



NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
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Governor's Small Business Forum Set for La Vernia on March 20

La Vernia – The Seguin Economic Development Corporation has partnered with regional economic developers to coordinate the ***Governor's Small Business Forum: Opportunities of the Eagle Ford Shale*** on March 20 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the La Vernia High School Auditorium located at 221 FM 775 in La Vernia. Small business owners in Seguin and Guadalupe County will benefit from valuable information designed to assist them as they grow and expand their businesses.

The Governor's Small Business Forums are designed to educate the Texas small business community on workforce development, employee skills training and growth opportunities. The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) will present information on employee training grants and other programs available through TWC.

The event will feature Dr. Tom Tunstall of the University of Texas at San Antonio speaking about the Economic Impact of the Eagle Ford Shale and several oil and gas industry leaders will be on hand to share information on conducting business with the oil and gas industry.

A representative from Rackspace Managed Hosting will present information on technology for small businesses and a panel of experts from profit and nonprofit lending institutions will provide information regarding small business loans. Texas Department of Agriculture and USDA experts will cover information for the agribusiness community. After the informational sessions, several small businesses from Wilson, Karnes, DeWitt, Atascosa, Gonzales and Guadalupe counties will be honored with small business awards.

Business owners, prospective entrepreneurs, elected officials and community leaders are encouraged to attend. There is no charge to attend but in order to prepare handouts attendees are asked to RSVP to the La Vernia Municipal Development District office by email or phone to info@laverniamdd.org or (830) 779-2371.

The event is a partnership of the La Vernia Municipal Development District, Seguin Economic Development Corporation, Floresville Economic Development Corporation, Cuero Development Corporation, Pleasanton Economic Development Corporation, Karnes County Economic Development Corporation, Gonzales Economic Development Corporation and the Stockdale Economic Development Corporation along with the Governor's Office of Economic Development and Tourism, The Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Department of Agriculture, UTSA Institute for Economic Development, Wells Fargo Bank, BCL of Texas, People Fund, and Rackspace Managed Hosting.

Governor's _____

SMALL BUSINESS FORUM

Opportunities of the Eagle Ford Shale

Exploring the economic impact of the Eagle Ford Shale
and the opportunities it creates for businesses in South Texas.

Presented by the La Vernia Municipal Development District



Tuesday, March 20 • 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
La Vernia High School Auditorium, 221 F.M. 775



TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION
SERVING TEXANS THROUGH
28 LOCAL WORKFORCE BOARDS



South-West Texas Border
**Small Business
Development Center Network**
Rural Business Program

AGENDA

- 8:00-8:30 **Welcome and Registration**
- 8:30-9:30 **Workforce Development**
Texas Workforce Commission
- 9:30-10:20 **Economic Impact of the Eagle Ford Shale**
Dr. Tom Tunstall, University of Texas at San Antonio
- 10:20-10:40 **Networking Break**
- 10:40-11:20 **Conducting Business with the Oil and Gas Industry**
- 11:20-11:40 **Technology for Small Business**
Rackspace Managed Hosting
- 11:40-12:00 **Access to Capital for Small Business**
Texas Bank for Economic Development, Wells Fargo, BCL of Texas, People Fund
- 12:00-12:20 **Agribusiness**
Texas Department of Agriculture and USDA
- 12:20-12:30 **Small Business Awards**
Governor's Office and Texas Workforce Commission



Dr. Tom Tunstall

*RSVP to La Vernia Municipal
Development District
at 830-779-2371 or
info@laverniamdd.org*