Louise Bement. No one knows better than Louise how important local history can be to a recent transplant to Tompkins County. Newcomers, transients, commuters—since the last decades of the 20th century, the Town of Lansing has become home to a growing population whose ancestors never farmed the land, mined the salt, or milled the cement of Lansing. Without connection to the founding enterprises and families of Ludlowville, the oldest hamlet in the town, recent arrivals have often looked to local history in order to orient themselves. Since 1981, when she became the appointed historian of Lansing, Bement has been their expert guide and chief researcher.

Kathy Berggren is a senior lecturer in the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. She has a B.S. in animal science from Cornell University and a MAT in science education from Cornell University. She has taught and directed the Communications Department’s Oral Communication Course, served as advising coordinator, internship coordinator, and faculty advisor to many student groups including Association for Women in Communication, FACES—epilepsy research and advocacy, and the Touchtones. She is co-chair of the CALS Diversity Committee and a fellow for the Center for Outreach and Engagement. She defines herself as an empowering collaborator and connector. A successful course is one where the instructor can disappear at the end, empowering the students to continue thriving in their knowledge and confident leadership.

Robin Blakely-Armitage is an Extension Associate with CaRDI. Robin is particularly interested in demographic trends and the consequences for community and economic development. She spent 8 years working for the University of Wisconsin-Madison before returning to Cornell, working with communities and school districts around Wisconsin who were faced with significant population increases or declines. She serves as editor and occasional author of three CaRDI publications. Robin is developing a project around socio-demographic indicators, and will work with community leaders to help them access, interpret and strategically use important measures of community well-being for long term planning purposes. She works with the Empire State Poll every year and develops a rural survey to complement the state-wide information which measures New Yorkers’ opinions on a wide variety of social, economic, and community topics.

Heather Filiberto is Vice President and Director of Economic Development Services at Tompkins County Area Development (TCAD), a not for profit organization that supports business and industry in Tompkins County. TCAD’s mission is to build a thriving and sustainable economy that improves the quality of life in Tompkins County by fostering the growth of business and employment where she helps businesses access the resources they need to start here, stay here, and grow here. In 2013 she delivered incentives to three mixed use projects that will leverage over $70 million in private investment to revitalize the City of Ithaca’s downtown. She administers a $1.8 million loan fund that assists manufacturing and high tech start up companies that have created over 800 jobs in Tompkins County.
Joseph Francis - Joe’s research program has been concentrated in the areas of environmental systems and economic development in rural areas. He is currently in the third year of a multi-state project to assess economic development strategies, entitled NE-162 Rural Economic Development: Alternatives in the New Competitive Environment. Joe is also involved in a project to assess economic development among communities located along the New York State Canal System, funded by the Ford Foundation and by the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development. This project will assess the impacts of HUD’s Canal Corridor Initiative along side other funding programs being actualized in this region. His teaching program has been concentrated in one area since the inception of his appointment at Cornell University: research methods and statistics. Joe received his Ph.D from the University of Missouri, and his M.A. and B.A. from Wichita State University.

Dee Gamble is currently the Senior Energy Program Coordinator at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Tompkins County where he is responsible for coordinating energy efficiency education and outreach programs for all residents. He is also a Senior Sustainability Consultant at Taitem Engineering serving as a Senior Project Manager for NYSERDA’s Commercial Buildings Outreach Program and is responsible for assisting large commercial customers with identifying and implementing energy conservation measures through NYSERDA’s Existing Facilities program. Dee and his wife, Britt are the principals of Chase-Parker, LLC., a small consulting company that offers a range of trainings services from work-readiness for disadvantaged youth to workplace diversity and inclusion. Dee and Britt have two wonderful children; Parker (5) and Chase (3) that are the joy of their lives and the inspiration for this work.

