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## **SNN Local News 6, the Herald-Tribune and Sarasota County to host economic recovery forum**

A community forum provided by SNN Local News 6, the Herald-Tribune and Sarasota County will explore economic strategies for Sarasota County to recover from the recession.

The forum, called "From Recession to Recovery," will be broadcast at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, on Sarasota County Access TV, which is carried on Comcast 19 and Verizon 32. The forum also will be streamed on the county's Web site at [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net).

The forum is the first time in Florida that a television news station and a newspaper have partnered with a local government to provide a public discussion of a community issue.

The hosts for the forum will be Lauren Mayk, anchor for "SNN Local News 6," and Tom Tryon, Opinion Page editor for the Herald-Tribune.

SNN Local News 6 also will produce four news reports based on the economic recovery forum that will be aired during news shows in weeks following the program.

Forum panelists will include:

- Joe Barbetta, Sarasota County Commission chair
- Nora Patterson, Sarasota County Commissioner
- Jim Ley, Sarasota County Administrator
- Larry Thompson, president, Ringling College of Art and Design
- Don Grimes, University of Michigan specialist in economic forecasting and regional economic development
- Jody Hudgins, vice president of FNB Corp. and member of the Sarasota County Planning Commission
- Buck Martinez, senior director of project development for Florida Power & Light
- Vanessa Baugh, small business owner who has testified before Congress on the credit crunch facing small businesses

Others attending the panel discussion will include economic development specialists, and representatives of the tourism and real estate sectors.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 and ask about the "From Recession to Recovery" forum, or visit [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net).

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