

In Ithaca, N.Y., they print their own currency. So do more than 40 other U.S. communities. Here's why:

Money That Won't Leave Town

WHEN TONI LIEB, THE co-owner of the City Health Club, counts up her profits at the end of the week, she bands together the \$20 bills with their pictures of Andrew Jackson and the \$10 bills with pictures of Alexander Hamilton. And then, in a separate pile, she gathers an odd assortment of paper money with drawings of two children, a spotted salamander and an educator named Beverly Martin. These bills are examples of Ithaca Hours, a currency printed in Ithaca, N.Y., and accepted by 370 shops, businesses and service providers within a 20-mile radius of the city. One Ithaca Hour is redeemable for one hour of basic work or \$10.

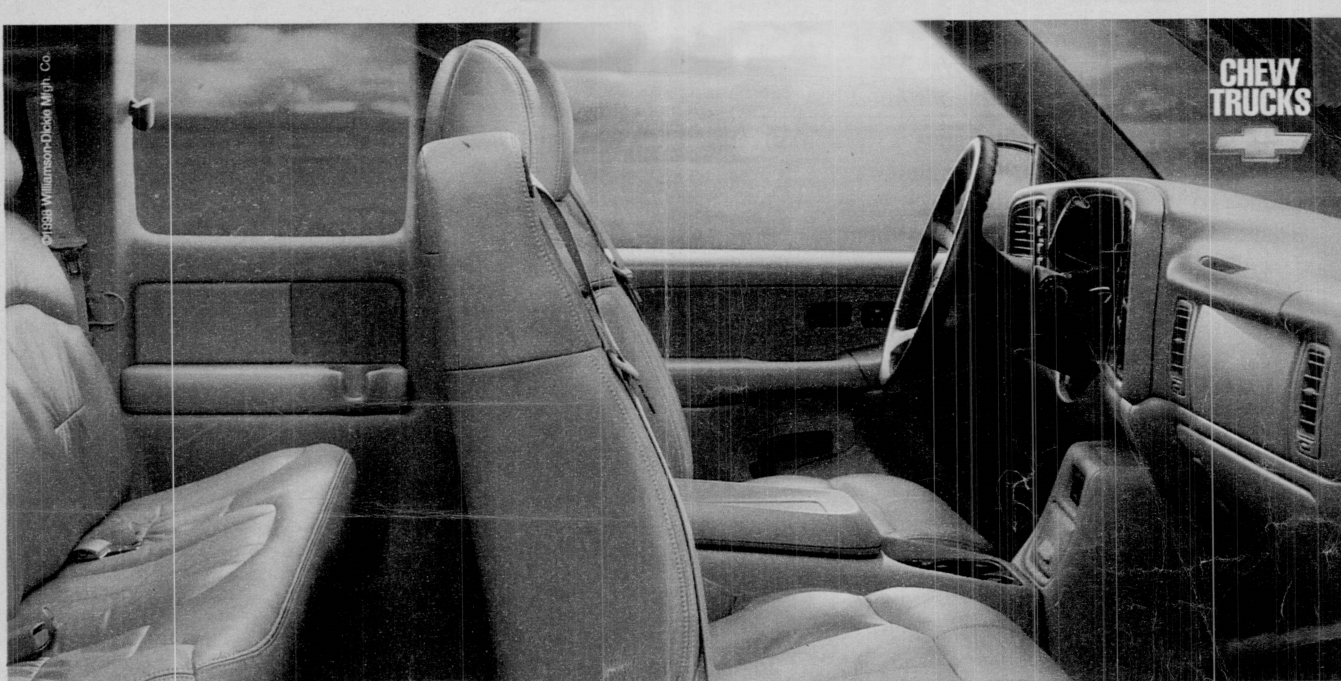
Since Ithaca Hours were created in 1991, Toni Lieb has used them to pay for plumbing repairs, electrical work, painting, artwork, massages and food.

Why would any community want its own currency? Why aren't U.S. dollars good enough? Paul Glover, who created the Ithaca Hours program, puts it this way: "A \$10 bill comes to town, shakes a few hands and leaves. An Ithaca Hour stays around." In other words, Ithaca Hours encourage people to shop at locally-owned businesses rather than to frequent chain stores owned by distant corporations. In fact, printed on the bills are the words: "Ithaca Hours stimulate local businesses by recycling our wealth locally. Hours are backed by real capital: our skills, our time, our tools."

David Gersh, an Ithaca lawyer, has another reason to accept Ithaca Hours: "Hours are a great equalizer, because they're worth one hour of work."

continued

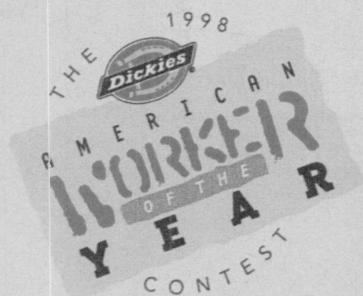
By David Wallechinsky



CHEVY TRUCKS



If You Work Your Behind Off,
Dickies Wants To Give You A New Seat.



ENTER THE 1998 DICKIES AMERICAN WORKER OF THE YEAR® CONTEST TO WIN AN ALL-NEW CHEVY SILVERADO TRUCK!

(And We'll Give You A Five Buck Rebate Just For Entering)

2 GRAND PRIZE WINNERS!

Each winner will receive a 1999 full-size, all-new Chevrolet Silverado Truck, plus a \$200 Dickies Gift Certificate, and an all-expense paid trip for two to the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville.

PLUS 50 INDIVIDUAL STATE WINNERS!

Each state winner receives \$250 cash, a \$200 Dickies gift certificate, a Dickies logo watch and an American Worker Of The Year® jacket.

WE'LL SEND YOU A \$5 REBATE CERTIFICATE FOR DICKIES WORKWEAR WHEN YOU ENTER!

Nominate yourself or someone you know. Then in 75 words or less, complete this statement: "I think my nominee deserves special recognition as Dickies 1998 American Worker of the Year because..." On a plain piece of paper or an official entry form, include: your name, address and phone; nominee's name, address, phone, approximate age. Indicate nominee's occupational category. (Agriculture/Craftsman/Tradesman; or Manufacturing/Industrial/Distributor/Service)



Mail entry to: Dickies American Worker Of The Year Contest, PO Box 670589, Dallas, Texas 75367-0589. Or call 1-800-DICKIES for an official entry blank. You can also enter on our website at www.dickies.com. Entries must be received no later than August 15, 1998.

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Approximate retail value of truck: \$22,000. Entry forms available at participating Dickies retailers. You may also enter a nomination by providing entry information set forth above in this ad on the official entry form or a piece of paper. Nominators and nominees must be a U.S. resident 18 years of age or older as of August 15, 1998. Entries will be judged on the following criteria: sincerity of essay (33 1/3%), the extent to which the nominee represents the spirit of American worker (33 1/3%), and the nominee's level of dedication to his/her job (33 1/3%). Improper, incomplete, mutilated and illegible entries will be disqualified. No photocopied entries accepted. Each entry must be mailed separately. Entries will become the property of Williamson-Dickie Mfg. Co. and will not be returned. Promotion subject to full official rules and the decision of the judges which are final in all respects. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law. Rules are available by sending a self addressed stamped envelope to "Dickies Rules", 3110 Webb Street, Suite 100, Dallas, Texas 75205. Residents of Washington and Vermont may omit return postage. Contest sponsored by Williamson-Dickie Mfg. Co., who is solely responsible for awarding prizes. Chevrolet and the Chevrolet emblem are registered trademarks and Chevy is a trademark of the General Motors Corporation.

