Sustainability and Community Renewal

Presented by: Tom Clark & Lisa Wogan, co-founders of VERDAE Group LLC of Momence
Janine Loftus, founder of Main Street Momence

Tuesday, July 23, 2013
The program is free and open to the public.
6-6:30 p.m. networking • 6:30-8 p.m. program
Tucci’s Restaurant • 1560 N. Rt. 50, Bourbonnais
Menu items and drinks will be available for purchase.

Global economic slowdown has prompted a sea change in community and economic development... and the news is not all bad. Limited capital has necessitated the rise of grass roots-driven revitalization efforts, particularly in our outlying rural communities. A holistic, place-based approach to community renewal has emerged, one that appreciates the unique economic, cultural and environmental assets of a particular locale. Sustainability advocates will recognize this model as the classic Triple Bottom Line value framework.

Join Main Street Momence and VERDAE Group for this Green Drinks event to hear how sustainability principles are infusing the economic development landscape and bringing new vitality to our communities, neighborhoods and historic properties.

The event is sponsored by the Council for Community Sustainability, a public outreach group created as part of Kankakee Community College’s sustainability initiative.

For more information, contact Bert Jacobson at 815-932-2191.
Meet the Presenters:

**Tom Clark**, co-founder of VERDAE Group LLC, leverages a 30-year career in local government, higher education, the not-for-profit sector and private industry. As the first administrator for the Village of Bourbonnais, Tom led major community planning initiatives, including the construction of Latham Drive, the establishment of a TIF district and initial plans for the Lomira Perry Farm. Driven by his interest in community development and revitalization within the sustainability framework, Tom in 2010 accepted the post of senior project manager at TKA + Partners, an architecture, planning and design firm based in Chicago and Kankakee. In that role, Tom was proud to participate in the renewal of Downtown Kankakee with the rehabilitation of the historic Majestic Theatre. Tom holds an MA from Loyola University - Chicago.

**Lisa Wogan**, co-founder of VERDAE Group LLC, is a former consultant to the Economic Alliance of Kankakee County and founding member and past president of Main Street Momence, a historic preservation-based and volunteer-driven economic development program that has spurred millions in reinvestment to Momence’s traditional commercial core since its inception. Lisa was instrumental in securing the Downtown Momence Historic District in the National Register of Historic Places and currently chairs MSM’s Façade Grant Committee, which has raised and awarded more than $40,000 in private funding for historically appropriate exterior building improvements. Lisa holds a BA from the University of Illinois.

**Janine Loftus**, a former Je Neir Elementary School teacher, she spearheaded Momence’s downtown revitalization program, which would subsequently earn a Main Street designation, in 2000. A recognized community expert in historic downtown redevelopment, Janine regularly assists other area towns with their revitalization programs. She also serves on the boards of the Momence Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Alliance of Kankakee County, and as a Landmarks Illinois regional adviser.