



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Free Seminar Series for Small Business Owners

Milford, CT, February 24, 2015 – The Milford Bank, in partnership with the Stratford Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Stratford's Economic Development Office, will sponsor a series of seminars for small businesses owners and entrepreneurs during the months of March and April. The seminars will be presented by the U.S. Small Business Administration's CT District Office.

The seminars will be held at the Stratford Library, located at 2203 Main Street on Wednesday evenings from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

The schedule is:

March 4: Starting Your Own Business: Introductory workshop for those thinking about starting a business. Seminar will cover topics such as choosing a business name/structure, licensing, registrations, the significance of a business plan and more.

March 18: ABC's of a Business Plan: The importance of a plan; what it is used for, what should be in it, what it says about you and your business.

April 1: Financing Your Small Business: Finding capital for a small business is not impossible. The SBA offers pointers that help get a business moving toward financial stability. Topics discussed will be traditional (SBA's guaranteed loan program) and non-traditional (SBA's micro-loan program) ways of financing, what lenders look for and understanding a credit report.

April 29: Doing Business with the Government: This workshop will cover where one registers in order to do business with the State of Connecticut and the Federal Government. Websites for locating federal bids over \$25,000 and the State's bid portal

where State and Municipal bids can be found will be demonstrated. Also covered will be State and Federal Set-aside programs.

The seminars are free and open to the public but seating is limited. Registration is required. Contact Lisa Powell at 860.240.4892 or lisa.powell@sba.gov.

“I am very proud to work for an organization that continues to give back to the communities it serves,” said John DaRin, Senior Vice President of The Milford Bank, “Helping to grow and strengthen small businesses is a benefit to everyone.”

The Milford Bank was founded in 1872 and is a mutual institution with five offices and a loan center located in the city of Milford, two offices in Stratford and a Loan Production office in downtown New Haven. The Bank offers a wide variety of banking and financial products and services to businesses, individuals and organizations. Bank assets total in excess of \$390 million dollars.