Depiction of prize vehicle is for illustration purposes only. Option/color of actual vehicle may vary.

We Make The World A **Dickies** More Comfortable Place.™



MONEY THAT WON'T LEAVE/continued

Someone who works with his hands is worth as much as someone who works with his mind. It gives people a sense of value and self-esteem." Gersh received Hours from a client and exchanged them for swing dance lessons.

Most people who use Ithaca Hours spend them at restaurants, stores or the Farmers' Market. They also use them for services such as house cleaning, baby-sitting, tutoring and music lessons. Hours also are accepted by hairdressers and taxi drivers, as well as a wine store and a bowling alley, not to mention the nearby nudist park. (Sales tax, however, must be paid in U.S. currency.)

Local currencies often have been used in the U.S. in times of financial crisis. They reached their peak during the Great Depression, between 1931 and 1939. At one point in 1933, more than 400 U.S. communities were us-

Ithaca Hours in various denominations. The concept is not new: In 1827, Josiah Warren of Cincinnati opened a "Time Store." Warren charged what he had paid for the item, plus 4% for overhead. Then, instead of adding on an amount for profit, Warren noted how long it took to serve the customer, who had to work for him for that length of time.



ing their own currencies. So Detroit... millions of dollars of paper money.

Ithaca Hours, although created during a recession, appear to be the first local currency to survive during a period of improved economic conditions. For some, involvement with Ithaca Hours is just good business. Andrew Castrenze, the owner of Andy's 3rd St. Café, ac-

cepts Ithaca Hours "because it brings me new customers." He then uses them to buy advertising and to pay his Internet bill. For others, it is a chance to be involved in a system that just feels good. Shade Gomez, the produce manager at a grocery store, says: "When you spend it, you know it will come back to you eventually." Jen Drake, a house cleaner, explains: "You have the sense that the transaction is backed by good intentions."

Linda Daybell of the Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce emphasizes that Hours are "built on trust in the sustainability of the community." And, she adds, "it gives people psychological permission to use services such as massage, that they wouldn't otherwise use."

Recently the use of Ithaca Hours has expanded into health care. The city's Cayuga Medical Center now accepts Hours from the uninsured and underinsured to pay medical bills. The hospital then uses the Hours to buy goods for its cafeteria and for maintenance services.

The success of Ithaca Hours has inspired other communities to experiment with local currencies. There are now more than 40 U.S. towns that print their own money, all of it convertible to hours of work.

For more information, visit the Ithaca Hours site on the World Wide Web: www.lightlink.com/ithacahours

Is It Legal?

Surprising as it seems, Ithaca Hours and other local currencies are completely legal. Neither the U.S. Constitution nor federal statutes generally prohibit private groups from issuing paper currency. In fact, current federal law permits the issuance of paper money as long as the notes are valued at \$1 or more.

Federal law *does* prohibit private coinage, however. From 1830 to 1860—and especially during the Gold Rush days of 1849—private coins were manufactured in several parts of the country. Congress responded by banning private coinage in 1864.

It is important to note that all income derived through Ithaca Hours or other local currencies must be declared for the purpose of federal income tax.



City of Cambridge

57.

IN CITY COUNCIL

July 27, 1998

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
COUNCILLOR BORN
COUNCILLOR DAVIS
MAYOR DUEHAY
VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
COUNCILLOR REEVES
COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

WHEREAS: Ithaca, New York, is one of more than 40 U.S. communities that prints its own currency, "Ithaca Hours," with one Ithaca Hour redeemable for one hour of basic work or \$10. (see attached material); and

WHEREAS: Ithaca Hours enjoy the enthusiastic support of the Ithaca Chamber of Commerce, and over 360 local businesses, because they encourage people to shop at local-owned businesses and spend their resources within the community; and

WHEREAS: Information and assistance is available from the Ithaca Hours program to help other communities create local currencies; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide a comprehensive report back to the City Council on the Ithaca program, including specifics as to the organizations that started the program, the history and extent of municipal government involvement in this program and other local currencies currently in effect, and a discussion of how Cambridge could implement such a currency.

CHARTER RIGHT EXERCISED BY COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU.



City of Cambridge

57.
Calendar #13

IN CITY COUNCIL
~~July 27, 1998~~
September 28, 1998

- COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU
- COUNCILLOR BORN
- COUNCILLOR DAVIS
- MAYOR DUEHAY
- VICE MAYOR GALLUCCIO
- COUNCILLOR REEVES
- COUNCILLOR RUSSELL
- COUNCILLOR SULLIVAN
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In City Council September 28, 1998.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of nine members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk

A true copy;

ATTEST:-

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk



About Ithaca HOURS

Since 1991, we've issued over \$62,000 of Ithaca HOURS (6,200 HOURS at \$10.00 per HOUR). Five denominations: 2 HRS, 1 HR, 1/2 HR, 1/4 HR, 1/8 HR. Includes a commemorative HOUR, the first paper money in the U.S. to honor an African-American.

Over 2,000 people, including 360 businesses, have earned and spent HOURS.

They have made an estimated \$2,000,000+ value of trades with HOURS, representing 100 job-equivalents at \$20,000 each.

HOURS are thus real money-- local tender rather than legal tender, backed by real people, real labor, skills and tools.

Most HOURS have been issued as payments to those who agree to be published backers of HOURS, listed in our bimonthly directory HOUR Town. Every eight months they may send the coupon again to receive a bonus payment-- which gradually and carefully increases HOUR supply.

10% of HOURS are issued as grants to community organizations. 35 nonprofits have received grants totalling 600 HOURS (\$6,000) since we began.

5% of HOURS may be issued to the system itself, primarily for paying for printing HOURS.

Loans of HOURS are made with NO INTEREST CHARGED. These range \$50- \$1,000 value.

HOURS are legal. Professor Lewis Solomon of George Washington University has written a book titled "Rethinking Our Centralized Monetary System: the Case for Local Currency" (Praeger, 1996) which is an extensive case law study of the legality of local currency. His number is (202) 994-6753. IRS and FED officials have been contacted by media, and repeatedly have said there is no prohibition of local currency, as long as it does not look like dollars, as long as denominations are at least \$1.00 value, and if it is regarded as taxable income.

HOURS are protected against counterfeit. They are multicolored, with serial numbers. The 1995 Quarter HOUR and 1997 Eighth HOUR use thermal ink, invented in Ithaca, which disappears briefly when touched or photocopied. The 1993 Two HOUR note is printed on locally-made watermarked 100% cattail paper, with matching serial numbers front and back. The 1996 Half HOUR is 100% handmade hemp paper. Our District Attorney has declared HOURS a financial instrument, protected by law from counterfeit.

- BENEFITS:
- HOURS expand the local money supply
- HOURS promote and expand local shopping, with an endless multiplier
- HOURS double the local minimum wage to \$10.00, benefitting not only workers but businesses as well, who find new and loyal customers.
- HOURS enable shoppers to afford premium prices for locally-crafted goods and for locally-grown organic food.
- HOURS help start new businesses and jobs

- HOURS reduce dependence on imports and transport fuels
- HOURS make grants to nonprofit community organizations
- HOURS make zero-interest loans
- HOURS stimulate community pride

Long Range Plans:

We have started an *Ithaca Health Fund*: nonprofit, locally-controlled health financing, with HOURS as part of premium payment:

<http://www.lightlink.com/healthfund/>

We intend to open a community economic development center called **HOUR Town**.
We'd look forward to being able to provide major funding to community organizations and new business start-ups.
We could fund municipal projects like weatherization, transit, and so on.
We could purchase land to be retained in farms.

