

Calcasieu Workforce Gazette

Lake Charles setting the pace for other cities

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Lake Charles continues to be a rising star in the state of Louisiana.

Already on the cusp of an economic boon with private companies investing billions of dollars in natural gas and petrochemical facilities along Interstate 10, the city's labor-market growth is steadily expanding ahead of the construction.

Lake Charles gained 3,000 nonfarm jobs in May. That means the city now has 93,800 nonfarm jobs, according to the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

"The key trend is that private sector employers are continuing to hire and create new jobs, while some major industries are ramping up for expansions," said Louisiana Workforce Commission Executive Director Curt Eysink.

Baton Rouge, New Orleans and Lafayette also did well in May, but Alexandria, Monroe and Shreveport-Bossier City reported slight job losses.

The state itself gained 19,400 jobs over the last year, the Commission found, and 4,500 over the month. That means not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment grew in Louisiana in May to 1,956,800.

In fact, the state's economic output has risen faster than the nation's.

In May, CEO magazine reported that Louisiana's rank had risen in its "Best & Worst States for Business" survey — we're the 11th best state for business.

"Over the last several years, due to strategic investments in economic development and successful reform initiatives, Louisiana has become an extremely attractive place to do business. Their new business climate has been validated by the vast number of economic development successes," the magazine said.

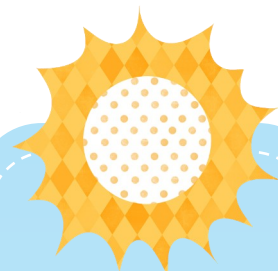
"The business climate in Louisiana is electric with opportunities and positive momentum. Help wanted and job postings are everywhere and the trickle down projects due to low-cost natural gas alone will make the economy strong for the next three years," the magazine added.

U.S. employers are sending a powerful message of confidence in the state's economy — and Southwest Louisiana in particular.

With investments come jobs — there will be a need for thousands of construction workers with varied skills, petrochemical engineers and operators as well as workers in health care, hospitality, aviation, technology, and sales and service industries.

At peak activity, Semptra's \$6 billion liquefied natural gas export facility will reportedly bring 3,000 construction jobs. Companies like Sasol and Cheniere have made similar investments and job projections.

Lake Charles is setting the pace for other cities to follow suit. We expect great things from our city in the next few years.



Upcoming Community Events:

Back to School Bash

8/5/2013

Times: 6pm-10pm

Location: Lake Charles Civic Center

Address: 900 Lakeshore Dr, Lake Charles, LA 70601

Refuge Temple Youth Explosion

8/9-10/2013

Location: Refuge Temple

Address: 300 Sprig St., Lake Charles, LA 70601

Axiall & REACH 18th Annual Back to School Bash

8/10/2013

Location: Pryce Miller Recreation Center

Address: 216 Albert St., Lake Charles, LA 70601

Family & Youth Festival

8/24/2013

Location: Lake Charles Civic Center Coliseum

Address: 900 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, La 70601

Admission: Adults \$3, Children \$2

Leadership Seminar Resume Builder

8/30/2013

Times: 4pm-5pm

Location: Business & Career Solutions Center

Address: 2424 3rd Street, Lake Charles, LA 70601



“Plan Your Future” Luau

The Calcasieu Workforce Center’s Youth Department, annual recruitment “*Plan Your Future*” Luau was held on Friday, June 28, 2013. We would like to extend our thanks to McNeese State University, Associated Builders and Contractors, Impact of Lake Charles (AmeriCorps), SOWELA Technical Community College, all youth that attended, and Mr. Joe Hill representative for Congressman Charles Boustany the “Plan Your Future” Luau.

The Calcasieu Workforce Center hosts Leadership Seminars every other month and free to the public.



Calcasieu Workforce Center

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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)



Participant of the Month!

Ms. Ashley Hardy was a 21 year old pregnant older youth, determined to accomplish her educational goal in becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Ashley met the enrollment requirements for SOWELA as well as WIA. She had the basic skills, aptitudes, and temperaments needed to satisfy her educational goal. She received assistance with tuition, books, supplies, uniforms, meals and share a ride to attend the Certified Nursing Assistant training at SOWELA Technical Community College. Once training was completed she received her Certified Nursing Assistant License.

Recently, she was accepted into SOWELA’s Licensed Practical Nurse program. While working at Resthaven as a Certified Nurse’s Aide Ashley was able to purchase a reliable vehicle and secure stability.

