



Employer Newsletter

April, May, June 2007

South Hill, VA



Beautiful downtown South Hill was the place to be on Friday, April 20, 2007

The South Hill Virginia Employment Commission and the Employer Advisory Committee hosted its' first community *Employer Conference* and over seventy business representatives attended! Century 21 Clary treated the attendees to a delicious breakfast, which was followed by remarks from VEC Commissioner Dee Esser. Professional presentations on such topics as Safety in the Workplace, Worker's Compensation, Payment of Wage Law, Unemployment Insurance and Harassment and Retaliation were then offered. Following lunch catered by the Pink Giraffe, Jean Clary-Bagley "wowed" the group with her motivational presentation. We laughed and cried; we were renewed and recharged by her heartfelt remarks and life experiences!

Thanks to participation of area businesses, we were able to give away lots of door prizes!

Here are some actual comments taken from the evaluation:

"Excellent presentations; speakers were very knowledgeable!"
"Loved it ---get started on the next conference!"
"Entire day was planned perfectly!"
"Recommend this event to every employer!"
"Food and the refreshments delightful and wonderfully prepared!"

Please look further in our newsletter for related pictures. We hope to offer other such opportunities as this in the future! If you have suggestions for topics or locations, please give me a call!

Carolyn Leslie

Manager, Virginia Employment Commission

Unemployment Rates as of March 2007	
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	
Mecklenburg Co.	(13,234)
Brunswick Co.	(6,684)
Virginia	3.1%
Mecklenburg Co.	5.2%
Brunswick Co.	4.9%
United States	4.5%
South Central Workforce Investment Area	4.8%

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS ASSISTANCE TO HOST BUSINESS CONFERENCE & PROCUREMENT FAIR IN VIRGINIA BEACH

VDBA is hosting "Business at the Beach," a conference and procurement fair on Friday, June 22, 2007 on the Virginia Beach Convention Center. The event will include the most recent information about the Commonwealth's purchasing practices and offer workshops to assist small businesses with certification, eVA registration and selling to the state. Concurrent workshops will also cover starting a business, financing and employee recruitment.

For more information or register, visit

www.vdba.virginia.gov/events/event.asp?EVENT_ID=3099

"Dynamic Speakers"



**"Great
Networking
Opportunities"**

**The Virginia Employment Commission &
The South Hill Employer Advisory Committee...**

Conference voted a huge success!



**"We are here to make a positive
difference!"**
Jean Clary-Bagley



Planning Committee Members are (L to R)
Debra Smiley, Frances Lee, Linda Elms,
Ferriel Thomas, Betty DeOrnellas, Kristine
Martin and Donnie Williams.

"Great Food"



The opening plenary at the R.T. Arnold Library reflected a full house!

Denise Cox, VEC employee, greeted employers as they arrived at the conference.



**IF YOU NEED WORKERS,
YOU'VE COME TO THE
RIGHT PLACE!**

**Upcoming
Regional
JOB FAIR**

Tuesday -

**Southern Virginia
Higher Education
Center in partnership
with**

- ❖ Area Chambers of Commerce
- ❖ Community colleges (DCC & SVCC)

**EMPLOYERS
WANTED:**

If you are currently hiring or plan to hire in 2007, we invite you to participate in the upcoming regional job fair.

**Employers welcome
from:**

Charlotte County
City of Danville
Halifax Country
Mecklenburg County
Pittsylvania County
Person County, NC

If interested in participating or for more information, please contact:

NETTIE SIMON-OWENS, DIRECTOR OF WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Southern Virginia Higher Education Center
820 Bruce Street* South Boston, VA 24592

Call: 434-572-5477 or Toll Free in VA 1-800-283-0098, Ext. 5477

Email: nettiesimon-owens@svhed.org

Lobby Hours:

8:30am - 4:30pm
M, TU, TH, F
9:00am - 4:30pm
Wednesday

Hours of Operation:
8:00am - 5:00pm
Monday - Friday

**Business
Hours
&
Location**



**Virginia Workforce
Center**

910 North Mecklenburg Avenue,
South Hill, VA 23970

You may reach us
at (434) 447-7103 or
visit our website
www.vaemploy.com

CHECK OUT OUR VIDEOS

It's agreed that conflict is inevitable in the workplace and that it reflects worker's different needs, goals and ideas. But what is important is that when conflict occurs, it must be recognized and dealt with quickly, rather than ignored and allowed to fester. Check out this video--- "The Art of Resolving Conflicts"

in the Workplace". You will learn six techniques for successfully resolving conflicts and how these apply to various situations!

Call us today at (434) 447-8700 at the Virginia Workforce Center to reserve your copy!

Funding for this service made possible by the South Central Workforce Investment Board and the Workforce Investment Act.

Southside Virginia Community College Conducts Employer Survey

In 2006, the Office of Institutional Research at Southside Virginia Community College conducted an employer survey to determine the level of employer satisfaction with SVCC graduates. This was the sixth time this survey was done and it was for 2004 and 2005 SVCC graduates. A total of 243 of these graduates gave their permission for SVCC to contact their employers. Employers were then surveyed and two mailings produced a 60 percent response rate. The College places a great deal of importance on the insight employers can provide. They can give us valuable information on the college and its courses as well as well as the graduates themselves.

The survey revealed that 69% to 80% of all employers rated SVCC graduates either as "excellent (one of the best ever)" or good (better than most)" in all categories of job performance. These categories included such items as quality of work, attitude toward work and cooperation with fellow workers and supervisors.

Employers also rated SVCC graduates in the general skills of math, writing, speaking and problem-solving. The most excellent ratings were given in problem-solving skills and no skill area received more than six negative (below average or poor) ratings.

Lastly, employers were asked to rate SVCC in comparison to similar institutions in both occupational education/training and general education. Over 70% of employers felt that SVCC was better than most institutions in both of these areas. Only one employer rated SVCC below average in general education.

The data from the study lead the researchers to conclude that employers were generally quite satisfied with the 2004 and 2005 SVCC graduates they had hired. And employers seemed very satisfied with the education provided by SVCC. If anyone is interested in more detailed information on this study, please contact the Office of Institutional Research on the Keysville Campus at 434-736-2077.