RESEARCH CENTER TO HOLD QUARTERLY BUSINESS ANALYSIS BREAKFAST

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – The Center for Business and Economic Research in the Sam M. Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas, is partnering with the Fort Smith Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Van Buren Chamber of Commerce to host the Quarterly Business Analysis on Thursday, Jan. 22. The breakfast event, open to the public, will be held from 6:45 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. at the Holiday Inn City Center, 700 Rogers Avenue, Fort Smith.

Jeff Collins, director of the Center for Business and Economic Research, will present a 30-minute program that provides statistical highlights for the fourth quarter of 2003, projects key economic trends, and discusses short- and long-term issues facing the local and state economy. In addition, there will be a discussion of proposed changes to the state sales tax in response to fiscal needs.

“Regardless of the path taken by the legislature to improve K through 12 education in the state, tax policy will be part of the legislative mix,” said Collins. “The tax system which results from efforts to fund education will have significant implications for all Arkansans.”

The primary purpose of the Quarterly Business Analysis program is improving the dialogue between stakeholders in the region. “We want to encourage cooperation and share information that is vital to economic growth,” added Collins. “The goal is solid and sustainable economic development in Arkansas.”
The cost for the Quarterly Business Analysis program and breakfast is $10. Pre-registration by Friday, Jan. 16, is required. Places can be reserved online for the QBA at: http://cber.uark.edu/ by calling (479)575-4151 or by e-mail at cberinfo@cavern.uark.edu. The program will last for approximately 40 minutes, including time for questions and answers.

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