

MONROE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY REPORT

212 Walnut Street, Suite 100, Monroe, LA 71201

www.monroe.org • communications@monroe.org

ANGUS Invests \$10.8 Million at Sterlington

Over the last 4 years, ANGUS Chemical invested \$93 million at its facility in Sterlington. Even so, the company needed a more reliable energy source to run more efficiently.

Thanks to legislation introduced by state Sen. Mike Walsworth, R-West Monroe, and supported by Gov. Bobby Jindal, ANGUS was able to apply for a 5 percent break from the Retention and Modernization Tax Credit program. Angus was the first company to apply for and secure the new tax credit. Through the program, the company spent \$10.8 million to improve the electrical substation that provides the consistent power needed to secure the plant's future in Ouachita Parish. ANGUS employs 120 people at the facility in Sterlington.

The Monroe Chamber would like to extend our congratulations to Ernest Green and his staff and employees for their continued investment in our community. In addition, we applaud Governor Jindal and his administration, as well as Senator Mike Walsworth and our entire legislative delegation for their diligent work to help ANGUS expand and grow here in Louisiana.

Thank you ANGUS. We're proud of you!

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Monday, July 4**-Monroe Chamber Office Closed.
- **Tuesday, July 5 at 12 noon**-The Monroe Chamber Ambassador's Club will meet at the Atrium. Carlfred Giles from KTVE is the keynote speaker. Cost to attend is \$11 per person.
- **Wednesday, July 6 at 12 noon**-Greater Ouachita Port Commission will meet at the Monroe Chamber.
- **Friday, July 8 at 11:00 a.m.**-Ribbon Cutting for State Farm-Greg Manley, Jr. The business is located at 409 Sheridan St. in Monroe.
- **Tuesday, July 12 at 6:00 p.m.**-Monroe City Council will meet at Monroe City Hall Council Chambers.
- **Tuesday, July 19 at 11:30 a.m.**-The Monroe Chamber will host the Northeast Louisiana Legislative Appreciation luncheon. The event will be held at the Fant Ewing Coliseum on the ULM Campus. Cost for the luncheon is \$25 per person.
- **Friday, July 22 at 10:00 a.m.**-Ribbon Cutting for the Vantage Affinity Health Group. The new office is located at 1825 N. 18th Street (Brookshire's Parking Lot).
- **Tuesday, August 2 at 12:00 noon.**- A Luncheon for Louisiana Speaker of the House Jim Tucker will be held at the Monroe Civic Center. Cost is \$25 per person. To make a reservation, call Daphne McClish at 807-4018.

FOXY 92.7 FM

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SAVE THE DATE
Monroe Chamber of Commerce Annual
Golf Classic
Friday, September 2
Frenchman's Bend Golf Course

For More Information, Please Call Daphne McClish at 807-4018

Tweet President Obama for Help with Next Autoworks!

We are asking all Monroe Chamber Members and the Northeast Louisiana community to help us get President Obama's attention. Please copy and paste one of the following tweets to President Obama and send it to him during the July 6th Town Hall Meeting.

#AskObama If you want to create 3200 new jobs, will you act on the Next Autoworks ATVM Loan Application?

#AskObama We need jobs in Monroe, LA! We can create 3200 if DOE will act on the NEXT Autoworks ATVM Loan Application. Will you help?

#AskObama We need your help to create 3200 new jobs! Will you take an active role in moving the Next Autoworks ATVM loan application through DOE?

#AskObama Why is it taking so long for DOE to approve the Next Autoworks ATVM application? Once done, the company will create 3200 new jobs in Monroe, LA!

If you write your own question be sure that it includes the hashtag #AskObama. If you do not already have a Twitter account, it is easy and free, you can sign up now. Go to twitter.com and follow a few basic steps to set up a twitter account.

Obama's answers will be live streamed on AskObama.Twitter.com next week. You can follow the live discussion on Twitter, or get more updates from [@TownHall](https://twitter.com/TownHall) on Twitter.

We hope that President Obama will answer one of these questions during the meeting. At the very least, we want to impress on the President that we need jobs in Northeast Louisiana and by supporting the Next Autoworks ATVM loan application we can create 3200.

Ouachita Parish to Enforce Small Sign Ordinance

Ouachita Parish Police Juror Pat Moore announced last week that the Ouachita Parish Public Works Department will enforce the parish small sign ordinance that prohibits the placement of temporary signs along parish right-of-ways and on utility poles. The effort comes as the fall election nears and candidates have begun to place signs illegally along parish right-of-ways.

