



Rapides Workforce Development Board e-Bulletin



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Louisiana's Not seasonally Adjusted Employment Continues to Grow

Data released on January 30, 2024 by the Louisiana Workforce Commission shows that Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted total nonfarm employment for December 2023 is 1,989,400, an increase of 100 jobs from the revised November 2023 estimate of 1,989,300 jobs. Compared to December 2022, not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment increased by 36,900 jobs. This shows over-the-month employment gains in 14 of the last 18 months and 33 consecutive months with an over the-year gain.

Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted total private employment for December 2023 is 1,665,100, an increase of 600 jobs from the November 2023 revised estimate of 1,664,500 jobs. Compared to December 2022, not seasonally adjusted private sector employment increased by 29,800 jobs. This shows over-the-month employment gains in 18 of the last 24 months and 33 consecutive months with an over-the-year gain.

Louisiana's not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for December 2023 is 3.8 percent. This is the 5th lowest rate for the month of December in series history.

[full story here](#)

Job and Resource Fair



Eclectic Products Career Fair

When: February 15, 2024

Time: 8am-4pm

Where: 101 Dixie Mae Dr. Pineville, LA 71360 (First Building on the Left over the railroad track Building #2)

Open Positions: Batch Room Tech, Material Specialist, Shipping Clerks, and Production Packagers

(Am Shift 7:00 am-3:30 pm)

(Pm Shift does pay a shift differential time: 3:30pm - Midnight)

Monday- Friday is the normal schedule -Some Saturdays are required.

Benefits: 401K, Medical, Vision, Free Dental, Free Short-Term and Long-Term benefits, Free life insurance, Vacation Pay, Sick Pay and Holiday Pay.

*Employee Referral Program \$500.00



Eclectic Products Career Fair

February 15, 2024
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

101 Dixie Mae Dr. Pineville, LA 71360
(First Building on the Left over the railroad track
Building #2)

Open Positions:

- Batch Room tech
- Material Specialist
- Shipping Clerks
- Production Packagers

JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR

Join us for an opportunity to explore new job opportunities and community resources!

Who Should Attend? This event is geared towards second chance candidates, but it is open to everyone in the community seeking job opportunities or interested in accessing community resources.

Featuring:

- Employers from Various Sectors:
 - Manufacturing
 - Technology
 - Healthcare
 - Education
- Community Service Providers:
 - Showcasing services benefiting the community

10:00am - 3:00pm
APRIL 17TH, 2024

Job fair Location
ALEXANDRIA MALL

REGISTER NOW

For more information
318-321-0033

Visit our website
WWW.UWCL.ORG/LAPRI

United Way **United Way of Central Louisiana**

Job and Resource Fair

April 17, 2024
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Alexandria Mall
3437 Masonic Dr Alexandria, LA 71301

For more information and to register,
call 318-321-0033

Job Opportunities



DIS-TRAN Steel is a tight-knit team, committed to respect, integrity, and their shared values of honesty and transparency. [Click here](#) to learn more about the opportunities available.



RoyOMartin is Hiring!
[Apply here!](#)



Join LSUA Team!
Discover various career opportunities at LSU Alexandria by visiting [here](#).



The City of Alexandria have multiple positions available!
[Apply here!](#)

Job Opportunities

The Alexandria VA Health Care System

NOW HIRING Registered Nurses



Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program – MHR RTP



PROFESSIONAL



CARING



TEAM PLAYER

You can apply online: [USAJOBS - Job Announcement](#)

For more information, please contact our Nurse Recruiter at: 318-466-2684 or VHAALXNURSERECRUITER@va.gov

The Alexandria VA Health Care System is looking for registered nurses to work with Veterans in their Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program. You can apply [here!](#)
For more information, contact Lori Geiger
at 318-466-2684 or vhaalxnurserecruiter@va.gov

Central Louisiana State Hospital JOIN OUR TEAM!

