

Calcasieu Workforce Gazette

Calcasieu Workforce Center Youth Department

November 2014

VOL. # 3 ISSUE #11

SOWELA – Preparing the Workforce of Tomorrow!

By Dr. Joseph H. Fleishman

The five parish region of southwest Louisiana (Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron and Jeff Davis), also known as the Lake Charles Metropolitan Service Area (MSA), contain several major industries who's primary mission is based on advancing the chemical, petrochemical, natural gas and nuclear energy sectors. Select energy sector industries have announced expansion projects estimated at \$80 billion over the next 5 years. Projected expansions will foster the immediate need for 40,000 trained construction/craft specific workers, resulting in 20,000 permanent jobs, with an average annual salary of \$85,000 once the construction phase is over.

For the next 5 years, any individual in southwest Louisiana with the right skills and training in construction sectors crafts will prosper! In order to ensure residents in southwest Louisiana have the skills necessary to obtain one of these high wage jobs, the Office of Workforce Development at SOWELA is currently offering short-term compressed training in the following construction trades.

- **Nuclear Welder**
- **Structural Welder**
- **Machinist**
- **Millwright**
- **Electrician**
- **HVAC Technician**
- **Scaffold Builder Pipefitting**
- **Residential Carpentry**
- **General Laborer**
- **Non-Destructive Testing Inspector**

“We want to ensure that anyone who wants to benefit from the economic boom currently underway has the opportu-

nity to do so,” said Dr. Joseph Fleishman, Vice Chancellor for Economic and Workforce Development at SOWELA. “We make it easy, if your want a great paying job – enroll in any of our programs because SOWELA is where industry is coming to hire their future workforce.”

To enroll in any of our Workforce Development programs call Rosemary August at 337.421.6964 or email her at rosemary.august@sowela.edu



“Capital One Bank is proud to partner with SOWELA Technical Community College by providing partial scholarships to students enrolling in select construction related programs.

*Lisa Irons Community Relations
Sr. Manager, LA*

Need Financial Assistance

The Calcasieu Workforce Center Youth Department offers financial assistance to out-of-school, low income youth that has a barrier to employment. A year-round youth program emphasizes attainment of basic skills competencies, enhances opportunities for academic and occupational training, and provides exposure to the job market and employment. Youth services include but are not limited to tuition assistance, tutoring, support services, meal and mileage stipends, leadership development, and follow-up services.

If you or someone you know meet these qualifications and are seriously seeking a career, please contact Jonnika Boutte or Venus DeJean at 337-721-4010 Ext. 5002/5004. The Calcasieu Workforce Center will host it's Spring orientation for potential WIA participants, December 15, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at the Business & Career Solutions Center. Applicants are required to bring their picture identification and social security card.

Participant of the month



Sierra Bourgeois, is an older youth that enrolled into the Certified Nursing Assistant curriculum May 6, 2014 at Sowela Technical Community College in Lake Charles, LA, and graduation July of 2014. Sierra is a single parenting youth that supports herself and her daughter. By enrolling into a curriculum that leads to a high demand occupation, she has secured employment at Lake Charles Memorial Hospital (LCMH). LCMH provides Fringe Benefits and pays Unemployment Insurance Compensation. Recently Sierra was accepted into McNeese State University. After working for awhile Sierra plans to return to school to become a Radiologist.

Congratulations Sierra!



Annual Winter Drive By

The Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana Continuum of Care in conjunction with the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury's Human Services Department will be accepting donations for the homeless until November 10, 2014. Some items needed include: coats, jackets, blankets, non-perishable food items, and more. A full list may be viewed at the Police Jury's website at www.cppj.net/winterdrive. Donations can be dropped off at the DeQuincy, Iowa, Westlake or Central libraries, Billy Navarre on East College, the Business & Career Solutions Center, Lake Charles City Hall, Mark Dodge, Unitech Training Academy, United Way, Tarver Ford in Sulphur, and Westlake City Hall. Items will be distributed at 2000 Moeling Street in Lake Charles, Thursday and Friday, November 13 - 14, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days.

Upcoming Community Events

Operation Christmas Child

November 2-9 2014, Recurring Daily

Place: Trinity Center

1800 Country Club Rd., Lake Charles, LA

Get out those old shoe boxes and fill them up for this worthwhile charity that has helped hundreds of thousands of children during the holiday season.

Election Day—Remember to Vote!

November 4, 2014

Time: 6:00 AM to 8:00 PM, Voters in line at 8 p.m. will be allowed to vote

Know which precinct you are registered to vote in, and its location if you are voting on Election Day. Be prepared to provide appropriate identification and do not wear any campaign paraphernalia to the polls.

Mistletoe & Moss Holiday Market

November 20 -22 2014 - Recurring daily

Time: 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Location: 900 Lakeshore Drive

Lake Charles Civic Center

Admission: \$8 per person



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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).