Nick Goldsmith works jointly with the City of Ithaca and the Town of Ithaca as Sustainability Coordinator, where he helps plan and implement initiatives to reduce energy use in the community. He sits on the Board of The Sustainability Center and is an active member of the Tompkins County Climate Protection Initiative. Nick holds an M.S. in Energy Management and a Certificate in Environmental Management from New York Institute of Technology, and a Bachelor’s in Mathematics from Brown University. Before joining the sustainability field, Nick worked for more than a decade as juggler and acrobat Nicholas Flair, providing unforgettable entertainment in venues worldwide.

David George. As Assistant Historian of the Town of Ithaca, Dave George has supervised local students researching the early history of the Town and has served on the Town’s history committee. He grew up in Ithaca where he studied archaeology at Cornell University. He has worked on archaeology projects in New York, Arizona, New Mexico, Italy and Japan. He teaches English to international students and visiting researchers and enjoys hiking, cross-country skiing and traveling with his family.
David Haight. Since joining American Farmland Trust in 2001, David Haight has worked with more than 20 local governments to establish agricultural economic development and farmland protection plans. He aids state and federal legislators as they work on agricultural and land conservation legislation and has helped coordinate projects that have permanently protected more than 4,000 acres of New York farmland.

Mike Hattery is the director of local government studies and a senior fellow at the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government in Albany, New York. Dr. Hattery has a range of experience as a student of state and local government in New York. He has conducted applied research, community-based technical assistance and developed educational programs for state and local officials. His research interests are centered in the areas of public finance, local government organization and service delivery. Dr. Hattery has also worked in the areas of management capacity building and the analysis of intergovernmental service delivery options — particularly among smaller governments in New York’s nonmetropolitan regions. He has served as an elected governing board member for village, town and county government. Areas of Expertise: State and local government finance, intergovernmental relations, public finance, service delivery analysis, local government organization

Christina Homrighouse has been an instructor at Cornell University since 1998. She teaches software application and presentation skills at the School of Industrial and Labor Relations, the School of Hotel Administration and the Johnson School. Prior to teaching, Christina was the Assistant Director for Recruiting and Operations at the Johnson School. Because of her unique blend of career services and technology experience, her focus is to provide students with a technical toolkit which allows them to thrive in the world of work because of their ability to efficiently use desktop support applications. In 2013 she was named Cornell’s #1 Professor by Business Insider.com. She earned her B.S. in Psychology and Business at Ithaca College and expects to attain her Master of Industrial and Labor Relations from the School of Industrial and Labor Relations in 2015.

Rod Howe is the Assistant Director of Community & Economic Vitality through Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Executive Director of the Community and Rural Development Institute (CaRDI). Rod fosters collaborative programming among faculty and off-campus Extension educators; and establishes effective working relationships with local, state, regional and national agencies and organizations. His diverse educational background serves the range of issues that come before CaRDI well.
Susie Jacobs is the Town Clerk for the Town of Walworth, NY, a graduate of CMCI's CMC and MMC programs, and a member of the CMCI Advisory Committee. As a public official elected by the citizens of Walworth, Susie takes very seriously her responsibility to keep and protect the public records of her Town, in compliance with the New York Constitution, the New York Statutes, administrative orders, Town ordinances and Town resolutions.

David Kay is a Senior Extension Associate. Most of his projects have had a policy orientation and are focused on improving community decision making in New York communities. Recent projects have involved land use planning, rural land markets, and sprawl; building local institutional capacity to manage farm-neighbor conflicts; local government fiscal stress; and the economic impacts of child care and strategies for local economic development. Since joining CaRDI David has focused his work on land use and landscape preservation. David has chaired or served on numerous boards and committees for the City of Ithaca and Tompkins County dealing with planning, land use, and transportation issues and has served a number of years on the boards of the New York Planning Federation, the NY Upstate Chapter of the American Planning Association, and Ecovillage at Ithaca, Inc.

Dominic Mazza is a Municipal Consultant with The Bonadio Group’s Government, Compliance and Labor team, specializing in financial management, project development, and operational and productivity improvements for counties, cities and other municipalities in New York State. Nick is particularly adept at assessing opportunities, developing strategies and plans, and implementing efforts for intergovernmental relations and cooperation. His cooperative initiatives in areas such as water and sewer operations, worker compensation programs, E-911 dispatching, and departmental consolidations have saved taxpayers a significant amount of money during the course of his career.

