

MONROE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEEKLY REPORT

212 Walnut Street, Suite 100, Monroe, LA 71201

www.monroe.org • communications@monroe.org

CenturyLink and Savvis Complete Merger

CenturyLink, Inc. (NYSE: CTL) and Savvis, Inc. completed their previously announced merger on Friday. The combination creates a premier managed hosting and colocation provider with global scale positioned for leadership in meeting customer demand for outsourced IT and cloud services.

"The combination of CenturyLink's hosting and network assets with Savvis' proven solutions in colocation, managed hosting and cloud services substantially enhances CenturyLink's capabilities and immediately provides the company with a solid platform for future growth," said Glen F. Post, III, chief executive officer and president of CenturyLink. "The transaction helps us meet the accelerating demand for cloud-based services through a robust hosting presence, including 48 data centers in North America, Europe and Asia. CenturyLink is now positioned to address complex customer needs with our colocation, hosting and cloud products."

Later this year, CenturyLink plans to integrate its hosting business with Savvis' managed hosting and cloud services to focus on increasing CenturyLink's market share in these services. The integrated hosting business, which will operate under the Savvis brand for the foreseeable future, will be based in St. Louis and led primarily by key members of the Savvis leadership team, including chief executive officer Jim Ousley.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Tuesday, July 19 at 10:00 a.m.**-Ribbon Cutting for Home Smart. The business is located at 1800 Louisville Ave.
- **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.
- **Tuesday, July 19 at 4:00 p.m.**-Monroe Chamber Executive Committee will meet at the Monroe Chamber office.
- **Thursday, July 21 at 10:00 a.m.**-Ribbon Cutting for State Farm-Jeff Leumont. The business is located at 4161 Sterlington Road.
- **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).
- **Monday, July 25 at 12 noon**-The Ouachita Council of Governments will meet in Council Chambers at the Monroe Government Complex.
- **Tuesday, July 26 at 6:00 p.m.**-Monroe City Council will meet at Monroe City Hall.

Monday, August 1 at 5:50 p.m.-Ouachita Parish Police Jury will meet at the Parish Courthouse.

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.

Thursday, August 4 from 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.-Downtown Gallery Crawl. Various art studios and galleries will be open for touring, as well as several downtown restaurants.

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

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CenturyLink*Continued from Page 1*

Under the terms of the agreement, Savvis stockholders will receive \$30 per share in cash and 0.2479 of a share of CenturyLink common stock (which had a value of \$10 based on the valuation formula in the merger agreement) for each Savvis share held at the close of the transaction.

At closing, CenturyLink also prepaid approximately \$546 million of Savvis' credit facility debt.

CenturyLink expects the combination to improve its revenue, EBITDA and free cash flow growth profile, and also expects to realize approximately \$70 million in full run-rate annual operating cost and capital expenditure synergies. The transaction is expected to be accretive to CenturyLink's free cash flow per share, as adjusted to exclude integration costs, in the first full year following the close.

About CenturyLink

CenturyLink is the third largest telecommunications company in the United States. The company provides broadband, voice and wireless services to consumers and businesses across the country and advanced entertainment services under the CenturyLink^(TM) Prism^(TM) TV and DIRECTV brands. In addition, the company provides data, voice and managed services to business, government and wholesale customers in local, national and select international markets through its high-quality advanced fiber optic network and multiple data centers. CenturyLink also is recognized as a leader in the network services market by key technology industry analyst firms, and is a global leader in cloud infrastructure and hosted IT solutions for enterprises through Savvis, a CenturyLink company. CenturyLink's customers range from Fortune 500 companies in some of the country's largest cities to families living in rural America. Headquartered in Monroe, La., CenturyLink is an S&P 500 company and is included among the Fortune 500 list of America's largest corporations. For more information, visit www.centurylink.com.

LearningTech/Quest Schools Stars on the Bayou to Feature Louisiana's First Lady

Louisiana's First Lady Supriya Jindal will speak at a luncheon scheduled for Friday, November 11 at the ULM Library at 11:00 a.m. The event will be followed with a dinner event featuring Rudy Ruettiger of Notre Dame fame at 6:00 p.m.

The luncheon will have a Veteran's Day theme with Mrs. Jindal speaking on the importance of educators always including lessons in patriotism and in honoring and appreciating our veterans. The cost for the luncheon is \$30 per person and a table of ten is \$400.

Rudy Ruettiger's presentation will be about dreaming and achieving. Since Rudy is dyslexic, his message will be important to parents and educators. Cost for the dinner is \$50 with a table of ten for \$600.

All proceeds support Quest School. For more information or tickets, please call Donna at 322-6000.



The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality is sponsoring free workshops to assist fire departments, municipalities, and the general public with understanding the air quality regulations concerning open burning. This session will give a basic overview of the regulations, as well as information about open burning do's and don'ts. Please register to attend one of the sessions below:

• SHREVEPORT: TUESDAY, JULY 19, 2011, 1PM-3PM

Mary Allen State Office Building, Room 34
1525 Fairfield, Shreveport, LA 71101-4388

• WEST MONROE: WEDNESDAY, JULY 20, 2011, 10AM-12PM

West Monroe Convention Center, Trenton Room
901 Ridge Ave., West Monroe, LA 71291

If you would like to attend one of these workshops, you can register online at www.deq.louisiana.gov/enviroschool

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

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.

Monroe Housing Market Continues to Appreciate

As reported in the News Star today home prices in the Monroe Metropolitan Statistical Area grew about 3 percent in 2010. According to the Federal Housing Finance Agency, this was the second best average change in the nation.

Other housing market research sites like Local Market Monitor and Housing Predictor listed Monroe as one of the Top 10 markets in the U.S. In fact, Housing Predictor had this to say about the Monroe market:

“As national trends disintegrated into rising foreclosures and a more troubled economy, in the northern reaches of Louisiana, Monroe has held its own as a huge exception in America’s real estate crash. One of the most stable economies in the U.S. is aided by growing employment, consistent home sales and the likelihood of more new home building in the region in 2011 should assist Monroe to remain on track through the New Year. Monroe is forecast to average home price appreciation of 2.1% for the year.”

To read more about national housing values, go to housingpredictor.com.



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

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- 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: dmcclish@monroe.org

<p>MEMBERS \$25 per person or \$200 per table NON-MEMBERS \$30 per person or \$240 per table</p>

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: 318-812-7594
 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

H & R Block to Host Career Fair

H & R Block will host a Career Fair in Monroe on August 11, 2011 at the office located at 1619 Louisville Ave in Monroe from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The company will be conducting interviews that day. H&R Block is looking for potential season leadership candidates, as well as seasonal tax professionals. For more information, please contact 318-387-5601.

Monroe Chamber of
Commerce
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Monroe, LA 71201

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E-Mail:
communications@monroe.org

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
Morris & Associates
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**

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE - Contact Daphne McClish at 318-807-4018 or dmcclish@monroe.org