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Creating Community Economics with Local Currency

by Paul Glover

Updated 7/28/97 from the [original article in 14850 Magazine](#).

Here in Ithaca, New York, we've begun to gain control of the social and environmental effects of commerce by issuing over \$62,000 of our own local paper money, to over 1,300 participants, since 1991. Tens of thousands of purchases and many new friendships have been made with this cash, and over \$2,000,000 of local trading has been added to the Grassroots National Product.

We printed our own money because we watched Federal dollars come to town, shake a few hands, then leave to buy rainforest lumber and fight wars. Ithaca's HOURS, by contrast, stay in our region to help us hire each other. While dollars make us increasingly dependent on multinational corporations and bankers, HOURS reinforce community trading and expand commerce which is more accountable to our concerns for ecology and social justice.

Here's how it works: the Ithaca HOUR is Ithaca's \$10.00 bill, because ten dollars per hour is the average of wages/salaries in Tompkins County. These HOUR notes, in five denominations, buy plumbing, carpentry, electrical work, roofing, nursing, chiropractic, child care, car and bike repair, food, eyeglasses, firewood, gifts, and thousands of other goods and services. Our credit union accepts them for mortgage and loan fees. People pay rent with HOURS. The best restaurants in town take them, as do movie theaters, bowling alleys, two large locally-owned grocery stores, our local hospital, many garage sales, 55 farmer's market vendors, the Chamber of Commerce, and 300 other businesses. Hundreds more have earned and spent HOURS who are not on the Ithaca Money list.

Ithaca's new HOURLy minimum wage lifts the lowest paid up without knocking down higher wages. For example, several of Ithaca's organic farmers are paying the highest common farm labor wages in the world: \$10.00 of spending power per HOUR. These farmers benefit by the HOUR's loyalty to local agriculture. On the other hand, dentists, massage therapists and lawyers charging more than the \$10.00 average per hour are permitted to collect several HOURS hourly. But we hear increasingly of professional services provided for our equitable wage.

Everyone who agrees to accept HOURS is paid one HOUR (\$10.00) or two HOURS (\$20.00) for being listed in our newsletter HOUR Town. Every eight months they may apply to be paid an additional HOUR, as reward for continuing participation. This is how we gradually and carefully increase the per capita supply of our money. Once issued, anyone may earn and spend HOURS, whether signed up or not, and hundreds have done so.

HOUR Town's 1,500 listings, rivalling the Yellow Pages, are a portrait of our community's capability, bringing into the marketplace time and skills not employed by the conventional market. Residents are proud of income gained by doing work they enjoy. We encounter each other as fellow Ithacans, rather than as winners and losers scrambling for dollars.

The Success Stories of 300 participants published so far testify to the acts of generosity and community that our system prompts. We're making a community while making a living. As we do so, we relieve the social desperation which has led to compulsive shopping and wasted resources.

At the same time Ithaca's locally-owned stores, which keep more wealth local, make sales and get spending power they otherwise would not have. And over \$6,000 of local currency has been donated to 35 community organizations so far, by the Barter Potluck, our wide-open governing body.

As we discover new ways to provide for each other, we replace dependence on imports. Yet our greater self-reliance, rather than isolating Ithaca, gives us more potential to reach outward with ecological export industry. We can capitalize new businesses with loans of our own cash. HOUR loans are made without interest charges.

We regard Ithaca's HOURS as real money, backed by real people, real time, real skills and tools. Dollars, by contrast, are funny money, backed no longer by gold or silver but by less than nothing- \$5.4 trillion of national debt.

Ithaca's money honors local features we respect, like native flowers, powerful waterfalls, crafts, farms and our children. Our commemorative HOUR is the first paper money in the U.S. to honor an African-American.

Multi-colored HOURS, some printed on locally-made watermarked cattail (marsh reed) paper, or handmade hemp paper, some with non-xeroxable thermal ink, all with serial numbers, are harder to counterfeit than dollars.

Local currency is a lot of fun, and it's legal. HOURS are taxable income when traded for professional goods or services.

Local currency is also lots of work and responsibility. To give other communities a boost, we've been providing a Hometown Money Starter Kit.

The Kit explains step-by-step start-up, and maintenance of an HOURS system, and includes forms, laws, articles, procedures, insights, samples of Ithaca's HOURS, and issues of Ithaca Money. We've sent the Kit to over 1,000 communities in 47 states so far, and our example has becoming national. There are at least 39 HOUR systems in North America, with at least 34 more forming.

To get the Kit, send \$25.00 (or 2.5 HOURS) or \$35 U.S. from abroad (international money order), to HOUR Town, Box 6578, Ithaca, NY. 14851.

Our English language video (17 minutes) is available for \$17.00, or \$15.00 with the Kit (\$40.00 for Kit and video).

Spanish language video (10 minutes) is available with Kit for \$12.00.

The world's first Local Currency T-shirt, full color, is now available for \$15.00. Specify Sm, Med, Lg, XL.

Credit cards accepted. Maximum 1/4 HOUR (any community) accepted.

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Ithaca HOURS Currency

Multi-colored HOURS, some printed on locally-made watermarked cattail (marsh reed) paper, all with serial numbers, are harder to counterfeit than dollars. Local currency is a lot of fun, and it's legal-- HOURS are taxable income when traded for professional goods or services.



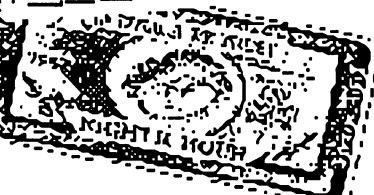
One hour.....[front] - [back]



Half hour.....[front] - [back]



Quarter hour..[front] - [back]



Eighth hour.....[front] - [back]

Ithaca HOUR Price List for Collectors

Ithaca HOURS are the first community labor money issued, for the Great Recession of the 1990s.

- One HOUR = one hour basic labor, or \$10.00.
- Half HOUR = half hour basic labor, or \$5.00.
- Quarter HOUR = quarter hour basic labor, or \$2.50.
- Eighth HOUR = eighth hour basic labor, or \$1.25.
- Two HOURS = two hours basic labor, or \$20.00.

HERE ARE PRICES FOR EACH DENOMINATION AND CONDITION, BY YEAR OF ISSUE.

Uncancelled notes will cost at least face value, since they can be spent here for thousands of goods, and over 300 services. Others are priced according to availability. Notes are multi-colored. Circle the notes you want us to send:

| Series and Denomination | uncirc | circulated | cancelled | quantity |
|--|---------|------------|-----------|----------|
| 1991 HOUR (oversize) | NA | \$10.00 | \$3.00 | |
| 1991 Half HOUR (oversize) | NA | \$5.00 | \$3.00 | |
| 1992 Quarter HOUR | NA | \$2.50 | NA | |
| 1993 Half HOUR | NA | \$5.00 | NA | |
| 1993 Two HOUR | \$60.00 | \$30.00 | NA | |
| 1993 One HOUR | NA | \$12.00 | NA | |
| 1994 Eighth HOUR | \$1.50 | \$1.25 | \$1.00 | |
| 1994 One HOUR | \$15.00 | \$10.00 | \$4.00 | |
| 1994 One HOUR | \$12.00 | \$10.00 | \$2.00 | |
| 1995 Quarter HOUR | \$3.00 | \$2.50 | NA | |
| 1996 Half HOUR | \$10.00 | NA | NA | |
| TOTAL PER COMPLETE SET UNCIRCULATED + best avail circ: \$136.00 | | | | |
| TOTAL PER COMPLETE SET CIRCULATED + 1996 Half uncirc. \$ 98.25 (Best available condition. Comes with explanatory literature.) | | | | |
| TOTAL PER COMPLETE SET CANCELLED: Includes uncanceled circulated 1993 HR, 1/2 HR, 2 HR, 1992 1/4 HR, and uncirc HR \$76.00 (Cancellation is small on margin. Design is not damaged.) | | | | |

ENCLOSE TOTAL PLUS \$5.00 postage and handling * credit cards accepted

Send to: Ithaca Money, Box 6578, Ithaca, NY 14851 * hours@lightlink.com

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Enriching the Community

Success Stories from Ithaca Money

Although we're told that only experts can understand economics, we find that the average person has a good sense of the subject, especially on the local level. Policy regarding our local currency is made by Barter Potluck participants, like these folks, and as their stories show, there's a lot of common sense leading us.