Jean McPheeters recently retired from the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce where she served as president from January 2000 to June 2014. Previously she worked for Tompkins-Seneca-Tioga BOCES, as the District Administrator for U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey and district representative for Congressman Matthew McHugh. She is a member of the board of directors the Paleontological Research Institution and the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce Foundation. She formerly served on the boards of Tompkins County Area Development and the Cayuga Medical Center. Ms. McPheeters co-chaired the successful $2 million campaign for United Way of Tompkins County in 2008 and served as chair of the Board of Trustees of Tompkins Cortland Community College.
Heidi Mouillesseaux-Kunzman is an Extension Associate with CaRDI. As CaRDI’s Community Development Coordinator, she develops educational programs and tools, facilitates regional networking opportunities, and occasionally conducts research designed to help local officials, community and economic developers, and other local leaders to collaboratively identify, pursue, and achieve their community’s development goals. Heidi is also a Project Coordinator with the Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, where she has been heavily engaged in supporting regional economic development initiatives in Pennsylvania and New York, and building regional and national networks of land grant University professionals working in the area of Community Development, with the goals of strengthening collaboration and, in turn, programming in this area for the benefit of communities.

Kelee Pacion is the instruction coordinator and undergraduate life sciences librarian for the Albert R. Mann Library at Cornell University. Pacion holds a M.ED in Curriculum and Instruction from Arizona State University and an M.A. in IRLS from the University of Arizona. She was previously a high school science teacher, with a focus on creating active learning projects, as well as teaching students using the Cambridge Curriculum for GSCE Level Investigative Science and has developed a two year curriculum map geared towards student engagement and active learning processes. She is working on merging pedagogical practices into the library classroom and working on creating an innovative, Information Literacy Program to be embedded in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Katie Palmer-House is the Town of Dover Town Clerk, a former town board member and an adjunct instructor of psychology at Dutchess Community College in Poughkeepsie, NY. She has a M.A. in Counseling and Community Psychology from Marist College and an Ed.D. in Adult Learning and Leadership from Columbia University.

Scott Peters has devoted his professional career to studying and strengthening higher education’s public mission, purposes and work. His research agenda focuses on the connections between higher education and democracy, especially in the land-grant system. His most recent book, “Democracy and Higher Education: Traditions and Stories of Civic Engagement” (Michigan State University Press, 2010), contributes to a new line of research on the critically important task of strengthening and defending higher education’s positive roles in and for a democratic society. He is the author of Imagining America’s Forseeable Futures position paper, “Changing the Story About Higher Education’s Public Purposes and Work: Land-Grants, Liberty, and the Little Country Theater.”
Dr. Brian Rahm received his doctorate from Cornell, where he worked on remediation of groundwater contamination. Since then, he moved to New Zealand and spent a year engaged in climate change policy analysis for the capital city, Wellington, and has also performed research on greenhouse gas emissions from wastewater treatment plants. He is currently with the New York State Water Resources Institute where he is engaged in education and research on a variety of topics, including the impact of shale gas development on water resources, and aging waste water infrastructure.

John Sipple joined Development Sociology in the summer of 2011 after 13 years in the Department of Education. He has focused his research interests on the responses of public school districts to changes in state and federal policy. Central to his work are issues of community and organizational change and how they relate to learning opportunities for students across racial, socioeconomic, and geographic lines. He teaches courses on the organizational, social, and political contexts of American education and school reform in light of community change.

Susan Barry Smith (Sue) - is the Program Coordinator for the Cornell Municipal Clerks Institute. Sue is often the first person you’ll meet at the Institute and she looks forward to seeing many of you again this year and to welcoming those of you who are new. If you have questions or concerns before or during your week here, call her at 607-255-9510 or email her at cardi@cornell.edu. Emails from Sue will contain important information about the Institute. They’ll often be mailed as a group, which may trigger some of your junk mail filters. So please be sure to do whatever is needed to make sure email from Sue or CaRDI doesn’t end up in your junk folder.

