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# County leaders look at past mistakes to plan for future

By **SEAN P. FLYNN, Staff Writer**

The checkered history of land-use planning in Spartanburg County will be discussed Friday morning at Spartanburg Marriott at Renaissance Park.

Three area groups will co-host David Pressly, the 2007 immediate past president of the National Association of Home Builders, and Spartanburg County Councilman Tom Foster, who will talk about the biggest "land-use blunders" in Spartanburg County's history.

The talk, co-sponsored by Upstate Forever, Partners for Active Living and the Spartanburg Area Chamber of Commerce, kicks off the group's second-annual "Building Our Future" speaker series. The discussion begins at 7:30 a.m. in the Marriott's Azalea Ballroom, and is free.

"We know we're going to have a lot of growth in the future," said Emily Neely, the program manager of Upstate Forever's Spartanburg office. "It's something happening nationally, not just in Spartanburg. We wanted to bring in examples of how other communities are dealing with growth."

Pressly is president of Pressly Development, based in Statesville, N.C., and he has served on many committees for the 235,000-member NAHB dealing with the issue of smart growth.

Foster represents the sixth district on the Spartanburg County council, which encompasses an area west of the city.

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