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Economic Forum Set for Dec. 12

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The Center for Business Research and Economic Development (CBRED) at the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith and Arvest Bank announced that the next Fort Smith Regional Economic Outlook Forum will be held Dec. 12 in the UAFS Smith-Pendergraft Campus Center. Registration deadline is Dec. 10.

According to Dr. Kermit W. Kuehn, center director, the forum coincides with the release of the third quarter Fort Smith Regional Economic Outlook Report, both of which are sponsored by Arvest Bank.

Kuehn stated that he would again be joined by Kathy Deck, director of the Center for Business and Economic Research in the Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, to review the latest data on the national, state and regional economy, as well as highlights from the third quarter report.

Additionally, Tim Allen, chief operating officer of the Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce, will present an economic development summary of activities occurring in the region. Copies of the report will be made available to forum participants.

Arvest Bank president Craig Rivaldo stated, "With the election now behind us, it will be a good opportunity to get a sense of our economy as we wrap up 2012 and head into the new year."



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> Craig Rivaldo President Arvest Bank

Kuehn said, "In addition to the discussion of the economy at the end of the third quarter, it will be a good time to talk about the prospects for the economy under President Obama's administration as we move into his second term."

The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in the Reynolds Room of the Campus Center. Tickets are \$15. RSVP is required. To register, call the Fort Smith Regional Chamber at 479-783-3111 or email whitney@fortsmithchamber.com.

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