

PRESS RELEASE September 10, 2014

Best in Business July/August 2014 Newsletter

It's been a summer of good news for Jefferson Parish as new national rankings appeared to help solidify what we already know; Jefferson Parish, Greater New Orleans, and the entire state of Louisiana are good places to do business. Just ask the five Jefferson Parish companies that landed on the <u>2014 Inc.</u> <u>5000</u>, a comprehensive list of the fastest growing companies in the United States. These companies joined the ranks of 41 Louisiana companies on the list. Or check out the *Business Facilities Magazine* <u>Metro & Global Rankings report</u>, which placed Greater New Orleans in the top 10 of several lists.



Internally, we've celebrated some big wins as well. JEDCO offers programs designed to assist Jefferson Parish businesses with the financing of fixed assets, working capital, and inventory. This summer, the finance team helped the owners of District Donuts open a prep kitchen to assist with their business expansion in Gretna. The space will also serve as a <u>food truck operation</u>, providing kitchen rental for food trucks in the area. JEDCO financed \$360,000 of the nearly \$400,000 project. JEDCO also financed the real estate acquisition for a startup neurosurgeon medical

practical in Metairie.

Lacey Bordelon, who has served JEDCO in different capacities for more than seven years, recently assumed the role of the organization's Deputy Director. Lacey joined the team in 2007 as an Economic Development Specialist. Subsequently, JEDCO promoted Lacey to Director of Economic Development Services, where she oversaw the internationally-recognized business retention and expansion program. Lacey's expertise in economic development and community planning made her the ideal candidate for Deputy Director.

In August, we released our <u>2013 Annual Report</u>. The report highlighted some of our major projects and activities from 2013. We welcomed new companies to the parish, financed a number of major projects, and celebrated the best year in JEDCO history! Not only does the report detail our activity, but it showcases the men and women who help make up our Jefferson Parish workforce. These individuals were directly impacted by JEDCO's work and we are excited to share their stories.

While the summer has been scorching, it's our local businesses that have really turned up the heat. And we want to help keep that momentum going. As the sunny season comes to a close, as always, we're looking ahead to the future. JEDCO will continue to attract new business, create new opportunities, and assist in the growth of our local companies. We are here as a resource for the Jefferson Parish community. <u>Reach out to us</u> to see how we can help you grow your business.

Economic Accolades

Congratulations to MaxHome, Global Commerce & Services, Hunt Telecommunications, AAC Enterprises, and Tasc Performance. These five Jefferson Parish companies were ranked on the prestigious <u>2014 Inc. 5000</u>!

Congratulations to Global Commerce & Services. Not only was our <u>former incubator tenant</u> recognized on the Inc. 5000 (#219), but the company also landed on the <u>Washington Technology 2014 Fast 50</u> (#21). The IT company plans to host a grand opening at its new facility off of Manhattan Boulevard later this month.

Business Facilities Magazine ranked Louisiana #1 for Best Business Climate.

In the *Business Facilities* Metro & Global Rankings report, Greater New Orleans landed in the top 10 of several major lists. It ranked #1 for Logistics Leaders (Ports), #1 Fastest Growing Airport, #2 for Export Growth Leaders, and #5 in Economic Growth Potential.



Louisiana received top marks for small business friendliness, ranking <u>#5 in a report on</u> <u>Thumbtack.com.</u>

Paris Evans, a 2013 graduate of the Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy, was the recipient of a \$100,000 scholarship from Phyllis Taylor. She currently attends the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Mrs. Taylor awarded Nick Dang and Lauren Tran, also Patrick F. Taylor students, \$32,000 each in scholarship funds.

Business Blurbs

<u>Idea Village</u> kicked off the <u>2015 Entrepreneur Season</u> in July. In honor of the launch, we're highlighting some of our JEDCO finalists with big news to share.

<u>Clinicate</u> launched <u>its file-sharing platform</u> for the healthcare industry in July.

<u>GetHealthy, Inc.</u> was voted one of the <u>Top 3 Fastest Growing Companie</u>s in Direct Primary Care by the Journal of Direct Primary Care, which is the leading national publication on the subject.

<u>ADVANO</u> was recently accepted into the <u>Cleantech Open Accelerator 2014</u>. The startup is scheduled to present in the regional finals at the Shell headquarters in Houston. Pending the regional results, ADVANO could have an opportunity to present at the nationals in Silicon Valley. The company also brought on two new members to the advisory board; Miriam John, PhD, is a VP Emeritus at Sandia National Labs and Rob Ferber is the CEO at Electronvault and Science Director at Tesla Motors. The company continues to build strategic relationships with a leading international chemical distributor and a global leader in processing equipment and plant engineering.

The team behind <u>The Collector</u> recently integrated Dwolla into the app as a payment processor, which provides users with an additional option to pay back their friends. The most exciting part of their partnership with Dwolla has been the ability to drastically reduce processing fees for users. This means it's now easier and extremely cost efficient to get your friends to pay you back through The Collector for any event or activity, such as group trips, fantasy football, or parties.



