



# Calcasieu Workforce Gazette

Issue 19

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## Plan Your Future Luau

Are you in need of assistance with tuition, books, supplies, or other expenses associated with Post-Secondary school? If so we can help!

The Calcasieu Workforce Center will host a Plan Your Future Luau, Friday June 28, 2013. This event will be held at the Business and Career Solutions Center 2424 3rd Street, Lake Charles, LA from 3:00p.m. to 5:00p.m. The purpose of the Luau is to recruit youth applicants for the WIA Youth Program.

The Business & Career Solutions Center, Youth Skills Development Specialists will provide information regarding the Workforce Investment Act, Youth Program.

Representatives from Impact of Lake Charles/Americorps, Sowela Technical Community College McNeese State University, and ABC America Builders Contractors will also be present to provide information and answer questions. Refreshments will be served.

Come out and get the information you need to plan your future.

For more information, contact Jonnika Boutte, [jboutte@lwia51.com](mailto:jboutte@lwia51.com) 337-721-4010 Ext. 5002 or Venus DeJean, [vdejean@lwia51.com](mailto:vdejean@lwia51.com) 337-721-4010 Ext. 5004.



### Upcoming Community Events:

**Juneteenth 2013 - 150th Anniversary**

6/15/2013

Times: 11 a.m. - until

Location: Lake Charles Civic Center

Address: 900 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA 70601

Admission: Adults \$10, Kids 12 & Under FREE

**Leadership/Mentoring Seminar Plan Your Future Luau**

6/28/2013

Time: 3:00 pm. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: 2424 3rd Street, Elcie Guillory Rm, Lake Charles, 70601

Admission: Free

**Job Start / Job Fair**

7/10/2013

Time: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Location: Business & Career Solutions Center Calcasieu Consortium, 2424 3rd Street, Lake Charles LA, 70601

Pre-Registration starts June 10

Admission: Free

Please answer at June 28, seminar.

Which state has only one syllable. Correct answer is worth a prize only three will be given out.

## Ace your interview by coming prepared

A job interview is a make-or-break moment in your job search. You've already impressed the hiring manager enough to make it past the first round of reviews. But before you count yourself home free, there are several steps to take to ensure you have a successful interview. Check these items off your interview to-do list before you arrive.

### DO YOUR RESEARCH

Though you should have already done some brief background research during the application process, it's essential to learn more about the company's past and future before your interview. You'll most likely be asked why you're interested in that particular organization, and it's important to be ready with an answer besides, "Because you might offer me a job."

Speak to the company's goals, mission statement, business achievements and any qualities you admire in the founder.

### TAKE CARE OF LOGISTICS AHEAD OF TIME

Avoid last-minute panic and plan out even the smallest details beforehand. Where will the interview be taking place? Do

you have your travel plans laid out and know when you need to leave to get there on time? If you're doing a phone or webcam interview, test your technology in advance and have an alternative ready if you run into trouble.

Choose your interview outfit ahead of time. Safe options: for men, a collared shirt, tie and jacket; for women, either dress pants or a pencil skirt. Dress wisely so you can focus on your answers during the interview instead of fidgeting with an ill-fitting shirt.

### BE READY TO TALK ABOUT YOURSELF

When the interview begins, you'll most likely listen to brief background of the company and the department you'll be working in, as well as the responsibilities of the role for which you've applied.

Once the essentials are covered, the interviewer will usually say, "So tell me a little about yourself," and the spotlight will be on you. Your response can determine how the rest of the interview goes.

Come prepared with a short summary of your past experience and education, why you've applied for this job (and specifically

this company", and what your future career plans are.

Rehearse giving your answer before the actual interview; practice speaking clearly and having good body language.

With a little preparation, you'll look like a natural instead of fumbling the first question.

### COME WITH YOUR OWN QUESTIONS

By the time you reach the end of the interview, you may feel that any questions you had have already been answered. However, when asked whether you have questions, don't pass on this step.

Instead take the opportunity to keep the interview going and bring up some questions you've already prepared.

