

# Small business owners get lunch, advice

- [By News Record Staff](#)

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Last week, a dozen local entrepreneurs sat in the Energy Capital Enterprise Center for Energy Capital Economic Development's first Lunch and Learn, a new initiative by the organization to help small business owners.

Susan Jerke of the Wyoming Small Business Development Center and Gail Lofing, executive director of the Campbell County Chamber of Commerce, talked about the services their respective organizations offer.

Mary Melaragno, director of business retention and expansion for Energy Capital, said many people know what they want to do with their businesses, but they don't know how to get there or the resources available.

The Lunch and Learn had the feel of a chamber luncheon, but a lot more casual, Melaragno said.

"We don't want it to be anything too terribly formal," she said. "It's laid back, it's an opportunity to network. What we're trying to do is make it a lunch among friends."

Melaragno said this will be a monthly event. The next is Feb. 6, and accountant Susan McKay will talk about taxes. In the future, Melaragno hopes to bring in human resource representatives, bankers and attorneys.

She's also open to suggestions.

“If there’s something someone would like to see or learn about, I’d love to hear about it,” she said. “That’s what we’re here for, to help businesses grow and succeed.”

For more information, call Melaragno at 307-686-2603 or email her at [mary@EnergyCapitalED.com](mailto:mary@EnergyCapitalED.com).