

MONROE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY REPORT

212 Walnut Street, Suite 100, Monroe, LA 71201

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LA Adds 44,200 Jobs in 2011

Seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment for Louisiana was estimated at 1,933,500 in October 2011. This represents a gain of 5,700 jobs from the previous month, and a 44,200-job increase from October 2010. Leisure and hospitality showed the largest over-the-month gain, adding 3,500 jobs. Education and health services posted the largest over-the year change, adding 18,100 jobs.

Over the month, six of the 11 industry sectors had increases in employment, four showed declines, and one (other services) remained constant. After leisure and hospitality, the next largest increase was seen in financial activities which grew by 1,900 jobs. The government sector added 1,700 jobs from September, while manufacturing rose by 1,200. Education and health services showed an increase of 700, while mining and logging added 500 jobs from last month.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Tuesday, December 6 at 11:00 a.m.**-Louisiana Annual Ethics Training will be offered in the Monroe Chamber of Commerce office.-**Event Cancelled!**
- **Tuesday, December 6 at 12 noon**-Ambassador's Club will meet at Pieworks. Lunch is \$12 per person.
- **Wednesday, December 7 at 11:30 a.m.**- The Monroe Chamber Board will host the Organization's Past Chairmen for lunch at Bayou DeSiard.
- **Wednesday, December 7 at 12 noon**-The Greater Ouachita Parish Port Commission will meet at the Monroe Chamber office.
- **Tuesday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m.**-Monroe City Council will meet at the Monroe City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Friday, December 23**-Monroe Chamber Office closed for the Christmas Holidays.
- **Tuesday, January 3 at 12 noon**-Ambassador's Club will meet at the Atrium. Cost to attend is \$11.
- **Tuesday, January 31 at 6:00 p.m.**-SAVE THE DATE! Monroe Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Banquet. Key note speaker is Gary Hockstra, VP of Manufacturing and Engineering and EH & S for Dow Advanced Materials Division. Tickets are \$37.50 per person and \$300 for a reserved table of 8. For tickets or more information, call Ruthie Wheatley at 807-4004.

My first and
only choice.

St. Francis Medical Center wants to be *your* first and only choice! Our staff of healthcare professionals—physicians, nurse practitioners, nurses, registered technicians, therapists, pharmacists, and more—are all here for you.



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A Night of Hope

FOR THE CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK



*In the Spirit of Giving This
Holiday Season, Please Join*

Hope Anderson

MISS LOUISIANA 2011

*Saturday, December 10th
6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.*

*at the Home of Carolyn and Harvey Perry
2778 Point Drive • Monroe, LA
Holiday Attire*

Tickets: \$100 per couple*

*Available at Louisiana Purchases located at 1123 Forsythe Ave. in Monroe
or by Calling Andrea at (318) 537-3577.*

* Tax Deductible Donation to CMN

For More Information, E-Mail misslouisiana2011@yahoo.com.



**Children's
Miracle Network
Hospitals**
Helping Local Kids



Hope Anderson, Miss Louisiana 2011 Works to Make History

Hope Anderson, Miss Louisiana 2011, is working to raise more funds for the Children's Miracle Network than any other contestant has ever raised and with your help she can do it. Hope is sponsoring a fundraiser at the home of Carolyn and Harvey Perry on Saturday, December 10th. Tickets are \$100 per couple and the proceeds will go to the Children's Miracle Network. This is a 501 c3 and it is fully tax deductible.

Insiders with the Miss America program believe that Hope stands an excellent chance of becoming the first Miss Louisiana to become Miss America. Imagine that... a beautiful Miss America from Monroe Louisiana. That would be a very proud moment for our state and especially for our city. Many of you will recall that Hope represented Monroe as Miss Monroe in 2010. Hope is the daughter of Onna and Alan Gallagher.

This holiday season, consider helping Hope Anderson make history.

LA Adds Jobs *Continued from Page 1*

The largest over-the-month decline was seen in construction, which lost 2,000 jobs. Professional and business services declined by 1,000. Losses of 400 jobs were seen in the trade, transportation, and utilities sector as well as the information sector.

Over the year, nine of the 11 sectors added jobs. After education and health services, the largest over-the-year gain occurred in manufacturing, which added 7,700 jobs. Leisure and hospitality grew by 5,800 jobs compared to last October, while the financial activities sector added 4,600 jobs. Trade, transportation, and utilities added 3,400 jobs over the year. Mining and logging added 2,800 jobs, while construction rose by 2,100. Professional and business services increased by 900 jobs, while the information sector added 800.

Over-the-year declines were seen in the other services sector and the government sector, losing 1,500 and 500 jobs, respectively. The October 2011 preliminary seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Louisiana was 7.0 percent, an increase from the September revised rate of 6.9 percent. The national unemployment rate for October was 9.0 percent, a decrease from the September rate of 9.1 percent. Total unemployment in the state for October was 142,383. The state civilian labor force increased to 2,042,983 with an increase in total employment to 1,900,600. 2,042,983 with an increase in total employment to 1,900,600.

