the legislation (laws) in your State. The launch of the State Cooperative Statue website allows you to find that legislation easily online!

WEBINAR VI / SEMINAR:

The strength of the cooperative movement is based on its diversity and its ability to tackle challenges collectively. Join us as we host 3 co-op leaders in a seminar to discuss challenges/opportunities for cooperative development in communities of color.

CO-OP 5K Run: October 22, 2016, 8:00 am Eastern Time

- Hains Point, East Potomac Park, Washington, DC
- Register at <http://www.cdf.coop/5k/>
- Food and coffee provided, and Prizes!

WEBINAR V: October 25, 2016, 2:00-3:15 pm Eastern Time ***#CoopYouth: Telling Our Stories***

- Jesus H. Lucero, USA Cooperative Youth Council, Minnesota
- Hnin Hnin, Cooperative Food Empowerment Directive, New York
- Morgan Crawford, North American Students of Cooperation, MI
- Link to webinar with audio.
<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/57tvjzrooxe4&eom>

National Cooperative Business Association National Press Club Event: October 26, 2016, 1:00-4:00 pm Eastern Time

- NCBA - Celebrating 100 years of service
- Official Launch of State Cooperative Statute Website

WEBINAR VI / SEMINAR: October 27, 2016, 10:30am-12:00 pm Eastern Time

Celebrating Diversity: Race and Ethnicity in the Cooperative Movement.

- Location: USDA Whitten Building Room 107-A
- Cornelius Blanding, Executive Director, Federation of Southern Cooperatives, GA
- Mai Nguyen, Cooperative Development Associate, California Center for Cooperative Development, CA
- Felipe Witchger, Executive Director, Community Purchasing Alliance, NC
- Link to webinar with audio.
<https://cc.readytalk.com/r/8qjljuzevxt8&eom>