

To establish the bonds of common purpose and mutual enjoyment

by Toni Haas , Robin Lambert

A QUIET renaissance is going on in parts of rural America as people are beginning to claim and build on their own strengths. New ways of educating young people are linked with ways communities can help themselves thrive. Traditional "neighborliness" is expanding into broad-scale collaboration. Community members of every age are working together to reform education, revitalize communities, and improve the quality of life for themselves and others. This article describes longterm work with demonstrable outcomes, and newer, smaller-scale efforts that show promise. It concludes with a synthesis of what seems to be important across projects.

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