



North Georgia Veterans Job Fair

Georgia Department of Labor is hosting a job fair for **veterans and employees of Florida Tile** next month in Calhoun. The event will take place on November 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Georgia National Guard Armory at 300 North River Street, Calhoun, GA. More than 30 companies are expected to attend. For more information call (706) 295-6051. The public is also invited to attend.

Georgia's Workforce Training Initiative

At the closing luncheon of the Celebrating Rural Georgia Conference in Augusta, Georgia on August 23, Governor Sonny Perdue launched the Workforce Training Initiative with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce. This is a voluntary, two part initiative to promote the work readiness of Georgia. Business and Industry today are making location decisions based on the availability of qualified workforce. Part one of the initiative is a Work Ready Certificate that will certify an employee has basic skills that will serve as the basis for further learning. Part two of the initiative is the Work Ready Community. This certificate will show that a community has the commitment to improving high school graduation rates and that residents in various specified labor market groups have successfully attained a Georgia Work Ready Certificate. These communities will be recognized by the Governor and the Georgia Chamber of Commerce as a Certified Work Ready Community.



Tri-State Regional Collaboration Selected for National Workforce Project

The **Northwest Georgia Workforce Investment Board (WIB)**, along with **Southeast Tennessee** and **Northeast Alabama** workforce agencies, has been selected by the U.S. Department of Labor to participate in a National Business Learning Partnership project. The selected **Tri-State Regional Workforce Collaborative** was formed in January 2006 to promote regional workforce and economic development in the tri-state region.

Participating in the Business Learning Partnership will serve to strengthen the region's ability to address the challenge of elevating the region to a more competitive advantage in the world's economy. The project will kick off in early November as workforce development areas from over thirty-five states will meet in Denver, Colorado, to discuss strategies and goals and to establish matches between organizations to facilitate peer-to-peer learning.

The Northwest Georgia Workforce Investment Board participated in the first round of Learning Partnerships several years ago. The area served as a mentor to Northwest Tennessee to enhance their Business Services approach to workforce and economic development. The U.S. Department of Labor pronounced the project to be "a resoundingly successful collaborative effort."

For more information about the national project or the workforce investment program, you may contact **Gwen Dellinger**, Workforce Development Director at (706) 295-6485 or gwend@cvrdc.org. You may also contact **Karen Howell**, Workforce Development Coordinator at (706) 277-7466 or vandy88@aol.com.

2006 Georgia Workforce & Touch the Future/Transition Conference

The 2006 Georgia Workforce & Touch the Future/Transition Conference will be a precedent setting event that will focus on providing training and employment opportunities for all Georgians. This event will remain true to the vision of building a world-class workforce in Georgia by emphasizing the importance of providing persons with disabilities a full range of support services and resources to ensure their success in the 21st century workplace.

The conference will encourage the sharing of best practices, discussing strategies and solutions about common challenges and opportunities, and developing innovative approaches that will help prepare our customers for future achievements.

Attendees will have access to a wide array of concurrent workshops, targeted pre-conference sessions, exhibits featuring the latest in assistive technology, dynamic speakers and peer networking. The conference date is November 1-3, 2006 with pre-conference workshops scheduled for October 30-31, 2006 in Athens, GA.

For more conference information or for registration forms visit <http://www.dol.state.ga.us/gwc/index.htm>.

Source: Georgia Depart-

West Central Technical College Names a New President



Dr. Skip Sullivan comes to West Central from Miller College in Battle Creek, Michigan where he served as Dean-Chief Academic Officer. Prior to employment at Miller College, he served as Provost and CEO at Glenville State Community and Technical College in Summersville, West Virginia. In 1999 he was chosen to be the Teacher of the Year at Heart of Georgia Technical College.

Dr. Sullivan holds a Doctorate of Education in Occupational Studies from the University of Georgia and a Master's degree in Counseling from Fort Valley State University. In addition, he has 20 years of business and industry experience.

Dates to Remember

- **Economy of Tomorrow Summit** with Futurist Ed Barlow, October 27, 2006, Chattanooga Convention Center, for information contact Mandy Taylor at (423) 763-4366 or mtaylor@chattanooga-chamber.com.
- October is **Disability Awareness Month** and Stacey Gardenhire, Georgia Advocacy Office will be the speaker at a Disability Awareness, 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. on October 27, 2006 at the Western Sizzlin in Dalton, Georgia.
- **Northwest Georgia Workforce Investment Board Meeting**, November 15, 2006 at B.J.'s Restaurant, Calhoun, GA, (706) 295-6485.
- **Grands Who Care**, a program of Mercy Senior Care, meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, 10:00 to 12:00. For more information call (706) 291-8496.
- **Georgia Workforce Conference 2006**, November 1-3, 2006 (Pre-conference workshops begin October 30) in Athens, Georgia at The Classic Center. For registration information visit http://www.dol.state.ga.us/spotlight/sp_upcoming_conferences.htm.
- **Building Global Economics in the 21st Century: From the Schoolhouse to the Workplace**, November 15, 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Georgia Highlands College, Lakeview Building, Room 123, Rome, Georgia, For information visit www.nwgaresa.com or call Starr Dees (706)295-6189 ext 23.
- **Career Scope Training Workshop**, November 29, 2006, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Atlanta Marriott Marquis, Peachtree Center. To register contact Cal Schaerer (865) 671-2004 or Beverly Duncan (954) 467-1670.



Mercy Senior Care (MSC), a provider of WIA OJT services for participants over age 55, placed 4th in the community display category at the Coosa Valley Fair held earlier this month. They won a prize of \$50.00. The theme of the exhibit was "Wake up and get to work".

MSC provided fair attendees with information about their services and awarded a \$30.00 door prize. Congratulations Mercy!

More CDL Requirements by Georgia

Georgia has mandated more requirements to get a Commercial Drivers License. Beginning July 1st anyone that currently has a CDL or is applying for one must complete the Highway Watch safety and security program. Completely funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Highway Watch is a way for CDL Drivers to report any suspicious activity by calling a 1-800 number. Catherine Riddle, admissions director with the Great Southern Commercial Driving School stated, "On the 1st day of class student's watch a video, and answer a series of three questions to verify understanding of Highway Watch. A Registration Form is completed and submitted online. A temporary card is issued, and the permanent card is mailed to the student's home within four to six weeks." All drivers will need to present this card to the Department of Driver Services when applying for or renewing their CDL.

For additional information on Highway Watch call the Georgia Motor Trucking Association (GMAT) at (770) 444-9771 or visit the Highway Watch website at www.highwaywatch.com



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Northwest Georgia One-Stop System—An equal opportunity program/equal opportunity employer of the NW Georgia Workforce Investment Board & Coosa Valley/North Georgia Council of Chief Elected Officials & a proud partner of America's Workforce Network. Auxiliary aids available upon request.



To submit articles to the Career Depot, email Susan Gentry at susang@cvrdc.org. To submit articles to The Business Informer, email Karen Howell at vandy88@aol.com. Or mail submissions to CVRDC, P.O. Box 1793, Rome, GA 30162-1793.