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**Press Release**

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October 6, 2019

**Sparta Hancock County Chamber to Hold Entrepreneurs Summit**

*Summit is Kickoff Event for Business Recruitment Project*

The Sparta-Hancock Chamber of Commerce invites aspiring and current entrepreneurs who would like to learn about starting and owning businesses in a rural community, or reinvigorating an existing business, to attend its first Entrepreneurs Summit on Friday, October 25, 2019 at 1 p.m. – 2 p.m. in the Hancock Youth Opportunity Center, Augusta Highway 16, Sparta. A bus tour will follow.

The Summit kicks off a six-month business recruitment program that the Chamber will use to help people start or invigorate their businesses and to attract new businesses and jobs.

“For the sixth year in a row, Georgia has been ranked as the number one state for doing business\*,” says Will Minter, Director of Economic Development and Government Relations for the Chamber.

“Hancock County wants to be the number one county welcoming aspiring business owners to set up shop here. We are a good place for businesses and for families.”

Minter said his research has identified a list of 39 businesses proven to thrive in rural communities.

“Electronics, bookstores, bakeries, microbreweries, boutiques, fish farms, carpentry…the opportunities are broad for those sincerely interested in owning a business.”

Minter said the summit will feature local experts in finance, real estate, tax law, business development, local issues and more. The Small Business Administration (SBA) is providing technical assistance.

Registration is simple: Send an email to the Chamber at spartahancockchamber@gmail.com; please provide your name, address, phone and email; your business interest and a confirmation on the number attending. Participation is free. For more information, check out our website at spartahancockchamber.org.

**\* Site and Facility Planning Newsletter, 2019**

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