<u>ICONIC</u>, the 2013 winner of our entrepreneur challenge, was featured on this month's <u>#IDEAinsider</u>! See what founder, Billy Bosch, has to say about the entrepreneur life.

<u>Cordina New Orleans Cocktails</u>, the company behind on-the-go adult beverages in a pouch, is a local entrepreneurial success story, experiencing fast growth in both employee base and revenue. You may recall, JEDCO teamed up with Cordina back in 2013 to launch the first-ever Jefferson Parish-based pitch competition during <u>New Orleans Entrepreneur Week</u>. Now, the Elmwood-based company has a new product on the market. Cordina just launched frozen ICEE and SLUSH PUPPiE brand slushies in the company's signature pouch

nationwide! Made, bottled, and shipped from right here in Jefferson Parish, these re-sealable treats can be enjoyed right from your freezer!

Upcoming Events

The next <u>Grow with JEDCO</u> seminar will be held September 24th at the East Bank Regional Library at 9:00 AM. The financial management seminar is free to attend. We just ask that you register for the <u>event</u> on our website.

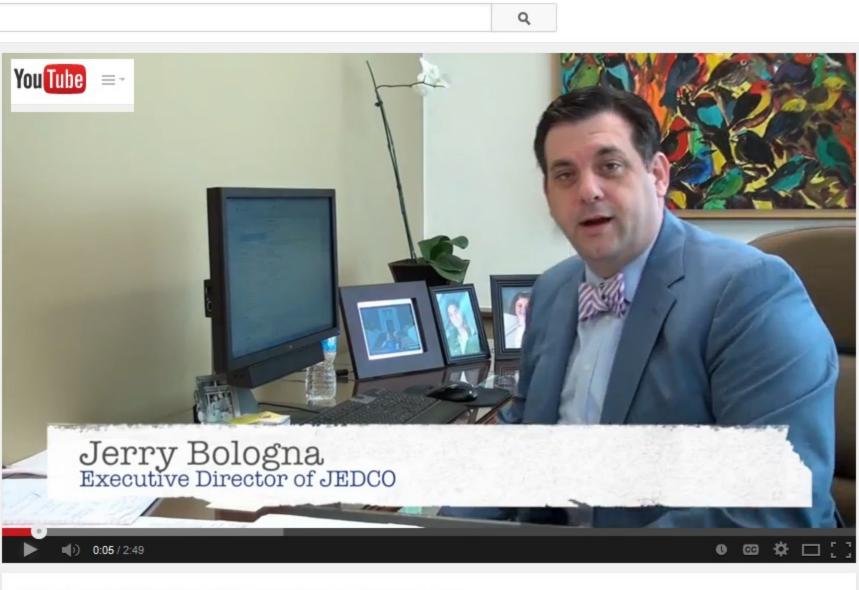
The inaugural <u>Fat City Festival</u>, hosted by the <u>Jefferson Chamber Young Professionals</u>, will be held November 15, 2014. Expect live music, good food, and a showing from some of the area's local businesses.

The East Jefferson General Hospital Foundation will host its 8th annual "Up on the Roof" event on October 24, 2014. Details can be found <u>here</u>.

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What JEDCO Can Do For Your Company



43 views



JEDCO helped finance this project

Former Gretna restaurant to become food truck prep space

By: Jessica Gonzalez, Reporter September 4, 2014 0

The owners of a Magazine Street restaurant want to serve the growing demand for commercial kitchen space



from the local food truck industry, and they are branching out to Jefferson Parish to do so.

The owners of District closed on a 5,000-square-foot restaurant space in Gretna last week for \$265,000, according to Jefferson Parish records.

Aaron Vogel, who owns the Lower Garden District business with Chris Audler and Stephen Cali, confirmed that the group has plans to use the former Clementine's Belgian Bistro as a prep space and kitchen cooperative for food trucks and other culinary vendors looking for space.

District, which specializes in donuts, sliders and coffee, is in the midst of developing a food truck concept itself, with 100 percent of the profits going to faith-based foster care and adoption advocacy group Crossroads NOLA.

"Right around when we were starting this project on Magazine, we partnered with Crossroads NOLA ... "We wanted to find a format to contribute and give profits to Crossroads, so we came up with a food truck and thought it would be a great way for us to work on the business side of that," Vogel said.

Starting a food truck required a prep space, and the Magazine Street restaurant location wasn't big enough, he said. Vogel and his partners hired a real estate agent and found the perfect property roughly five miles across the river from their restaurant.

"It was the first and last place we looked," Vogel said. "This building is a hop, skip and a jump from the area where we are now, and it's large enough for what we needed, and then some, so we thought we could look to purchase a space and make somewhat of a co-op for other food trucks."

A city ordinance approved last July allows food trucks to operate anywhere in New Orleans with commercial zoning with the exception of the French Quarter. State department of health regulations require food trucks to operate out of a commercial kitchen.

Driving forces behind the food truck boom in New Orleans <u>have expressed concern</u> over the finite amount of space available for trucks to meet the requirement.

District's owners will rent prep space to other food truck operators looking for a home base. Vogel said two have signed on to share the space, and there is room for about three more.