### SLEEP, EAT AND BE READY

Finally, it's important to feel your very best on interview day.

Get plenty of sleep the night before. On the day of, be sure you've had a filling meal, turn off your cell phone and come ready with your enthusiasm and expertise.

Present yourself as a true professional, and you're sure to ace the interview.

By: Susan Ricker

## Calcasieu Workforce Center Youth Program

2424 3rd Street  
Lake Charles, LA 70601

Phone: 337-721-4010  
Fax: 337-721-4186

This program is sponsored by the Calcasieu parish Police Jury, in conjunction with the Workforce Investment Board, and the Louisiana Workforce Commission and funded by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)



We're on the web!

[cpji.net/index.aspx?page=1301](http://cpji.net/index.aspx?page=1301)

# Participation of the Month!



If there ever was a contest for the "Perfect Participant," Blane Savoie would hold the title. Blane was definitely the ideal participant as he went to school every day, turned in his paperwork on time, adhered to all WIA policies, exhibited excellent work ethics, and a very humble individual.

Blane was initially enrolled in WIA Gustav-NEG Work Experience. Upon enrollment he was determined to be a basic skills deficient younger youth, who had poor work history, no health care benefits, victim of hurricanes Rita and Gustav facing severe barriers to employment and required additional assistance.

In 2011, Blane was transferred to the Calcasieu Workforce Center's Youth Program. He was immediately retested and successfully increased his grade levels which made him no longer "basic skills deficient." He also, received Adult Mentoring, Leadership, Support Services, Occupational Skills Training, and Summer Work Experience which he successfully completed. WIA staff provided Job Readiness during Blane's last semester of school.

During his two years of enrollment at Sowela Technical Community College, Blane successfully earned an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Process Technology, Industrial Instrumentation, and Industrial Electrician.

He is now employed at Firestone in a training related occupation and has purchased his first home.

## Congratulations Blane!!

## Are you Ready for Hurricane Season?

### When a storm threatens

Check supplies and make sure you have the following items: portable radio with fresh batteries, flashlight, first-aid kit, canned or packaged food that can be prepared without cooking or refrigeration, several days' supply of drinking water (one gallon per person, per day), a full tank of gas in your vehicle, and cash.

Unplug major non-vital appliances. Advanced surge-protection systems will protect your home from most power surges, but will not prevent damage from a direct lightning strike.

Pay attention to local TV and radio broadcasts for storm position, intensity and expected land-fall.

Prepare for high winds by boarding up or taping windows and other glass, anchoring objects outside, and bracing garage doors.

Put important papers in watertight containers (take them if you evacuate), and move valuables to upper stories of your home.

Fill your bathtub with water for sanitary purposes. Because water conducts electricity, it is not safe to run water during a storm.

If you know someone who relies on electric-powered life-support equipment, be prepared to move that person to a facility outside of the storm's projected path to avoid the risk of an extended power outage.

### When a storm hits

Stay indoors in an inside room away from doors and windows, electrical outlets and water pipes. Don't go out in the brief calm during the eye of the storm.

Keep TV and radio tuned for information from official sources. Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice.

If you evacuate, shut off gas, water and electricity. (Electricity can be shut off at the breaker box.) Take blankets, first-aid supplies and other essential items with you to the nearest shelter.

### After the storm has passed

Never go near downed power lines. Always assume they are energized and extremely dangerous. If someone suffers an electric shock, call 911 or your local rescue squad immediately. Even minor shocks can cause serious health problems later.

Check for electrical damage inside your home, such as frayed wires, sparks or the smell of burning insulation. If you find damage, don't turn your power on until an electrician inspects your system and makes necessary repairs.

Walk and drive cautiously. Watch out for debris-filled streets and weakened bridges. Snakes and insects can be a problem after storms, as well.

Use your emergency water supply or boil water before drinking it until local officials deem the water supply safe. Report broken sewer or water lines.

Make temporary repairs to protect property from further damage or looting. Beware of unscrupulous contractors.