Immediate Openings For: RNs

Direct Care Staff and Supervisors
Administrative Coordinators
Psychologists

Salaries Negotiable Based on Experience

Benefits Include: Retirement, Health Insurance/Other
Insurances, Paid Holidays, Sick and Personal Leave

Apply online now!

For more information contact: (318) 484-6200

Learn more and apply by visiting:
governmentjobs.com/careers/Louisiana/ldh



Central Louisiana State Hospital
is Hiring!

We're Hiring

OPEN JOB POSITIONS

RAIL PACKER
CNC OPERATOR
FORKLIFT OPERATOR
INVENTORY CLERK
MAINTENACE TECH 1
PAINT RACKER
SANDING OPERATOR
SHIPPING/RECEIVING CLERK

Full Time Permanent Positions
Weekly Paychecks

SUBMIT RESUMES TO:
h.taylor@protempss.com

APPLY ONLINE AT:
PROTEMPSS.COM



Protemp Staffing Solutions is Hiring!
Submit your resume to
h.taylor@protempss.com

Events

Job Skills Training Event

The United Way of Central Louisiana is thrilled to announce an upcoming event that represents a significant milestone in empowering community members as they transition back into society after incarceration. Anthony Thomas, representing the United Way of Central Louisiana, extends a warm invitation to all to attend the Job Skills Training Workshop on February 23rd, 2024, at 1:30 PM. This pivotal event will take place at the Main Street, Baptist Church Mission, located at 312 Main Street, Pineville, Louisiana.

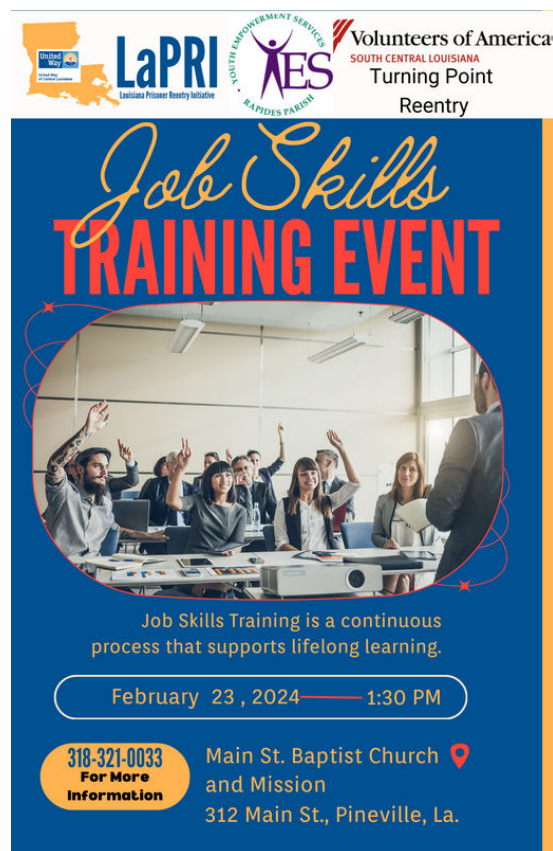
The workshop is a collaborative effort organized by the Louisiana Prisoner Reentry Initiative, United Way of Central Louisiana, Youth Empowerment Services, and Volunteers of America Turning Point. It aims to provide participants with crucial job skills through a comprehensive presentation covering essential job-seeking skills such as resume writing, interview techniques, and effective communication.

Community engagement is fundamental to the success of such initiatives. These workshops are not only about imparting practical skills but also about creating a supportive atmosphere that promotes the belief in second chances. The role of volunteers is indispensable, and the organizers encourage those willing to offer their time and expertise to join in this transformative endeavor.

The event organizers are also grateful for any donations to support the cause. Contributions can include food items to support the Main Street Baptist Church's feeding ministry, which serves the community on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, or clothing donations for their Clothing Closet to assist those in need. The support and participation of the community are crucial for the success and significance of this event. By coming together, a positive impact can be made, facilitating the smooth reintegration of community members back into society.

