



# JULIAN VAIL, LLC NEWS & NOTES



MARCH 12, 2010



## SPRING AHEAD!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**MIFMAT Board Meeting**  
March 16, 2010 10:00am  
Farm Bureau

**MCSA Board Meeting**  
March 17, 2010  
11:00am, JV offices

**MI Commission of Ag**  
March 17, 2010  
2:00pm

**MCPI Meeting**  
April 6, 2010  
Lexington Hotel, Lansing

**MEP ANNUAL Meeting**  
April 2010  
Radisson Hotel, Lansing

**Associations One**  
May 5 - 7, 2010  
Crowne Plaza Hotel -  
Union Station  
Indianapolis, IN



*Give thanks for what  
you are now, and keep  
fighting for what you  
want to be tomorrow.*

~Fernanda Miramontes-  
Landeros

## 2010 MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2010 1:30 PM
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010 1:30 PM
- THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2010 12:00 PM

### SENATE

- TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2010 10:00 AM
- WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010 10:00 AM
- THURSDAY, MARCH 18, 2010 10:00 AM

## RURAL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE GRANTS (RBEG)

The RBEG program provides grants for rural projects that finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural businesses help fund business incubators, and help fund employment related adult education programs. To assist with business development, RBEGs may fund a broad array of activities.

How much are the grants?

There is no required maximum level of grant funding. However, smaller projects are given higher priority. Generally grants range \$10,000 up to \$500,000

Applications must be submitted by March 19, 2010 to be considered for 2010 year funds.  
<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/busp/rbeg.htm>

## SPECIALTY CROP GRANTS

The Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) is providing new opportunities for Michigan businesses thanks to the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Ag Marketing Services. The program is designed to enhance the competitiveness of Michigan's specialty crops. Grant proposals must be received by MDA no later than April 22, 2010.

The grants, ranging from \$10,000 to \$75,000, enhance the competitiveness of the state's specialty crops, including, but not limited to: research, promotion, marketing, nutrition, trade enhancement, food safety, food security, plant health programs, education, increased knowledge and consumption, increased innovation, improved efficiency and reduced costs of distribution systems, environmental concerns and conservation, product development, good agricultural practices, good handling practices, and good manufacturing practices.

Eligible applicants include non-profit organizations, local, state, and federal government entities, for-profit organizations, and universities.

The organizations must be legal entities recognized by the IRS, and applicants must reside and/or conduct their business or organization in Michigan. Applications should demonstrate how the project will potentially produce measurable impacts for the specialty crop industry as a whole and not-for-profit to a specific product, single organization, institution, or individual.

For the program information, application form, or submission criteria, please visit:  
[www.michigan.gov/mda](http://www.michigan.gov/mda) or contact Mike DiBernardo at [dibernardom@michigan.gov](mailto:dibernardom@michigan.gov)  
or 517-373-9144.

Proposal must be RECEIVED (Not postmarked) by 5 p.m. on Thursday, April 22, 2010.

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