

## In This Issue-

- WorkKeys . . . an Assessment Tool that Measures “Real World” Skills
- Keeping KYTE Flying High
- LEDA Continues Successful Annual Job Fair
- Choose Lafayette
- Employers NEEDED for Upcoming Job Fair
- Federal Grants
- What is GREAT for our Regional Economy & Local Businesses?

## Upcoming Events:



**ASHRM's Annual HR  
 Conference & Expo**  
**Sept 9, 7:30am - 4pm**  
 Cajundome Convention Ctr.



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## WorkKeys® . . . an Assessment Tool that Measures “REAL WORLD” Skills

Do you need to determine an individual's abilities to obtain employment and perform successfully in a position? The *WorkKeys Assessment* is a specialized screening device that can help. Businesses may also use *WorkKeys* with their current workforce to identify any strengths or weaknesses and possibilities for promotion or assistance.



**"We at Gilchrist Construction Company have been using the WorkKeys test since October 2011. We have seen our retention rate improve, safety incidents decrease, the quality of hires has improved and the return on investment for training has increased." - Mark Dubea, HR, Gilchrist Construction Company**

A *WorkKeys* presentation will be featured at the Annual ASHRM Conference & Expo September 9, 2014. For more information about *WorkKeys*, go to [Workkeys.info](http://Workkeys.info). To schedule your assessment today, call **337-262-5601**.



## Keeping KYTE Flying High

Keeping Youth Trained and Educated (KYTE) is a comprehensive education and workforce training program for out of school youth between 16-21 years of age. Since KYTE's inception seven years ago, the program has provided second opportunities for over 300 young people to obtain a GED.



As a result of a decrease in funding, the Second Opportunity Scholarships initiative has been established with the objective of familiarizing the community with the KYTE program and its importance, and to hopefully raise enough funds to continue the successful program. *Through tax-deductible scholarships, donations can help improve the quality of tomorrow's workforce.* Not only are monetary donations needed, volunteers are being sought to join the SOS Committee as well as become tutors or mentors for the KYTE students. The SOS Committee is in need of members who can offer innovative ideas for campaign and marketing purposes as well as employers who can offer career exploration for the students.

[Click here](#) and you can make a pledge and/or sign up for the SOS Committee and learn other ways of volunteering. For additional info or if you have any questions regarding the KYTE program, please contact the WIB Planner, Cortney Boutte'-Breaux, at **337-262-1136** or via email at [cortneyb@lwia41.org](mailto:cortneyb@lwia41.org).

For More Information  
Visit:

[www.laworks.net](http://www.laworks.net)

La Workforce Commission

[www.wib40.org](http://www.wib40.org)

Workforce Investment Board  
#40

[www.lafayettela.gov](http://www.lafayettela.gov)

Lafayette Workforce  
Investment Board #41

[www.lafayettela.gov](http://www.lafayettela.gov)

Lafayette Business & Career  
Solutions Center

[www.acadianaworks.org](http://www.acadianaworks.org)

Acadiana Works, Inc.

Find us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/lbcsc](http://www.facebook.com/lbcsc)

Lafayette Business and  
Career Solutions Center

[www.facebook.com/KYTE](http://www.facebook.com/KYTE)

KYTE Program for Youth

Acadiana's  
—Unemployment Rate—  
May 2014

Acadia - 4.8  
Evangeline - 6.1  
Iberia - 4.9  
Lafayette - 4.0  
St. Landry - 5.5  
St. Martin - 4.9  
St. Mary - 5.8  
Vermilion - 4.7



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## LEDA Continues Successful Annual Job Fair

The Lafayette Economic Development Authority (LEDA) hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> annual LEDA Job Fair, May 21, at the Cajundome Convention Center, with continued resounding success. It is the largest job fair held in Acadiana.



Ryan LaGrange, Director of Workforce Development with LEDA, reported there were **1,650 job seekers** in attendance and **118 employers** at the event (the largest number yet).



