Rural America ceases publication with this issue, but we want to assure our readers that they will be more than compensated by the launch of a completely new, far-reaching magazine with a web counterpart. The new magazine will faithfully cover the range of topics that Rural America readers have become accustomed to—rural housing, income, education, population, business development, infrastructure, etc.—but these articles will now reside within a larger and more dynamic context.

In short, the new magazine will cover every mission pursued by USDA—a competitive agricultural system; a safe food supply; a healthy, well-nourished population; harmony between agriculture and the environment; and an enhanced quality of life for rural Americans. It will be published more often (5 times/year) than Rural America, and its content will better mirror current events and anticipate legislative and other developments. In addition, its web presence will be updated throughout the publication cycle to supplement the printed findings and to house more interactive data.

As always, we encourage Rural America readers to consult the ERS website (www.ers.usda.gov) for a wealth of relevant material, organized by topic (ex. rural amenities and urbanization) and more in-depth "briefing rooms" (ex. Rural Transportation). Your current subscription will carry you into the new magazine's era. At the end of your allotted issues, you'll be invited to subscribe to our new magazine at a special introductory rate. Please continue on with the Rural America staff as we, much like itself, join up with the larger fabric.