

Charleston County News Release

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Feb. 16 St. Paul's Small Business Forum to Focus on Building Business Plans

Forum to provide resources to St. Paul's area businesses

The towns of <u>Hollywood</u>, <u>Meggett</u> and <u>Ravenel</u>, along with <u>Charleston County</u>, are hosting the second St. Paul's Small Business Forum on Thursday, Feb. 16, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the <u>Ravenel Community Hall (5700 Conner Street, Ravenel, SC 29470)</u>.

The forum will include a detailed presentation on the essential components to prepare a viable business plan by Joe Conti, a member of SCORE, "Counselors to America's Small Businesses".

Forum attendees will also be provided with valuable information from a variety of local organizations including the <u>Charleston Local Development Corporation</u>, <u>Charleston Metro Chamber of Commerce</u>, <u>Clemson Extension</u>, <u>SCORE</u> ("Counselors to America's Small Businesses"), <u>U.S. Small Business Administration</u>, <u>St. Paul's Fire Department</u>, <u>Trident One-Stop Career System</u>, <u>Trident Technical College</u>, <u>U.S. Department of Agriculture</u>, and others.

"These small business forums aim to support and strengthen the economic viability of existing businesses, increase job opportunities, attract and develop new businesses, identify potential new economic development sites and increase workforce training opportunities," said Charleston County Council member Judge Vic Rawl, who represents District 6.

Forum attendees will also have the opportunity to meet elected officials from the four participating jurisdictions. Anyone interested in attending this forum should RSVP no later than Wednesday, Feb. 15, by calling the Charleston County Zoning and Planning Department at (843) 202-7240.

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