Annabel offers knitting lessons, mens' yogi underwear, and reflexology. She has bought food, plumbing and "little luxuries." She took a Hometown Money Starter Kit to Khabarovsk in Russia, near China. "I explained HOURS to villagers. They were passing around the HOURS and looking at the listings and nodding as my words were translated. They already do quite a bit of barter, and need to provide for each other the services the government used to, so they were interested. And they're looking at local cooperatives as an alternative to both socialism and capitalism.

"HOURS are especially great with services, which are inherently local, and they stimulate local production of goods. We can't trust the dollar, now that it's so dependent on what happens in the sinking world economy."

Dan sells deli goods and his HOURS have bought baby supplies, Christmas presents, vegetables, chiropractic care, and more. He and his wife gave HOURS as a wedding present. "This is a good idea. All small businesses, especially grocers, see big businesses take their customers away by specialty marketing. HOURS are another way to remind shoppers to shop with local businesses, where they get more personal service and attention to detail.

"With this system, money doesn't head north, south, east or west. It creates our own mini-economy."

Margaret has received HOURS as rent payment, for flea control and for phone calling. Her long list of purchases includes food, movies, engineering consulting, books and gifts. "I'd have to earn them four times faster to get all the things I'd like to.

She notes, "Because HOURS can be used both for goods and services which are not always part of the formal economy and for retail and professional transactions, the local economy gets a boost every time HOURS are earned. That's what any money is all about-- facilitating exchanges among people."

Laura's pottery has earned HOURS that have bought food, and gardening consultation. "I like not having to be tied to the larger monetary system, that's owned by multinational corporations, which serves rich people rather

than normal people. HOURS strengthen awareness of our community's skills and give us more control of the economy."

Dave has provided sailing lessons, teaches economics, and offers Melaleuca products. "Bartering and HOURS have several roles: bringing cottage industries to the marketplace that are outside the dollar market, and breaking free of total dependence on the dollar."

He explains that "on the one hand trade with other areas allows us to get what we can't produce here, but on the other hand total unfettered trade leads to job loss when factories close down.

"I like the idea of balance: buying local increases jobs and earning capacity here, some of which can be used to import and export. And if we reduce our dependence on export industries from 75% to 40%, then we increase the core of employment which provides for local needs. That's more stable and more resilient than depending so heavily on Cornell."

"Mary earned about 35 HOURS selling organic produce at the Farmer's Market. She bought roofing and computer programming. She'd like us to develop toward a non-monetary society like that described in Sonia Johnson's book Wildfire. "Money is a tool of patriarchy that dissociates us from one another and so contributes to the spiritual void." She says HOURS are "a starting point. They are better than federal currency by being local, and therefore seem safe."

Beth and Richard sell goat cheese, and have bought vegetables and baked goods. "I enjoy barter," says Richard. "HOURS cause people to consider whether they could get something locally, and we need as much action as we can get locally, to produce jobs and economic vitality."

Jim says that "During times of economic disparity, when big business gets big tax breaks and 'adventure' capitalists take money abroad, it's good to keep as much money in our community as we can. Local currency forces us to face the issue: why don't we have more local financing for local mortgages, and how much money does Cornell spend outside of Ithaca that they could spend here for food and other needs."

Elizabeth accepted 50 HOURS (\$500) as part repayment of a loan she had made to GreenStar. "I've used HOURS for groceries, gifts, video rentals, movies, meals, books, pottery, chiropractic care, shoe repair, xerox copies, computer printer ribbons, a wrist rest, faxes, haircuts, pizza, theatre tickets, dance lessons and yoga lessons. I repaid a loan I owed with HOURS, too.

"HOURS are running along just fine," she says. "We have a growing Ithaca HOUR community. We can see and feel that we're part of doing this. I don't feel that way about the national economy, which is so dependent on centralized, impersonal government and business that we've become alienated. HOURS show us that we don't need somebody far away to allow us to do things; we have the power here."

Richie has earned and spent many Days of HOURS received from video rentals. They've gone to shoe repair, books, housesitting, lawn mowing, hauling and other goods and services. "HOURS have become the driving force behind who I patronize at the Farmer's Market: I look for the tell-tale yellow sign that says 'We Accept Ithaca HOURS.'"

A co-founder of the Ithaca Community Self-Reliance Center (1977-1988), Richie has long promoted shopping



Ithaca HOUR Businesses

Full Retail List: updated 6/10/98

- 3-D Light: 50%
- 7Song Botanicals, tinctures
- A Touch of Class, hairdressing
- A-ha! Books & Fine Art: max 1/2 HR
- Abbey Labs Photography (color/bw)
- ABC Cafe: max 1/4 HR person
- Ace Security Control: max 1/4 HR
- Acorn Designs: 50%
- Agape Foundation
- All Ears Hearing Aids
- Allen Carstensen Lumber Milling
- Almanco Machining Services: Don Sayles
- Alternate Realities: 100% except consignment
- Alternatives Federal Credit Union: many fees: see ad
- Alternatives Library: 100% fines, books
- American Recycling
- Andy's Third Street Café: 100%
- Angel Ridge Farm
- Ann Greenberg, acupuncture
- Artworks
- Aurora Shoe Rebuilders: 50%
- Autumn Leaves Books: 100%
- Backyard Bakery
- Bagels Northeast: max 1/4 HR
- Barbara Schramm Integrative Therapy: 50%
- Barnwood Furniture
- Bartholomew Builders: Dale Bartholomew
- Bee Well Teas, herbal counseling
- Becca's Herbs: Becca Harber
- Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream: max 1/8 HR, & HR w/lg.cake
- Bent Iron: hardware & welding: Christine Marin
- Bernadette Fiocca, massage
- Bernie Roe & Associates, custom buttons
- Beverly Martin Afterschool Program
- Bird's Back, massage (LaBerta McGruder)
- Black Ash Baskets: Johnathan Kline
- Blue Heron Farm: 100%
- Bob LeRoy Accounting: 100%
- Bodyworks, massage
- Bookery I: max 1/4 HR
- Bookery II: max 1/4 HR
- Borden's Cleaning Service