According to Moore, both the Monroe City Public Works and the Ouachita Parish Public Works Departments have made a commitment to remove signs that are in violation; however, she noted, as soon as we take them down, the signs are put back up. Nevertheless, the City and Parish will continue to remove the signs.

Moore is asking area commercial advertisers and candidates for help. She asks that signs be properly placed and removed immediately once the election is over. She noted that when the Ouachita Parish Police Jury amended the sign ordinance last year, they included an enforcement clause that allows for the assessment of fines for violations. Violators would have to go through Ouachita Parish Environmental Court and could be fined up to \$50.

If you would like to report an illegal sign in the City of Monroe, please Call Don Hopkins at 329-2230. For illegal signs in Ouachita Parish, please call Cpl. Wayne Heckford at Call 355-5622.

ULM College of Business Administration-Northeast Louisiana Business and Community Development Center Summer Workshop Series

Dream or Reality?

Predicting Future Cash Flow Needs
Dr. Arturo Rodriguez, Instructor of Business
Thursday, July 14th, 6:00-7:30 pm
Strauss Hall, Room 270

Perils, Hazards and Losses: Identifying and Managing Risk

Dr. Christine Berry, Director of Insurance Studies, Associate Professor Risk Management
Tuesday, July 19th, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm
Strauss Hall, Room 270

A Roadmap to Success: Strategic Planning

Dr. Stan Williamson, Professor of Management
Tuesday, July 26th, 11:30-1:30 pm
Strauss Hall, Room 259

The Art of Grant Writing: A Structure for Success?

Dr. Virginia Eaton
Tuesday, August 2, 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.
Strauss Hall, Room 270

What's Hot: Marketplace Positioning

Mr. Tom DeNardin, Instructor of Management, Marketing and General Business
Thursday, August 4th, 6:00-7:30 pm
Strauss Hall, Room 270

All workshops will be held on the ULM campus. Register online at www.ulm.edu/nlbcdc

For more information, call (318) 342-1100.

LA RANKED 10TH IN KIPLINGER REPORT-TOP 10 MOST TAX-FRIENDLY STATES FOR RETIREES 2011

The following is the assessment made by Kiplinger.com regarding the tax environment in Louisiana for Retirees. Ranking as the number one most friendly state is Wyoming and the least tax-friendly state for retirees is Vermont.

To read more, please go to: <http://content.kiplinger.com/slideshow/TaxFriendlyStatesRetirees/11.html#top#ixzz1QUHdoCfF>

State Income Tax: 2%-6%

State Sales Tax: 6%

Estate Tax/Inheritance Tax: No/Yes

Louisiana offers a bayou full of tax breaks to retirees. Social Security and military, civil-service, and state- and local-government pensions are exempt from state income taxes, plus up to \$6,000 per person of pension and annuity income. Personal income tax rates are low, ranging from 2% to 6%. Property taxes are the lowest in the nation, according to the Tax Foundation, and assessments are based on 10% of the fair market value. But sales taxes can be steep. The statewide sales tax is 4%, but local parishes and jurisdictions within those parishes can add their own sales taxes. In New Orleans, the combined sales tax rate is 9%. But food and drugs are exempt from sales taxes throughout the Pelican State.



Northeast Louisiana Legislative Delegation

Tuesday, July 19, 2011

11:30 - 1:00 p.m.

ULM Fant Ewing Coliseum

NORTHEAST DELEGATION:

- Senator Robert Kostelka
- Senator Gerald Long
- Senator Neil Riser
- Senator Francis Thompson
- Senator Mike Walsworth
- Representative Andy Anders
- Representative Billy Chandler
- Representative Charles Chaney
- Representative Hollis Downs
- Representative Noble Ellington
- Representative James Fannin
- Representative Richard Gallot
- Representative Frank Hoffmann
- Representative Rosalind Jones
- Representative Kay Kellogg Katz
- Representative Sam Little

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

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- City of Monroe
- FunRadio 92.7fm
- Glenwood Regional Medical Center
- Holyfield Construction
- IberiaBank
- OPUS Broadcasting
- P & S Surgical Hospital
- Patty Stewart Photography
- St Francis Medical Center
- Steel Fabricators
- The Radio People
- University of Louisiana at Monroe
- Vantage Health Plan

