

## *Gaffney speaker at Mendocino County Conference*

by Mary Rose Kaczorowski, Ft. Bragg, CA

At the Living Communities Conference in Ukiah, Mendocino County, CA on November 11, 1995, one of the major speakers was Dr. Mason Gaffney, Economics Professor at the University of California-Riverside. The Henry George School of Northern California and the Mendocino County Air Quality Management District cosponsored the county-wide conference.

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Mary Rose Kaczorowski, Outreach Director with the Henry George School, was a very active member of the Steering Committee that was chaired by Charles Peterson of the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors. The conference was intended to be the first in a series of events and workshops that will lead eventually to a large number of informed and energized citizens participating in a future rewrite of the County General Plan.

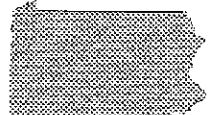
Kaczorowski appeared on two radio stations during shows about the conference. “The work of the Henry George School since 1949 has been to sponsor community education venues and workshops that address the issues of land use, economics, ecology, sustainable communities and social justice,” she told KDAC radio listeners October 31. “Since our communities are in the midst of a critical juncture ecologically, politically and socially there are many problems demanding our immediate attention, problems that we read about in the news everyday. Cosponsoring the Living Communities Conference is Henry George School’s effort in helping folks get the knowledge they need to participate in the shaping of their communities.”

The conference was broadcast live on radio KZYX and Channel 3 Mendocino County Educational TV (and taped

for cable broadcast).

A heckler interrupted Dr. Gaffney’s speech, “The Cost of Sprawl,” when he said the county needs to increase the tax on the timber industry. Gaffney said the timber yield tax sits at just 2.9 percent. If it were to keep pace with property and business taxes, the rate would be closer to 20 percent. Gaffney said the timber yield revenues do not even pay for damage done by timbertrucks to county roads. Board of Supervisors President Seiji Sugawara told a radio caller, “There’s no question we’re not getting the timber yield tax we need to be getting.”

### **Pennsylvania Campaign**



Land value tax activists throughout the U.S.A. and world-wide have launched the Pennsylvania campaign to turn a potential legislative setback into an opportunity to strengthen our movement. The message to write Pennsylvania Governor Ridge opposing Senator Hart’s SB 2 and encouraging extension of the two-rate property tax option went out early through the Land Access Internet group founded by Dan Sullivan of Pittsburgh. A story alert was published in the November-December 1995 issue of GroundSwell. Further, GroundSwell’s distribution for that issue was expanded to 15 non-CG-USA Pennsylvanians with a special request to write to Gov. Ridge to veto SB 2.

Fred Harrison of the Land Policy Council in England organized a special appeal to his world-wide network. Writers were encouraged to write and to send to Alanna Hartzok, Chambersburg, Pa., copies of their letters. Hartzok is pleased to say that she has received over 40 letters, a large number of which are from foreign countries.

*continued on page 12*