- Brain Drain, drain & sewer cleaning
- Breathe Easy Cleaning
- Brian DeYoung Painting
- Brief Therapy Associates
- Buckridge Nudist Park
- Budget Nursery: 100%
- Cactus Heads: 100%
- Candor Animal Care
- Canzler Contracting: 20%
- Carla Morningstar, massage
- Cascadilla Chiropractic
- Cat Berry, acupressure: 100%
- Cayuga Breeze, boat rides: max 1/4 HR
- Cayuga Candles
- Cayuga Computers
- Cayuga Ensemble
- Cayuga Medical Center: max 2 HRS uninsured,
max 1/4 HR co-pay, 3% Health Fund discount
- Cayuga Mountain Bike: 50% repairs, 5% discount
- Cayuga Nature Center: 100% memb., 50% meeting space
- Cayuga Soccer Academy: max HR per member
- Cayuga Street Outlet, shoes: max 1/2 HR
- Cayuga Taxi: max 1/8 HR
- Cedar Adirondack Furniture: 10%
- The Cellular Shop: 1/8 HR for phone DPC 550
- Chef Yeppi's (was Turback's): max 2 HRS/person, food only
- Cinemapolis: max 1/4 HR Sun, M, W, Th
- Circles of Light, counseling
- Citizens' Planning Alliance: 1.5 HRS/year
- City Health Club: 50%, 5% discount to Health Fund members
- Clarity Connect (Baka internet service) 50%
- Clear View, psychotherapy assoc.
- Collegetown Bagels (Aurora St): max 1/4 HR
- Collegetown Video: 1/4 HR + 50 cents per video
- Common Sense Breastfeeding: Diane Wiessinger
- Computer AdVantage
- Corners Gallery & Frame Shop: 50%
- The Country Press, ads
- Court Street Health Care, chiropractic
- Courtesy Cleaning
- Courtside Racquet & Fitness Club: 25%
- Cowan Heating * AC * Refrigeration (Kevin Cowan)
- Crane Hill Pony Farm: 50%
- Crestlane Design landscaping
- Crossroads the Clown
- CTB Appetizers: max 1/4 HR
- Cuddeback Auctions of Ithaca
- Curry In a Hurry Sri Lankan cuisine
- CUSLAR Newsletter ads, and concerts: 50%
- Custom Fixtures Woodworking Shop
- D & D Tattooing & Body Piercing
- D.P. Dough: max 1/4 HR
- Danby Motors: 10% for cars & parts
- Dancing Brush T-Shirts: 50%
- Danny Tourance Electric
- David Cedarbaum, chiropractor

- David Mazarella Metalworking
- David's Depot: model train repair
- Dennis' Homemade Ice Cream
- Diane Reppert, chiropractor
- Discount Bridal Services
- DISH Network TV Satellites
- The Donut Lady Café: 50%
- Down to Earth Landscaping
- Drain Brain, plumbing
- Eamon Murphy, massage
- Earthen Alchemy, gardening: Jon Roth
- Earthly Mirth organic foods: 100%
- Easy Street: max HR
- Elán Picture Framing: 10%
- Electrolysis by Margaret-Rose: 100%
- Eric Harrell, chiropractor
- Eugene Kim, massage
- Everything Under the Sun, garden design
- Exercise Angels: personal fitness
- Fairfield Gatherings, body oils
- Fall Creek Pictures: max 1/4 HR M-W+F
- Farmer's & Shippers Restaurant: 100%
- Farnham Physical Therapy
- Figure in the Wood, handcarved spoons
- Fine Line Printing: 10%
- Finger Lakes Fabricating: 25% for welding, chimney sweep
- Finger Lakes Land Trust: 100%
- Finger Lakes Massage Therapy: Richard Guttridge
- Finger Lakes Stone Co.
- Firehouse Theatre: 100% Thurs.
- Fly Crete Masonry
- Foundation of Light: 100%
- Four Seasons sunrooms
- The Frame Shop: 100%
- Full Circle Midwifery
- Garage Doctor, Scott Vangaasbeck
- Gary Fine, massage
- GIAC, meeting rooms: 50%
- Gillie Waddington, massage
- Gino's Pizza: max 1/4 HR w/large pizza
- Gisela Konrad, Reiki
- Gleason (massage) Table Works, Chris Gleason
- Graphic Touch, Jim Houghton: 25%-100%
- Grassroots Festival of Music: max 1/2 HR per wkend
- Greater Ithaca Activities Center, meeting rooms: 50%
- Green Apple Photography
- GreenLeaf (GreenStar newsletter): max 1/2 HR card ad
- GreenPath school
- GreenStar Cooperative Market: max 1/4 HR w/min \$5.
- Grover Stampprint, letterpress, rubber stamps
- Gus' Fish Charters
- Habiba DiDomenico, massage therapy
- Hands-On Physical Therapy, Beth Paris
- Hangar Theatre: max 1/2 HR/ticket
- Happy Time Hot Tubs: rentals 100%
- Harvest Deli: max 1/4 HR w/min \$5

- Healing Hands of Ithaca, massage
- Heartwood Furniture Restoration
- Heavy Hand Car Wash & Wax: max 1/4 HR w/min \$10.
- The Herald Examiner, ads: 50%
- Hickey's Music: 10% instruments, 100% sheet music
- Hidden Valley Farm
- Homebased Microenterprise Network of Tompkins Cnty
- Home Comfort, window shades: 10%
- Home Dairy: max 1/4 HR
- Honeyberry Hill Kennels
- House of Shalimar: 20%
- Hot on Your Trail, saunas
- HOUR Town, ads: 100%
- Housing Solutions: 50%
- Hufalumps & Reusables, used clothing
- Hum Hollow Farm, wool, yarn, sheep
- Ide's Bowling: 100% nonleague
- Innerscapes Professional Massage, Janet Wylde
- Innovations Hair Styling
- International Auto Brokerage: cars, repairs, inspections
- Isabel Rachlin, physical therapy
- Ithaca Acupuncture, Carmela LoRusso
- Ithaca Astrological Services: 100%
- Ithaca Bakery: max 1/4 HR
- Ithaca Books: 25% w/min \$10.00
- Ithaca Child, ads: 100% inside back cover
- Ithaca Community Childcare Center
- Ithaca Festival, T-shirts: max 1/2 HR
- Ithaca Foot Care (Michael Marks)
- Ithaca Guitar Works: max 1/4 HR
- Ithaca Health Fund: 25% general member,
- Ithaca Network Chiropractic
- Ithaca Pennysaver, ads: 50% classified, 10% display
- Ithaca Sheepskin
- Ithaca Stove Works: max 2 HRS for stove cleaning
- Ithaca Tile & Hardwood: 10%
- Ithaca Zen Center: 10%
- Jae Atchley chiropractor
- Jan Brown Pottery
- Jan Nigro Singing Telegrams
- Jeff Coleman, attorney
- Jim's Complete Home Repair: James DeGraw
- Joniris Herbals, tinctures
- JRB Home Improvement
- Judy Abrams Acupuncture
- JuiceWorks, fresh-squeezed juices
- Just Desserts: max 1/4 HR w/min \$5
- Kendali's Coin & Stamp Shop
- Key West, bar
- Kingbird Farm
- Kitchen Theatre Company
- Knewstub Construction Company
- KOT Services, offsite database backup
- Kundalini Yoga Center
- La Tourelle Country Inn: max 2.5 HRS
- Larry Auto Service