This article is from the Louisiana Works Newsletter. For more information, go to laworks.net. See related article on page 5.

Thank you to the 2011 Monroe Chamber Holiday Gala and Auction Sponsors!

Title Sponsor: Community Trust Bank

Mike Ackel, Auctioneer

ANGUS

BancorpSouth

CenturyLink

DeltaStyle Magazine

Entergy

Fun Radio 92.7

Glenwood Regional Medical Center

Holyfield Construction

IberiaBank

Manpower

Patty Stewart Photography

Pecanland Mall

Opus Broadcasting

St. Francis Medical Center

The Fletcher Group

The Radio People

The News-Star

Thank you to the 2011 Monroe Chamber Holiday Gala and Auction Committee Members!

Chairman: Ashley West-Progressive Bank

Past Chairman: Dianne Rosier

Mike Wilson-Manpower

David Hampton-Progressive Bank

Janie Russ -Southern Hospitality Service

Bernard Heflin – ULM

Gladys Smith-Gladys Smith Real Estate Co.

Don Gonnillini –BancorpSouth

Jeff Laudeneimer-Progressive Bank

Lori Reneau -Monroe Chamber

Special Thanks to:

Brooks Florist

Mike Ackel

Ron Pace

Paul Michael's

Matt's Music

The Staff at Bayou DeSiard Country Club



A Program of the Monroe Chamber of Commerce

APPLY NOW FOR 2012 LEADERSHIP OUACHITA

The Monroe Chamber is currently taking applications for the 2012 Leadership Ouachita class. Nominations are encouraged from all segments of the community. Individuals may apply or nominate those they feel best exemplify the philosophy of Leadership Ouachita. The application deadline for the 2012 class is Friday, December 30, 2011. Applications may be picked up at the Monroe Chamber of Commerce or interested parties may call Chamber Events Director, Daphne McClish at 807-4018 or dmcclish@monroe.org for more information.

The purpose of Leadership Ouachita is to develop and empower the emerging leaders of northeast Louisiana and help them gain the skills they need to transform the region into the best place to live and do business. Class members engage in a series of sessions focused on education, health care, workforce development, infrastructure and government.

The program also provides insight on public decision making, practical and in-depth discussions on public issues pertinent to Ouachita Parish, an expanded knowledge and understanding of the community in which we live, and the opportunity to develop lasting relationships with growing and established leaders in a neutral environment.

MONROE CHAMBER ACCEPTS NOMINATIONS FOR 2011 RAMBIN-SILVERSTEIN AWARD

The Monroe Chamber of Commerce is accepting nominations for the 2011 Rabin-Silverstein Award, which is presented annually to a resident of Ouachita Parish who has displayed outstanding leadership and service to the community. The nominee does not have to be a member of the chamber.

Any resident of Ouachita Parish who has demonstrated achievement, leadership and service for the benefit of the greater community is eligible for nomination.

The final selection is based on the person's contributions to the community over many years of service, evidence of their leadership ability, and evidence of their personal, professional and business integrity. The candidate must have a record of exceptional volunteerism and have demonstrated unselfish dedication to the betterment of Ouachita Parish.

Past recipients of this prestigious award include: George Moses, J. C. Loftin, W.L. Howard, Governor James A. Noe, Garland Shell, T. Arthur Grant, H.M. James, George Phillips, Jim Williams, R. Lee Vanderpool, Jr., Clifford Strauss, John T. Luffey, T.H. Scott, Grayson Guthrie, Paul Fink, Ed Whetstone, George T. Walker, Pat Regan, Baily Grant, George Rorex, George Riser, Saul A. Mintz, June Sherrouse Holmes, Dr. August Danti, Nelson Abell, Jr., Kitty Degree, Clarke M. Williams, James A. Altick, William D. Sanders, Harvey Hales, Hugh McDonald, Lawson Swearingen, Jr., James W. Moore, Jr., Tom Nicholson, Melvin Rabin, B.D. Robinson, George Cummings, III, George Mouk, Guy Barr, Melinda Mintz, Van Pardue, Roy Johns, Joe and Linda Holyfield, Sharon Taylor, Malcolm Maddox and Morris Mintz.

Nomination forms are available at the chamber office at 212 Walnut Street, Suite 100 or by calling 323-3461. All nominations must be received no later than Friday, December 30, 2011.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2011 KITTY DEGREE FOUNDATION LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN BUSINESS

In 2003, through her involvement in and dedication to the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, Kitty DeGree of The Kitty DeGree Foundation, envisioned an opportunity for the Monroe Chamber to recognize people in the community who exemplify excellence in business. As a result, she established the Kitty DeGree Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award in Business. It is presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding achievements as a business leader throughout their career.