Gary Stewart is director of Community Relations at Cornell University. Prior to taking that job, Gary was a lifelong newspaperman, serving as Opinion Page Editor of The Ithaca Journal for 10 years, and, before that posting, was the first managing editor of The Moscow Times, during and after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Gary serves on a variety of local non-profit boards, writes a regular newspaper column on town-gown connections, and produces the weekly radio show “All Things Equal”, which is broadcast every Tuesday morning on WHCU 870 AM.
Kevin Sutherland. Kevin Sutherland currently serves as the Chief of Staff for the Mayor of Ithaca. Under advisement of the Mayor, he assists in the management of city operations, oversees the development of a 65 million dollar annual budget, provides critical analysis of programs and initiatives, and designs and implements management and reporting tools. Kevin has a Masters degree in Public Administration from the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University and a Bachelors of Arts degree in Political Science from the State University of New York at Oswego. As a community-minded Ithacan and seven year resident of Tompkins County, he has contributed to the development and growth of Tompkins Connect, the local young professional organization.

Larry Van De Valk is Executive Director of the Empire State Food and Agricultural Leadership Institute, or LEAD New York, a two-year leadership development program for adult professionals in the food, agricultural and natural resource industries. Van De Valk is also a Senior Extension Associate CaRDI. Larry earned a PhD in Adult and Extension Education, MA in Teaching and BS in Agricultural & Biological Engineering, all from Cornell, as well as an AAS in Forestry from Paul Smiths College. He has published several articles in refereed journals, and his research interests are in the areas of leadership development theory, program evaluation, and the social capital building effect of leadership development initiatives. Larry is the recipient of the State University of New York Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service and the International Association of Programs for Agricultural Leaders Outstanding Leadership Program Director Award.

Linda Warner is an Administrative Assistant supporting CaRDI and a number of faculty and other professional staff in the Department of Development Sociology. Among other hats Linda wears during CMCI, she works with Heidi Mouillesseaux-Kunzman to keep track of the Learning Action Plans.

Mildred Warner is a Professor in the Department of City and Regional Planning at Cornell University where her work focuses primarily on local government service delivery and new community development models for addressing human services. Dr. Warner has a Ph.D. in Development Sociology, a Masters in Agricultural Economics from Cornell University and a BA in History from Oberlin College. Dr. Warner has a strong extension orientation and consults widely with local government and union leaders on local government reform, and with child care policy makers and business leaders on economic development strategies to support social infrastructure. Recent work has taken her to Spain, England, New Zealand, Australia, Ecuador and Bulgaria.
Cornell Municipal Clerks Institute 2014

Patricia Wilkins is Assistant Director in Employee and Organizational Development at Ithaca College, where she serves as a consultant designing and facilitating retreats and team building workshops, provides individual and group consultation to staff on professional development needs, instruct supervisors on performance management policies and practices, serves as project lead for the Ithaca College’s On-boarding initiative, and serves as career coach for staff and the Johnson School of Management Executive MBA program. Previously, Patricia served as a Staff Development Associate in Organizational Development for Faculty and Staff (ODF&S) at Cornell University. Patricia has served in various capacities as a member of the Society for Human Resource Management of Tompkins County (SHRMTC) board, including assisting students interested in obtaining their certification as human resources professionals. Patricia is also a certified Myers-Briggs Type Indicator administrator and certified Deputy Title IX Coordinator.

Paula Younger is Deputy County Administrator for Tompkins County, New York. She coordinates a variety of organization development activities for enhancing County government operations. She serves as the County’s Corporate Compliance Officer and has executive oversight of County workforce diversity and inclusion activities. She also serves as Administration Department liaison to Legislative Standing Committees, and represents the County at various community meetings and events. Paula has 20 years of management experience in both the public and private sector, including for-profit consulting firms, with key emphasis on program development, performance planning, and policy implementation. Ms. Younger holds a Master of Science degree in Human Services Administration. Visit her at http://www.linkedin.com or http://pancakemoments.com/