For further details or to offer support, interested parties can contact Anthony Thomas, the Community Coordinator for the Louisiana Prisoner Reentry Initiative at the United Way of Central Louisiana. Together, we can create a positive impact and aid in the seamless reintegration of our fellow community members. You can contact Anthony on his phone at 318-321- 0033 or via e-mail at Tony@UW C l.org.

*Source: Anthony Thomas
United Way of Cenla - LaPRI*



Events

LSUA Spring 2024 Graduate School Fair



LSUA
LSU of ALEXANDRIA

SPRING 2024
GRAD FAIR

LOUISIANA & REGIONAL COLLEGES

Monday, March 18
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Brumfield Caffey Ballroom

Great opportunity for
Juniors and Seniors!

Hosted by the LSUA Career Center



 @lsuacareercenter

LSUA Career Center / careerdevelopment@lsua.edu

For more information, [click here!](#)

Community Fair



Community Fair

Thursday, March 21, 2024
5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

* Over 30 Community Organizations will be in attendance * Free Giveaways
* Door Prizes * Bridging the gap between Community, Schools & Families
* Support for Children & Families in our School System * Help bring Awareness to our Families * Free Information from Multiple Community Organizations in our area
* Come see what our feeder schools have to offer

Alexandria Senior High School / Cafeteria

Participating Schools: ASH, Brame, Cherokee
Horseshoe, and Nachman

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL Donna King (318) 442-1987 or (318) 442-8891
donna.king@pslul

For more information,
call 318-321-0033

Alexandria Louisiana LOCAL EVENTS FEBRUARY 2024

Tuesdays	ALEXANDRIA FARMER'S MARKET 3PM-6PM
Tuesdays	AMOA YOGA IN THE GALLERY 5:45PM
2/1 - 2/17	THE GLOBAL LANGUAGE OF HEADWEAR
Sat 2/3	ADULT WORKSHOP: FIGURE DRAWING IN THE GALLERY 10AM-3:30PM
Tue 2/6	CREATIVITY LAUNCH PAD: MINDFULNESS 5:30PM-7PM
Sat 2/10	SECOND SATURDAY
2/22 - 2/25	BASSMASTER ELITE SERIES 2024

5th Saturday Market



March 30th 9AM ~ Pineville Riverfront

City of Pineville
5h Saturday Market

Boise Cascade Announces \$75 Million Expansion and Modernization of Oakdale Wood Products Facility



Boise Cascade Wood Products announced it plans to invest \$75 million to expand and modernize key machine centers at its Oakdale facility in Allen Parish. These projects will increase veneer production capacity by 30 percent and allow the facility to produce up to 400 million square feet of dry veneer annually.

The company expects to create 30 direct new jobs, while retaining 370 current positions. Louisiana Economic Development estimates the project will result in 77 indirect new jobs, for a total of 107 potential new jobs in the Southwest Region.

“Louisiana’s thriving agribusiness industry has been a stronghold in the economy throughout our state’s storied history, creating jobs and opportunities in every region,” Gov. Jeff Landry said. “I applaud Boise Cascade for reinvesting in Louisiana and our skilled manufacturing workforce.”

The projects include upgrade and redesign of Oakdale’s log utilization center, installation of a new six-deck veneer dryer and press and modification of an existing veneer dryer. The upgraded technology is designed to increase productivity and will allow Oakdale to supply additional veneer to Boise Cascade’s engineered wood products (EWP) facility in central Louisiana. The company also operates a plywood and veneer facility in Florien, La.

“Boise Cascade has a long history of doing business in Louisiana, and in fact, mill capacity at our EWP mill near Alexandria is the largest in North America,” Boise Cascade Wood Products Executive Vice President Mike Brown said. “This major investment in Oakdale reflects our ongoing commitment to invest in job sustainability and the state’s economy.”