- Larry Wallace, O.D., optometrist: 10%
- Larsen's Services: 50% for repairs
- Leadbelly Letter: 100% for subscriptions
- Leidenfrost Vineyards: 100%
- Lightlink (internet service): 20%
- Littletree Orchards: 100%
- Log Cabin Inn Bed & Breakfast: 25%
- Log-In Video: 10% HRS
- Logos/Emporium: max 1/4 HR w/min \$10.
- Lori Yelensky, massage
- Made in New York Store, mail order gifts: 100%
- Magic Garden Puppets, puppet shows
- Maguire Ford Rent-A-Car: max 1/2 HR/day; max HR/2-day+
- Maija Jespersen, massage: 100%
- Mandeville Farm
- Mandolin Winds books: max 1/2 HR
- Margaret Neher Hand-Crafted Glass
- Mark Hartsuyker, chiropractor
- Mary DellaValle, chiropractor
- Manley Typewriter Repair
- McKelvey & Associates Seed Co.
- Meadowsweet Yogut: 100% HRS
- Mehu-Maija Juicers (Osma Heila) 50%
- Melaleuca Products: 100%
- Melissa Chipman, massage
- Melissa Jackson, massage
- Michael E Mobile Sound
- Midcoast Photo: Bill Mutch
- Mill Creek Boat Company, canoes
- Mom's Place, early American crafts
- Mostly Kid's Stuff
- Mother Nature's Pharm (Patty Bee) 100%
- Mundo Gitano: 25%
- Naturesounds Studio, wildlife tapes: 100%
- Neil Weinberg, licensed acupuncturist
- Night & Day: beads only: 50%
- Northeastern Massage Therapy (Sequeira)
- Oasis Natural Grocery: 1 HR + min \$5: Sundays
- Origins Rug Restoration, J. Anne Parker
- Paper Crunch Resumes
- Parenting Concepts: lactation counseling, breast pumps, etc.
- Patchwork Therapeutic Riding Center
- Pathways to Psyche, counseling
- Peach Sauna Builders: Regis Carver
- Penniman Property Management: 10% for rent
- Peregrine House bed & breakfast
- Personal Edens Landscaping
- Peter Potenza Optician: max 3 HRS
- Pets Preferred, dog grooming
- Photolink, Jon Reis
- Pine Ridge Designs, kitchen & bath
- Pine Tree Nursery School
- Pioneer Printing: 50%
- Plantcare, Robyn Bem
- Play World, children's playground, max 1/8 HR
- Poney Express, carpentry

- Pro Tech renovations
- Progressive Powersport: 100% accessories & clothing,
- 10% motorcycles & repair
- Public Communications: 50%
- Purple Lion Ice Cream (Rt. 13, Dryden)
- Race Office Equipment: max 1/4 HR w/min \$10.00
- Raintree Farm
- Real Felafel: 100%
- Recycle Ithaca's Bicycles
- Red Barn Tree Farm: 100%
- REP Productions recording studio: 50%
- Retro: clothing: 50%
- Richard Guttridge, massage
- Right Limousine: 100%
- Robert Hackman Acupuncture: 100%
- Robert Weinberger, homeopathy
- Rome Beauty Supply: max 1/2 HR
- Rosy Way Home Day Care
- Rumble Seat Music
- Rune Hill Center, meditation & retreat center
- Sadie D's deli: max 1/4 HR
- Sara Fern, massage
- Sara Long Farrier Service
- Sarah Smith, chiropractor
- Savvy vintage clothing: 50% to max 2 HRS
- Sciencenter: 100% memberships, entry
- Seitan Sisters, seitan products
- Seneca Laser Services: 10%
- Seneca Mist Graphics
- Serviente Glass Studios: 50%
- Sew Sisters, clothing repair & custom clothes
- Shadow Arborists, firewood: 5%
- Shaklee Products: 50%
- Show-N-Felt Creations (thermal pillows): max 1/2 HR
- Silk Oak T-Shirts
- Silver Thread Vineyards
- Sincredible Pastries: 50%
- Small Wonders, gems
- South Hill Storage
- Sparrow's Fine Wines: max 1/4HR/bottle
- SPCA (Society for Prevention Cruelty Animals): 50%
- Speak for Yourself, public speaking lessons
- Sri Lankan Cuisine (Center Ithaca)
- Stacy Snyder acupuncture
- State Street Bargain House
- Steinwelder Pottery
- Stella's Café: max 1/8 HR
- Steve Hertzberg, plumbing
- Stick & Stone Farm: 100%
- Sticky Rice Thai Food
- Strebel & Strebel Accounting
- Stress Out: max 1/4 HR w/min \$10.
- Survey Intelligence, surveys & marketing
- Susan Booth Titus, etchings: 25%
- Susan Lerner, counseling & life skills
- Susan Paulino, massage

- Susan Specter, massage
- SuZanne Cornell, acupuncture
- Suzanne West, massage
- T-Burg Toys: 20%
- Taitem Engineering
- Talmadge Tire: 100% for used tires, 10% new
- The Tattler (Ithaca High School), ads
- Tenet, IBM computers 5%, accessories negot.
- Teresa Grady, massage
- Three Bear Honey Farm
- Tierra Farm
- Tish Keen, massage
- To the Dump (Joe Cassaniti)
- Todd Stein, chiropractor: 100%
- Toko Imports
- Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce: max HR/ event
- Tompkins County Information & Referral: books
- Trader K's, used clothing: max 1/4 HR
- Transformations Hair Studio
- Tre Stelle restaurant: 20%
- Tri-Village Pennysavers, ads
- Trumansburg CSA
- Turback's Restaurant (Chef Yeppi Presents)
- Turtle Island Pottery: 50%
- Upper Level Hair Salon
- Usborne Books, Robin Cisne
- Van Loon Chiropractic
- Vantage Commons, computer software
- Vegan Epicure: max 1/4 HR
- Vet Express, non-emergency house calls: 100%
- Video Ithaca: 1 HR w/ min 3 videos
- Video Workshop: max 1/2 HR
- Vivace! graphic design
- Wellspring Interiors
- WFO Skateboards
- Wheaton's Sheet Metal Shop
- While the Owner's Away, petsitting
- Wild Apple Farm: 100%
- Wiles Piano Service
- William Wittlin, M.D. PhD, psychiatrist, 10%
- Women's Community Building: max HR, membshp & classes
- The Womyn's Rooms: max 1.5 HRS
- Wright Wrecker, autos & parts: 100% HRS
- Yellow Rose Web Design, Carolyn Long
- Yummies
- Zappala Electric
- Zuzu's, used clothes: max HR

See also 1,500 listings in HOUR Town.
 Just Ask Anyone! "Will you accept HOURS?"
 Then show them HOUR Town.

HOURS can be spent for rent, at garage sales, for repaying loans with friends, anything!

To add your Ithaca area business to this list, contact HOUR Town at (607) 272-4330 * hours@lightlink.com

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at locally-owned stores. "This keeps money in the community and that means economic prosperity. Why shop at Wegmans, which takes most profits out of town, when you can buy from so many locally-owned stores?" And, of course, "Why rent videos at Wegmans when you can rent from Video Ithaca and Collegetown Videos?"

Barbara sells and repairs shoes. She's spent HOURS for gifts and advertisements. "This is really starting to take off. I wouldn't have bought gifts where I did, except that I had HOURS. This money makes everybody more aware of what's available in the community. So it helps community development by keeping money local."

Ramsey has sold bagels for HOURS at Ithaca Bakery and bought landscaping, meals, printing, air conditioning consulting, eco-goods, eyeglasses, insulating window shades and groceries. "Right now I've spent all my HOURS. To get them faster, I've decided to accept a Quarter HOUR on weekdays for anything, as part purchase of \$10 or more. And we'll take them at CTB Appetizers, too." HOURS are a regular part of his business income: "We count HOURS like taxable cash income and expense. There's a separate HOUR account in the computer. HOURS we spend personally we buy with dollars."