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 15 (\$5pp late fee after deadline)

Advance payment required. No-shows are responsible for payment.
 Please return this form to: Daphne McClish, Monroe Chamber of Commerce
 212 Walnut Street, Monroe, LA 71201
 Call 807-4018 or Fax to 812-7594 or
 Email: dmclish@monroe.org

MEMBERS
\$25 per person or \$200 per table
NON-MEMBERS
\$30 per person or \$240 per table

Yes, I will be attending the NELA Legislative Delegation Lunch.
 Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ person (s), or \$ _____ for _____ tables.
 Company Name _____ Contact Person _____
 Persons attending _____

 Phone _____ Address _____
 Credit Card # _____ Expiration _____ Signature _____



Speaker of the House **JIM TUCKER** Update Luncheon



Images by Sharon Turner

**Tuesday, August 2
12:00 - 1:00 p.m.
MONROE CIVIC CENTER
Fort Miro Room**

Sponsors:



SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE
Contact Daphne McClish
(318) 807-4018

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, July 29

All reservations received after July 29th will be accessed an additional \$5 per person

Advance payment required. No-shows are responsible for the cost of reservation (s)
Please return this form to: Daphne McClish, Monroe Chamber of Commerce
212 Walnut Street, Monroe, LA 71201
Call: 318-807-4018, Fax: 318-322-7594
Email: dmcclish@monroe.org

MEMBERS
\$25 per person or \$200 per table
NON-MEMBERS
\$30 per person or \$240 per table
Additional \$40 per table after
Deadline

Yes, I'll be attending the Speaker of the House Tucker Luncheon.
Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ person (s), or \$_____ for _____ tables.
Company Name _____ Contact Person _____
Persons attending _____
Phone _____ Address _____
Credit Card # _____ Expiration _____ Signature _____

SUPPORT ULM FOOTBALL!



MAROON PACKAGE - \$750

- Two (2) football upper level season tickets
- Two (2) basketball upper level season tickets
- Two (2) baseball bench season tickets
- Opportunity to purchase preferred season tickets
- One (1) Area D parking pass for football
- Visibility on ulmwarhawks.com under "Warhawk Business Partners"
- Listing in all souvenir game programs
- Warhawk Business Partner decal for display at your business

GOLD PACKAGE - \$1,500

- Four (4) football upper level season tickets
- Four (4) basketball upper level season tickets
- Four (4) baseball bench season tickets
- Opportunity to purchase preferred season tickets
- One (1) Area C parking pass for football
- Listing in all souvenir game programs
- Listing on ulmwarhawks.com under "Warhawk Business Partners"
- Warhawk Business Partner decal for display at your business
- Two (2) Touchdown Terrace VIP hospitality passes†

WARHAWK PACKAGE - \$2,500

- Eight (8) football upper level season tickets
- Eight (8) basketball upper level season tickets
- Eight (8) baseball bench season tickets
- Opportunity to purchase preferred season tickets
- One (1) Area B parking pass for football
- Listing in all souvenir game programs
- Listing on ulmwarhawks.com under "Warhawk Business Partners"
- Warhawk Business Partner decal for display at your business
- Four (4) Touchdown Terrace VIP hospitality passes†
- Company name displayed on new Hawk Vision video board as a Warhawk Business Partner

†Touchdown Terrace is our hospitality area located in the north endzone of Malone Stadium. Stadium foods as well as beverages are available on a complimentary basis for your enjoyment for each home football game.

Order by phone at: 318-737-1272

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Commerce
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Monroe, LA 71201

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Website
www.monroe.org

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

Save the Date

5th Annual
Monroe Chamber of Commerce

Golf Classic

Frenchman's Bend Golf Course

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2011

GOLD

Atmos Energy
Centric Federal Credit Union
Glenwood Regional Medical Center
Opus Broadcasting
FunRadio 92.7fm

SILVER

Delta Style
IberiaBank
Luffey, Huffman, Ragsdale, Soignier
Patty Stewart Photography

COST

**\$500 per 4-person team
or \$150 per individual**

INCLUDES:

Golf Cart & Green Fees, Range,
Lunch, Snacks, Beverages, Gift
Bags, Door Prizes

**Morning & Afternoon Flights
Available on 1st Come 1st
Serve Basis**

For registration or sponsorship information, please contact Daphne McClish at 318-807-4018 or dmcclish@monroe.org