

NEWS RELEASE

Area High School Students Tour Ouachita Parish Manufacturers

Monroe- High school students throughout Ouachita Parish will have the opportunity to learn more about manufacturing careers on October 27 when several area industries and manufacturers open their doors for tours. All eight Ouachita Parish and Monroe City School high schools are participating in the event. The event is sponsored by the Monroe Chamber of Commerce, the West Monroe-West Ouachita Chamber of Commerce and Louisiana Delta Community College.

Students will travel from their school to a designated manufacturer for a guided plant tour. Following the tour, they will travel to one of the Louisiana Delta Community College campuses to tour that facility and to have the opportunity for hands on experience on some of the equipment used in manufacturing. Tours will be hosted by Angus Chemical, Graphic Packaging, Steel Fabricators, Berry Plastic, Gardner Denver Thomas and Bancroft Bag.

The program was inspired by Manufacturing Day which is supported by an organization of industry co-sponsors nationwide. It is designed to amplify the voice of individual manufacturers and to create a chorus of manufacturers with common concerns and challenges. One of their biggest challenges is to address the shortage in skilled labor that every industry and manufacturer is facing today. The tour provides an opportunity to connect with high school students and to get them excited about manufacturing careers and to ensure the ongoing prosperity of their industry. For more information on Manufacturing Day, go to www.mfgday.com or call the Monroe Chamber at 323-3461.

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Media is invited to join us at any of the stops below (also see attached for contact information):

- Students will arrive at manufacturing locations at 9:00 a.m. and will tour the facility until 10:00 a.m.
- At 10:00 a.m., students will go to either the West Monroe Campus of LDCC or the Monroe Campus (See attached chart to know where each school will go)
- From 10:00 to 11:45 a.m. Bob Hammack and Dean Baugh will tour students and provide hands on experience

- At 11:45 a.m. we'll break and provide lunch for the kids.
- At 12:45 p.m. the students will head back to their high schools.