The Monroe Chamber is now accepting nominations for the 2011 Kitty DeGree Foundation Lifetime Achievement Award in Business. The award will be presented at the 92nd Monroe Chamber Banquet scheduled for January, 2012.

To qualify, nominees must meet the following criteria: 1) Owned and/or was in a major administrative level position at a business(s) in Ouachita Parish over a span of at least 20 years (currently active or recently retired). 2) Assisted in expansions, acquisitions, and/or growth of the business(s) resulting in new products or services, increased profitability and/or additional employment. 3) Showed exceptional vision and ingenuity in responding to and overcoming adversities, while exhibiting outstanding professionalism in business.

Past recipients of this prestigious award include: Glen Post, Sam Ruben, Sister Anne Marie Twohig, Sol Rosenberg, Clyde Webb, Don Beach, Jim Bershen and Dr. Terry King.

Nomination forms are available at the chamber office at 212 Walnut Street, Suite 100 or by calling 323-3461. All nominations must be received no later than December 30, 2011. The nominee does not have to be a member of the chamber.

Not Seasonally Adjusted State and Area Employment

Not seasonally adjusted nonfarm employment for Louisiana was estimated at 1,939,900 for October 2011. Over the month, employment rose by 15,000 jobs from September, while over the year employment gained 44,100 jobs. Goods-producing employment gained 1,800 jobs over the month, while the service-providing employment added 13,200 jobs when compared to September. Over the year, goods-producing industries gained 12,800 jobs while the service-providing sector gained 31,300.

Total nonfarm employment in October for the Alexandria MSA was 65,100, a decrease of 100 jobs from September, but a gain of 800 from a year ago. The goods-producing sector showed no change over the month, but added 200 jobs over the year. Service-providing employment decreased by 100 jobs from September but gained 600 jobs from October 2010.

Total nonfarm employment for the Baton Rouge MSA was estimated at 363,900 for October 2011. Over the month, the MSA showed an increase of 600 jobs, while over the year nonfarm employment declined by 1,100 jobs. Goods-producing employment showed a loss of 1,400 jobs from last month and a small decrease of 100 jobs from last year. The service-providing sector added 2,000 jobs from September but lost 1,000 jobs over the year.

The Houma MSA nonfarm employment was estimated at 96,800 for October 2011. This shows a gain from September of 400 jobs and a gain from last October of 2,700. Goods-producing added 100 over the month, while adding 700 jobs from last year. Service-providing rose by 300 jobs from last month and picked up 2,000 jobs over the year.

Total nonfarm employment for the Lafayette MSA was estimated at 154,200 for October 2011. This represents a gain from September of 2,300 jobs and an increase of 6,000 jobs from last year. Over the month, goods-producing employment rose by 700, while the service-providing sector added 1,600 jobs. Over the year, the goods-producing sector gained 2,300 jobs, while the service-providing sector added 3,700 jobs.

Total nonfarm employment for the Lake Charles MSA was 90,900 for October 2011. This represents no change from September, but an increase of 1,900 jobs over the year. Over the month, the goods producing sector added 100 jobs, while the service-providing sector lost 100 jobs. The goods-producing sector added 400 jobs from last October, while the service-providing sector increased by 1,500 jobs over the year.

Total nonfarm employment for the Monroe MSA was estimated at 76,300 for October 2011. This shows a gain of 1,000 jobs from September, and an increase of 400 jobs over the year. Goods-producing employment showed no change from September, while adding 200 jobs from October 2010. The service providing sector added 1,000 jobs from September and 200 jobs over the year.

Total nonfarm employment for the New Orleans MSA was 533,100 for October 2011. Over the month, the MSA added 3,500 jobs, while over the year saw an increase of 10,600 positions. Goods-producing employment showed an increase of 1,100 jobs from September, and a gain of 1,700 from October 2010. The service-providing sector increased by 2,400 jobs from September, and added 8,900 jobs from October 2010.

Total nonfarm employment for the Shreveport MSA was 178,900 for October 2011. This shows a loss of 3,000 jobs from last month but a gain of 800 from October 2010. Goods-producing employment fell by 2,000 from September, and lost 500 jobs from October 2010. Service-providing employment declined by 1,000 jobs over the month, but added 1,300 jobs compared to last year.

This article is from the Louisiana Works Newsletter. For more information, go to laworks.net. See related article on page 1.






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The Monroe Chamber's mission
is to lead in the creation
of an environment in which
our businesses thrive.

  	
<h2>90th Annual Meeting & Banquet</h2>	
	<p>Featuring Gary Hockstra Vice President, Manufac- turing, Engineering and EH&S Dow Advanced Materials Division</p>
<p>Tuesday, January 31 Reception - 5:30 pm * Dinner - 6:30 pm Monroe Civic Center Conference Hall</p>	
<p>MEMBERS \$37.50 per person or \$300 per table NON-MEMBERS \$45 per person or \$360 per table</p>	
	
<p>Contact Ruthie Wheatley at (318) 807-4004 or rwheatley@monroe.org</p>	