Additional amenities were also included to assist job seekers in finding employment. Three on-site seminars were conducted by professional career consultants to educate job seekers about interviewing skills, improving their resume, and following-up after the job fair. The Louisiana Workforce Commission's Business and Career Solutions Centers also provided an E-application area which allowed job applicants to print resumes, submit resumes online, and complete online applications - since paperless recruiting is becoming increasingly popular.

In 2013, the job fair was moved from August to May to align the event with graduations at the university and local colleges. As a result, LEDA has seen a significant increase in job seekers with higher education levels attending the event. Registration information collected indicates that job seekers came from all regions of LA and some even reported living out of state. Employer surveys indicate that **more than 100 job offers were made** the day of the event, and more than 1,000 follow-up interviews will be scheduled as a result of the job fair.



Choose  
LAFAYETTE

A NEW WEBSITE has been created for Acadiana by **Louisiana Economic Development (LED)**. The site is beneficial to *employers* as it can be utilized as a recruiting tool. It branches into 3 areas: LIVE – WORK – PLAY. Check it out at

[chooseacadiana.com](http://chooseacadiana.com)

## Employers NEEDED for Upcoming Job Fair

The 11<sup>th</sup> annual **Job Fair for Persons with Disabilities** will be held Wednesday October 1, 2014 from 9 - 12 at the Heymann Center in Lafayette. **ALL Employers** are invited to participate at no cost. Hundreds of job seekers will be on hand prepared to meet your needs at one convenient location. The Lafayette Business and Career Solutions Center will host an e-application room that will assist job seekers with online applications and resume preparation. For more information please contact Randy Broussard at **337-262-5353** or [rbroussard2@lwc.la.gov](mailto:rbroussard2@lwc.la.gov)



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900 Youngs Rd.  
Morgan City, LA  
(985) 380-2448

Fax/TDD: (985) 380-2454

### Vermilion

1301 Clover St.  
Abbeville, LA  
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Fax/TDD: (337) 893-1868



## Job-Driven National Emergency Grant AWARDED



The Louisiana Workforce Commission has won a *\$6.1 million* grant to train workers in high demand occupations and help employers in 36 parishes, including Region IV. The **Job-Driven National Emergency Grant** will provide funding for individuals interested in working in the crafts field. In Region IV alone, *there is a need for approximately 735 craftsmen over the next two years*. The funds under this grant will provide employers the opportunity to train individuals through the On-the-Job-Training (OJT) program and receive a reimbursement for a percentage of the training period; customized training opportunities; as well as training through apprenticeships.

## H-1B Ready to Work Grant

In February, the U.S. Department of Labor announced the availability of approximately *\$150 million* in funds for the **H-1B Ready to Work Grant**. The Workforce Investment Boards in Region IV partnered with Alliance Safety Council in Baton Rouge, as well as TimeWise Management Systems, and submitted an application for the grant in June. The purpose of the grant is to train the long-term unemployed or underemployed for available middle and upper skill jobs as *electricians, millwrights, pipefitters and welders*. 11 parishes are involved and, if awarded, *this grant will provide over 500 trained workers to companies within our region*. Awarding of the **H-1B Grant** will be made in mid-2014.



## What is GREAT for our Regional Economy & Local Businesses?

According to Ben Berthelot, President & CEO of the Lafayette Convention and Visitors Commission, "**Tourism is a business.**" He says, "The State of Louisiana and Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne released record breaking 2013 numbers for Tourism in Louisiana, with **27.3 million visitors, \$10.8 billion in expenditures** by those visitors, producing **\$807 million in state tax revenue** as a result of Tourism."

"In 2013, Lafayette Parish set a record for Hotel/Motel receipts of over \$79 million, which was around a 5% increase over 2012. Over 17,300 people are employed in the Leisure/Hospitality Industry in Lafayette Parish, which is nearly 11% of the total workforce. For years, and probably better than any other group, Tourism Officials have understood the importance of regionalism because tourists don't know parish lines. If someone is visiting Lafayette Parish, there is a good chance that they will travel to attractions in surrounding parishes and see all that they have to offer as well."