Boise Cascade anticipates construction to start in the second half of 2024, with an estimated completion date in mid-2025. Construction is expected to generate 238 jobs at peak construction.

Source: Mark Lorando, LED

[full story here](#)

Community Programs & Services

United Way of Cenla VITA Tax Program

VITA TAX PROGRAM

DO YOU MAKE \$60,000 OR LESS?

File your Taxes for FREE!

HOW?

Call 211 or (318) 322-0400 to make your appointment today!

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Current photo ID
- Social security cards and date of birth for ALL household members
- All necessary tax documents (W-2, 1099, 1098, etc.)
- Copy of the previous year tax return
- Valid E-mail address
- Banking information for Direct Deposit (voided check, routing and checking account number)

SPONSORED BY: eitergy, Capital One, RED RIVER BANK

VITA Tax program is located at the American Red Cross Building, Alexandria LA. Call 211 or 318-322-0400 to schedule your appointment today!

Cenla CAC Super Saturday Tax Blitz

CENLA COMMUNITY ACTION COMMITTEE, INC.

YOU EARNED IT...LET US HELP YOU KEEP IT!

SUPER SATURDAY TAX BLITZ

FREE INCOME TAX PREPARATION

FEBRUARY 03, 2024 & FEBRUARY 10, 2024 8:00 A.M TO 3:00 P.M.

2011 MACARTHUR DRIVE, BUILDING 1 ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301

WALK IN - NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

Please Bring the Following:

- Picture ID/Drivers License
- Social Security Cards
- Dates of Birth for Spouse and Dependents
- W-2's, 1099's
- Childcare Expenses
- Bank Routing and Account Numbers
- IRS Issued Identity Protection Pin
- Last Year's Return (if available)

Life's a little easier with eita

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH: IRS, FREE FINANCIAL EDUCATION AND LITERACY SESSIONS

Saturday, February 10, 2024
8:00 am - 3:00 pm
2011 Macarthur Dr., Bldg 1, Alexandria, LA

OEWD Area 61 goes to Cenla Work Ready Network Workforce Summit

The Office of Workforce Development (OEWD) Area 61 actively participated in the Cenla Work Ready Network Workforce Summit, convened on February 8th at the Alexandria Convention Center. The summit, jointly organized by The Orchard Foundation, The Rapides Foundation, and Louisiana Central, drew a significant crowd of educators, workforce professionals, and employers.

The event showcased speakers hailing from various regions and states, offering valuable insights and perspectives. Among the panelists contributing to the discussion titled "It Works When We All Work Together: How a Regional Network of Educators, Workforce Professionals, and Employers Work Together to Build a Credentialed Workforce," was Ms. Sharon Neal, the Executive Director of OEWD Area 61, Director of Rapides Workforce Development Board and the Rapides American Job Center.

The summit concluded on a high note with a compelling address by Susana Schowen, the new Secretary of the Louisiana Workforce Commission. Secretary Schowen outlined her plans and commitment to advancing workforce initiatives in Louisiana.

Heartfelt appreciation goes to The Orchard Foundation, The Rapides Foundation, and Louisiana Central for hosting this remarkable event.



We thank and acknowledge our Contributors!

Electric Products
LWC - James Irby
City of Alexandria
City of Pineville
LED - Mark Lorando
LSUA HR Department
CLSH - Celeste Gauthier
LaPRI - Anthony Thomas
Cenla CAC- Sally Cowan
LWC - Regine Williams
Boise Cascade - Rose Killion
RoyOMartin- Amanda Guillot
Shelby Green - DIS-TRAN Steel
LSUA Career Center - Beth Palmer
The Alexandria VA HCS- Lori Geiger
Hannah Broussard - United Way of Cenla
Protemp Staffing Solutions - Hope Traylor
United Way of Central Louisiana
Rapides Parish School Board
LSU of Alexandria

AmericanJobCenter[®]
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Follow us on



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