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## JULY 2012

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### **St. Tammany EDF Releases First Quarter Trends Report**

The St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation today released its quarterly Trends Report, detailing local economic data for the first quarter of 2012. The number of employed Parish residents jumped more than 2,000 employed compared with first quarter of 2011 (1Q11) for an increase of 2 percent and the unemployment rate fell from 6.3 percent to 5.9 percent in year-over-year comparison of corresponding quarterly data. [Read more](#)

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### **Fourth St. Tammany Site Receives LED Certification**

Louisiana Economic Development (LED) has certified another site near Slidell, the St. Tammany Economic Development Foundation has announced. Adjacent to both Hwy. 433 and U.S. Hwy. 190, the 52-acre site, the Rigolets Estates PUD Commercial Area, is the fourth St. Tammany Parish tract to receive state certification since LED launched the program last year. [Read more](#)

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### **Southern States Have Become Job-Training Leaders**

Four years ago, Louisiana's economy was in need of a boost. In addition to the foreclosures and job losses that were beginning to bedevil other states, Louisiana was still recovering from the upheaval of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. With one of the nation's highest poverty rates, Louisiana was in serious need of new jobs. [Read more](#)

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## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNER NEWS**

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### **2012 International Business Conference for Women & Minorities - July 26 & 27**

The International Business Conference for Women & Minorities presents industry experts focusing on international business issues, resources and opportunities for women & minorities and how to take advantage of them. The conference also offers strategically planned sessions, social events, networking, and best practices from seasoned entrepreneurs along with success stories that will challenge and motivate participants to expand their global vision by looking beyond their borders to grow their business. [Read more](#)

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### **SAVE THE DATE: Small Business Summit - August 22**

US Senator Mary Landrieu and St. Tammany Parish President Pat Brister are presenting a Small Business Summit on Wednesday, August 22 from 8am -12pm at the Northshore Harbor Center, 100 Harbor Center Blvd., in Slidell. Additional information will be forthcoming.

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**SAVE THE DATE: Associated Wholesale Grocers Job Fair - Sept. 21**

Associated Wholesale Grocers (AWG) is hosting a job fair at the Northshore Harbor Center, 100 Harbor Center Blvd., in Slidell on Friday, September 21. Additional information will be provided as it becomes available. [Click here](#) for more information on AWG Career Opportunities.

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**Pontchartrain Express Ferry Petition**

Pontchartrain Express is seeking commuter support for their fast ferry service across Lake Pontchartrain. They have received permits from several federal and state agencies to operate. However, several hurdles remain regarding additional south shore landings. [Click here](#) to view the petition.

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**Summer 2012 Edition of *Economic Reporter* Now Available**

The Southeastern Business Research Center (BRC) is pleased to announce that the Summer 2012 edition of the *Economic Reporter* is now available. [Read more](#)

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**Free Business Disaster Guide Now Available for Download**

With hurricane season underway, the LSBDC has taken extra steps to help small businesses prepare and understand the impact a disaster could have on their business. [Read more](#)

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**STEDF PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES**

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**St. Tammany Parish Quarterly Economic Trends Report**

The St. Tammany Parish Economic Trends Report is a presentation of quarterly economic data accompanied by a brief discussion of data... [Read more](#)

**St. Tammany Parish Economic Growth Index**

The St. Tammany Parish Economic Growth Index is a measure of economic expansion comparing changes in five economic components over time. [Read more](#)

**St. Tammany Parish Ten-Year Economic Summary**

The St. Tammany Parish Ten-Year Economic Summary provides a comprehensive long-term look at changes in the parish's economic trends. [Read more](#)

**Available Resources**

STEDF has partnered with various organizations to offer a variety of services to assist the business community. [Read more](#)