He adds, "HOURS keep people in our community employed better than dollars that leave the community. Dollars that go to large corporations do not really trickle back down, they concentrate capital, making the rich richer and the poor poorer. We see America's inner cities becoming Third World countries as a result. What's better about HOURS is that since you can't bank them, you have to spend them to benefit, so you don't get that concentration of capital."

Bill teaches jitterbug and swing dance for HOURS and spends them mainly for food and other small items. "HOURS make people think more about what money is. We think of money as an end in itself, but it's more of an exchange of energy and resources. Because HOURS are spent in a small trading area you really can see where they come from and where they go to. Dollars come and go so many different ways that their social meaning gets lost. We're making a big cultural change with HOURS, back to the community meaning of money, and we should be patient as it develops."

Amy sells food for HOURS and has paid a roofer and a computer programmer. "The skills listings help us support local people. I tend to rely on a friends network rather than a money system. I'd like us to develop a system of abundance, sharing and cooperation like that in the books *Dreaming the Dark* and *Spiral Dance* by Starfire.

William earns HOURS by restaurant work. "Local currency is a fantastic idea. The more we use HOURS the easier it gets. I like supporting local farmers and workers. We've created a national identity, and in the future it will be just as important to create local identities. It's economically and socially beneficial."

Tony sells stained glass at the Farmer's Market, and bought a meal with HOURS from his first sale. "I wish I could deal a lot more with HOURS: I'm going to put HOURS in any advertising I do. I even have an employee who will take them." He adds, "More people are asking about bartering for my work than usual. And there's tremendous interest in my classes."

Of the national economy he says, "There are lots of jobs leaving the country that are never coming back. New jobs will mainly come from little companies like mine, with two employees, not from IBM. That means a healthier economy-- not all our eggs in one basket. And local businesses circulate money within the community better. Wal-Mart's profits go to Arkansas."

Alex earned many HOURS renting videos, and spent them for meals, food, computer services and "I have also had quite good success striking my own deals to pay people with Ithaca HOURS, even if they're not listed in Ithaca Money. As the number of people and businesses that accept HOURS has grown, I haven't had any trouble spending them.

Philosophically, I have agreed that it is good for the local economy for money (in the form of Ithaca HOURS) to circulate locally, stimulating local economic activity, rather than heading out of town as so often happens with regular USA currency that gets spent here. At the store, we took HOURS in the same way that we chose to accept four types of credit cards. It gave our customers yet another method by which to spend their money with us!"

Jennifer accepted HOURS for repayment of a loan, though she's not on the list. "It's a good idea to keep money local rather than spending it elsewhere. I can imagine getting to the time when we wouldn't have to ask people if they took HOURS-- we'd have an understanding that HOURS were a common part of life in Ithaca."

Rabbi Eli offers Hebrew lessons and Bar/Bat Mitzvah lessons. "The barter list has been very useful. Recently I traded lessons for violin repair." He says that "HOURS are a very creative social support network, a good model for preserving kindness and compassion in the economy. They avoid the mass business focus and remind us that we're serving other human beings."

Daniel is director of CUSLAR (Cornell U.S.- Latin American Relations) which accepts HOURS for concerts, advertising in the CUSLAR Newsletter, at their Ithaca Festival pizza booth, and at rummage sales. They spend them for musicians to perform at their concerts, and for office purposes. "HOUR money has happily exceeded all my expectations. It's bound to grow-- it's an idea whose time has come. Regular money is dehumanizing and anti-community, sending wealth to big banks. With HOURS, we're bound together, showing how unique our town is and supporting each other. The wealth of the community stays here, more wealth is controlled locally, and that gives more democratic control over local issues.

This concept could be very valuable in a place like Cuba. Without barter, Cuba wouldn't exist today. Their central government is now willing to try anything. They're not so sure they have the answers, and are letting people analyze their own problems and come up with solutions."

David offers piano lessons for HOURS, especially improvisation, and distributes the Alternatives Federal Credit Union newsletter on his bicycle. He's bought massage and food. "Our economy is a runaway greed cyclone. Everybody is out to get as much as they can for doing as little as possible, instead of doing as much as we can and know we'll be rewarded for it." He rides his bicycle because "cars are one of the main ways that capital leaves our community, for car parts and fuel, but the pollution stays here. We should gradually improve public transit and bikeways." He adds, "HOURS stay in the community, producing a net gain."

Bill sells IBM-compatible computers and computer accessories for HOURS. "Where else but Ithaca can you swap chopping wood for computers?" He likes local trading because it strengthens the community: "Everybody here has a lot of capabilities and the barter list is a good way to wake up to it. Why should we depend on outside sources for things we could do for each other? As Benjamin Franklin said, 'We must all hang together, or most assuredly we shall all hang separately.'"

Dave is an economics professor who sells Melaleuca cleaning products for 100% HOURS, and buys gifts. He recently gave a lecture at Syracuse University about money (what it is, what it does). He introduced HOURS and explained that "the Barter Potluck has the power of government to issue money, by acting as a local version of the Federal Reserve Board. I told the class about the HOUR's benefits, like getting people to buy locally, thus multiplying the community money supply, and increasing the productive capacity of the community by getting people to wrack their brains to discover new abilities."

Lisa offers Russian lessons and has swapped child care for clothing repair. "The barter list displays so much local talent-- all these people who've come out of the woodwork. Local currency makes people more aware of local business, and fosters it."

Beth has shoveled snow, does child care, dog sitting, retail work, and makes dreamcatchers (a traditional folk weaving that catches good dreams) for HOURS. She gives HOURS as gifts, buys books, groceries, note cards and rubber stamps. "I tell a lot of people about our barter system. You meet people in Ithaca Money who are working for something better. It's helping us make a sustainable, bioregional economy."

John has earned a lot of HOURS by painting and carpentry. He spends them for groceries, organic veggies, gifts and credit union fees. He recommends that people needing his work call in advance, rather than at the last minute. Of the economy he says, "My feeling is that even if the economy is expanding, poverty is increasing and people's needs are not being met. At the same time, we can no longer keep consuming and ravaging the planet. We need to re-prioritize the economic system so we don't keep going further and further into a hole we can't get out of. "The best we can do is set an example here of a sustainable alternate economy. That's what HOURS encourage-- organize local food production, keeping money local, and keeping Wal-Mart out."

Patricia gives professional massage for HOURS. She uses them for food, meals, gifts and tips to musicians at the Farmer's Market. "I love to barter, I do it a lot. This system encourages us to be valued in terms of what the community needs, rather than what a distant market needs. We need to get past dollars."

Allen sells lumber and brings his portable lumbermill to local woodlots. He supplied lumber, for HOURS, to Recycle Ithaca's Bicycles for a wheel rack. "Ithaca Money is a real good idea. It once got me a big job-- several weeks of milling wood."

Laura's pottery has earned HOURS that have bought food, and gardening consultation. "I like not having to be tied to the larger monetary system, that's owned by multinational corporations, which serves rich people rather than normal people. HOURS strengthen awareness of our community's skills and give us more control of the economy."

Deborah has earned HOURS selling insulating window shades. She bought 'voice lessons for my daughter. It was a great Christmas present when dollars were scarce." She campaigns for energy-efficient housing. Her sign at the Farmer's Market says, 'Heat loss through windows in the U.S. annually is about equal to the output of the Alaska Pipeline.' She's impressed that 'this community is remarkably conscious of every efficiency, compared with other communities I've lived. But an awful lot of people aren't able to afford to insulate. They can't afford their heating bills either. A lot of folks keep their heat low. The big problem is rental housing. Landlords are not always willing to invest in energy-saving." Energy conservation is good economic development: "most insulating work uses local labor, the money recycles locally more times. Presently most fuel dollars go elsewhere." She says, "NYSEG and fuel oil companies don't yet take Ithaca HOURS, but I do!"

