UA Fort Smith > UA Fort Smith News

- Top Stories
- Athletics News
- · Archived News
- Campus Calendar

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CBRED Economic Forum Set for June 15

(Posted: May 23, 2011) (<u>Printable Version</u>)

The Center for Business Research and Economic Development (CBRED) at the University of Arkansas - Fort Smith will conduct its second Fort Smith Regional Economic Outlook Forum on June 15 in the Smith-Pendergraft Campus Center.

Dr. Kermit W. Kuehn of Fort Smith, center director, said the forum coincides with the release of the first quarter Fort Smith Regional Economic Outlook Report,



President Arvest Bank Kermit Kuehn
Director
CBRED

both of which are sponsored by Arvest Bank.

Kuehn indicated that he would 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 first quarter report. Copies of the report will be made available to forum participants.

Arvest Bank president Craig Rivaldo said conducting the forum "is good timing" for this kind of discussion.

"There is a lot of uncertainty out there about our economy," said Rivaldo. "We're just thrilled to help support the University's efforts to bring this information and this conversation to the broader community."

According to Kuehn, the first semi-annual forum was held in December 2010 and had approximately 100 people in attendance.

"This should be an interesting session as there are many forces at work to pull the economy in different directions, and no one knows which forces will win out in the short term," said Kuehn. "Economists sum it up as 'uncertainty.' The rest of us simply call it a confusing mess."

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

Article by: Sondra LaMar, Director of Public Relations

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1 of 2 5/24/2011 10:07 AM

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2 of 2 5/24/2011 10:07 AM