

**Institute for Disability Studies**  
**ShareCare Notes**  
**Easy Living: Environmentally and Disability Friendly**  
**September 19, 2006**

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**1. New American Village on Display**

The Museum of Art at Southern Miss opened a new exhibit on August 29. "Silent Witness," includes photographs by Keith Fishman of the aftermath of Katrina on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and "The New American Village," showcases a model community with barrier free, accessible services and energy efficient construction. This community model proposes to offer a "healthier, safer, better solution to our long term living needs." The architect, James Ray Polk, writes, "Most new housing developments today are not neighborhoods; they are simply a collection of storage buildings for people." This neighborhood will be completely accessible. "Sidewalks are essential in every neighborhood [and] are the least expensive and most efficient way to create a real neighborhood." Polk also serves as an adjunct faculty member at the Frank Lloyd Wright School of Architecture. This exhibit will be on display this month at the Southern Miss Museum of Art. The museum is open Tuesday through Friday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information please see:

[http://www.usm.edu/pr/cms/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=42&Itemid=2](http://www.usm.edu/pr/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=42&Itemid=2)

**2. Green Village**

Hattiesburg is not the only place where environmental, cost efficient neighborhoods are being designed. Global Green, a company devoted to "fostering a global shift toward a sustainable and secure future" sponsored an architectural design competition to encourage "environmentally-friendly building" in the Holy Cross neighborhood in New Orleans. The winners of this competition produced a design which:

- Lowers energy bills by reducing energy demands.
- Uses a heating and cooling system which "combines natural ventilation with a geothermal system."
- Features a system to collect and recycle rainwater in order to help protect the neighborhood from flooding.

To learn more about this competition and designs see the following site:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/13892600>

And to learn more about what is involved in a Green Building:

[http://competition.globalgreen.org/pdfs/01\\_what\\_is\\_green\\_building.pdf](http://competition.globalgreen.org/pdfs/01_what_is_green_building.pdf)

### 3. Universal Design for Long Term, Healthy Living

As part of healthy, environmental and people friendly living options, consider the suggestions of the Center for Universal Design. This is a national research center which promotes accessibility in all settings. The Center “also develops publications and instructional materials, and provides information, referrals and technical assistance to individuals with disabilities, families, and professionals nationwide and internationally.”

For more information, please visit:

[www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/](http://www.design.ncsu.edu/cud/)

### 4. Upcoming Events

On September 21, 2006, ShareCare Bank will have its monthly potluck supper at 6 p.m. The potluck will be held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Hattiesburg, so bring a friend and your favorite dish!

On September 28, 2006, 9:30 a.m. also at Westminster Presbyterian Church, ShareCare Bank is hosting a mini-workshop on dementia and related conditions and will include practical tips for caregivers. “Everything you wanted to know about dementia, but were too afraid to ask!” will be led by Kathy Van Cleave, LMSW, the Acting Director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, Division of Alzheimer’s Disease and Other Dementia. This is a free workshop, but please register by calling 601-266-5163.

### OLLI Fall Membership Drive

Take time for yourself! If you are 50 or older, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) on the west edge of the Southern Miss campus is accepting new members for the 2006-2007 year. This is a great organization which offers very interesting, high quality, low cost classes for our mature community. A few scholarships are still available, including scholarships for persons with Medicaid or Medicare Part D. To read more about this program visit <http://www.usm.edu/ncpc/olli/index.html>. Click on the "newsletter" link to learn about the classes offered. Be sure to tell them you heard about it from ShareCare!