Walter sells wood-fired-oven bread at the Farmer's Market, and spends them for Christmas presents and food. "A few years ago I was making more money in fewer hours by cleaning businesses, but I wasn't satisfied. Now I'm making a product I feel good about -- organic biodynamically-grown bread and vegetables. Biodynamic means growing with the spiritual forces that stand behind the physical: trying to enliven the soil." He'd like to see more "equilibrium in the market: there's no reason anybody should earn fifty times more than somebody else. We should tax the rich, and raise the minimum wage."

David offers piano lessons for HOURS, especially improvisation, and distributes the Alternatives Federal Credit Union newsletter on his bicycle. He's bought massage and food. "Our economy is a runaway greed cyclone. Everybody is out to get as much as they can for doing as little as possible, instead of doing as much as we can and know we'll be rewarded for it." He rides his bicycle because "cars are one of the main ways that capital leaves our community, for car parts and fuel, but the pollution stays here. We should gradually improve public transit and bikeways." He adds, "HOURS stay in the community, producing a net gain."

Danny is an electrician who has used HOURS for upholstery, food, and restaurant meals. His wife, a musician, spent HOURS for publicity photos. "Spending money locally keeps it here for us, helping Ithaca rather than enriching multinational corporations. Half the things we buy come from California, Mexico and Japan, from corporations that rape the earth and pocket the profit. We need to think about the ways we live and products we consume."

Steve sells note cards and T-shirts for HOURS, most spent for meals and employees. He's intending to hire landscapers. "There are projects I've needed to do for years that HOURS prompt me to do." He says that "HOURS can really help promote bioregionalism. Local currency makes local self-sufficiency more possible. It helps protect our local environment and resource base so that economic activity doesn't damage the ecological base of the region."

Debbie offers tote bags, custom designed for groceries, diapers and so on. She bought Christmas presents and an herbal remedy. "We're enthusiastic about HOURS. We'll go through Ithaca Money and highlight what we want. We're confident we can spend them with no trouble. Since we're on a tight budget, it determines which restaurant we go to. It's great to connect our bioregion, to allow us to live as a giant group, buying local rather than having everything trucked in. We carry the paper around to show friends."

Maija recently joined, offering foot massage and furniture painting. HOURS are important to her because she's interested in sustainable development. "I've become aware of global economic order, and the need to foster the sense of community that's lacking in our country."

Michael provides alternate energy consulting, permaculture design, graphic design of bumper stickers, and has done phone calling for HOURS. He spends HOURS for meals, housecleaning, chiropractor and rent. "HOURS are the best thing to hit town since sliced bread. We're keeping the money system on a local level where it's supposed to be. We're creating a bioregional system, producing locally rather than enriching distant corporations by importing from tens of thousands of miles away. "Ithaca Money is a great way to meet wonderful people who really care about putting good quality work into their goods and services."

David does chimney sweeping and trucking, and he handcrafts fine canoes and paddles. He's spent HOURS mainly for food. "As a tradesman I like the idea of people trading things we make, rather than just earning dollars and buying stuff. These days we're all caught up with going really fast. Trading gives more value to handmade, over mass-produced goods. It puts more quality and personality back into commerce."

Melissa does illustrations and has spent HOURS for child care. "The symbols on our money are empowering: we lift up for appreciation Native Americans, African Americans, local landmarks, flora and fauna. HOURS help us feel at home about the land we live on."

George and Heidi sold about 25 Christmas trees for HOURS this season. Heidi says, "We like to encourage people to buy live potted trees, and HOURS users seem to be the more environmentalist, self-sufficient types who buy them, even though live trees cost a little more. We don't spray with pesticides, and may soon produce the only certified organic Christmas trees in the nation. The long-term effects of letting farms become pesticide dumps is bad for wildlife and water." They might rent a cottage with their HOURS.

Michael sold a bicycle for six HOURS at his garage sale. As director of Tompkins County Area Development (TCAD), he appreciates the potential of barter. "HOURS benefit the community by allowing goods and services to be sold which wouldn't otherwise, especially benefitting some of these experimental wholistic and sustainable industries."

Joe earns HOURS by selling his music tapes "Four Winds" & "Turtle Island Flute." "When I do Ithaca events I get HOURS and give them to my wife. I'm looking forward to getting a massage." He says, "HOURS are cool because they reflect my own philosophy that we need to localize our agriculture and economy, and take responsibility for our own lives. People have to shatter their 'mall mentality' and quit buying 'exciting' food and goods regardless of the effect these products have on the environment." He adds that "When our families, neighborhoods and towns develop economic alternatives to centralization, we learn to do more for ourselves and become more agile and powerful when dealing with catastrophe."

Neal sells organic food at the Farmer's Market and has spent HOURS for movies, bread, his son's play

group, a calendar, and his house's food fund. "I'm really excited about HOURS and feel good about taking them. I always carry some in my pocket." He says he intends to hire farm help with HOURS this spring. As a farmer, he believes HOURS help support local agriculture. "Every community needs to grow as much local food as possible. It's absurd when more calories are used to transport food than the food contains." He adds, "I visit friends elsewhere and show them Ithaca's barter newspaper. I show them our money that says 'In Ithaca We Trust.' That's the bottom line, right?"

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7/13

57

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Whereas: Ithaca, New York, is one of more than 40 U.S. communities that prints its own ^{currency} "Ithaca Hours," with one Ithaca Hour redeemable for one hour of basic work at \$10.00 (see attached material); and,

Whereas: Ithaca Hours enjoy the enthusiastic support of the Ithaca Chamber of Commerce, and over 360 local businesses, because they encourage people to shop at local-owned businesses and spend their resources within the community; and

Whereas: Information and assistance is available from the Ithaca Hours program to help ^{other} communities create ~~a~~ local currencies; and

Resolved: That the C-M be & he is requested to provide ^{a comprehensive} report back to the City Council on the Ithaca program, including specifics as to the organization that started the program, and the ^{history and} extent of municipal government involvement in this program and other local currencies currently in effect, ~~with~~ and a discussion of how Cambridge could implement such a currency



City of Cambridge

57.

IN CITY COUNCIL

July 27, 1998

COUNCILLOR TRIANTAFILLOU

WHEREAS: Ithaca, New York, is one of more than 40 U.S. communities that prints its own currency, "Ithaca Hours," with one Ithaca Hour redeemable for one hour of basic work or \$10. (see attached material); and

WHEREAS: Ithaca Hours enjoy the enthusiastic support of the Ithaca Chamber of Commerce, and over 360 local businesses, because they encourage people to shop at local-owned businesses and spend their resources within the community; and

WHEREAS: Information and assistance is available from the Ithaca Hours program to help other communities create local currencies; now therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide a comprehensive report back to the City Council on the Ithaca program, including specifics as to the organizations that started the program, the history and extent of municipal government involvement in this program and other local currencies currently in effect, and a discussion of how Cambridge could implement such a currency.

Consent Order #57

Ord. 13
CM 495

Councillor Triantafillou re: report on
the "ithaca Hours" program where that
community prints currency redeemable
for one hour of basic work or \$10.

In City Council July 27, 1998

CHARTER RIGHT
BY COUNCILLOR

Triantafillou

9/14/98

Tabled on motion of C. Russell

SEP. 28 1998

ORDER ADOPTED