The listing agent for the property, George Jeansonne of French Quarter Realty, said the old Clementine's building was on the market for two years. It was receiving interest from other restaurant owners, Jeansonne said, but it suffered severe damage during Hurricane Isaac in 2012, dampening interest until repairs were completed.

"When we got the listing a couple years ago, we had a ton of interest. We put it under contract and that week Isaac took the roof off of it," Jeansonne said. "It took a long time to put it back into commerce, but the old owners painted it, cleaned it up and rehabbed the electrical issues and the roof ... As soon as we got through that, the District guys were interested."

Jeansonne, whose listings are generally concentrated on the east bank of Orleans Parish, said the proximity to the West Bank expressway and the size of the building was what interested most prospective buyers. The concept the District owners are trying to develop made the building a perfect fit.

"I had interest from not just restaurant operators, but from groups wanting to do cooking classes there. I had a few churches looking at it, a lot of different types of businesses," he said. "But since the District guys didn't need all that space, what they wanted to do really fit... It is rare to find that big of a space, with working kitchen equipment, all laid out and ready to go." •



Aug 27, 2014, 4:00 PM EDT

Story ran nationally, JEDCO helped NOLA Motorsports identify the site upon which it currently sits

UPDATED, 4:00 p.m. ET: It's official. The inaugural Indy Grand Prix of Louisiana will run April 10-12, 2015.



2015. The event will be held April 10-12 and organized by Andretti Sports

The event will be held April 10-12 and organized by Andretti Sports Marketing on a newly-configured 13-turn, 2.67-mile permanent road course layout.

The Indy Grand Prix of Louisiana will feature a three-day festival combining Louisiana's culture – including live musical acts, entertainment and local cuisine – with the excitement of a Verizon IndyCar Series event.

"We're delighted about the opportunity to showcase the Verizon IndyCar Series at NOLA Motorsports Park and to INDYCAR fans in the greater New Orleans area," Mark Miles, CEO of Hulman & Co., the parent of INDYCAR and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, said in

a release. "The commitment from track owner Laney Chouest and his associates, combined with the support we received from the state of Louisiana, was the catalyst in making this come to fruition. New Orleans has a history of hosting successful major sporting events and we're thrilled to be able to add the Indy Grand Prix of Louisiana to the 2015 Verizon IndyCar Series schedule."

10:45 a.m. ET: The Verizon IndyCar Series will have at least one new domestic race on its 2015 race schedule. The inaugural Indy Grand Prix of Louisiana, which was tentatively announced earlier this year, will be officially confirmed later Wednesday at 3:15 p.m. CT at a press conference at the NOLA Motorsports Park track.

The date <u>is expected to be April 12</u>, revealed earlier Wednesday in an Associated Press report. A source confirmed that date on condition of anonymity as it had not been publicly revealed.

Those scheduled to be in attendance include President of the Louisiana State Senate, State Senator – John A. Alario, Jr., Jefferson Parish President – John F. Young, Jr., President of NOLA Motorsports Park & NOLA Motor Host Committee, Inc. – Kristen Engeron, NOLA Motorsports Park Founder and Owner- Laney Chouest, CEO, Hulman & Company – Mark Miles and Indy Grand Prix of Louisiana General Manager – Tim Ramsberger, plus other Andretti Sports Marketing officials.

Ramsberger, the former Grand Prix of St. Petersburg president, joined Andretti Sports Marketing last month.

Andretti Sports Marketing has promoted the Milwaukee IndyFest race for three years since 2012, and New Orleans replaces Baltimore as the second IndyCar race it will promote (Baltimore ended in 2013).

As for what this does to <u>the 2015 schedule projection</u>, IndyCar will now either open with four domestic races in as many weekends, or run three in a row in April before a single off weekend.

It all depends on the Barber Motorsports Park date in Birmingham, Ala., which has not yet been revealed.

It will either go: March 29 St. Petersburg, April 5 Barber, April 12 NOLA, April 19 Long Beach, or, March 29 St. Petersburg, off weekend, April 12 NOLA, April 19 Long Beach, April 26 Barber.

This year, March 30 was the St. Petersburg date, followed by an off weekend before Long Beach April 13 and another off weekend before Barber April 27.

The Grand Prix of Indianapolis is scheduled for Saturday, May 9, to kick off the month in Indianapolis. Teams are expected to have a weekend off before the GPI weekend.



PRESS RELEASE September 5, 2014

JEDCO to Host Financial Management Seminar for Small Businesses

Part of Grow with JEDCO Seminar Series

(Fairfield, La) -Managing company finances and cash flow can be a difficult task, but it is the cornerstone of overall business management. In fact, financial management drives informed decision-making and positions a company for business success. How well do you manage your company's finances? Do you have questions about how to better manage your finances internally? The <u>Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission</u> (JEDCO) is here to help!

As part of the <u>Grow with JEDCO</u> series, the economic development commission partnered with <u>Simmons & White</u> to host "Managing Company Finances: Tips & Things You Should Know." This educational seminar will provide small and medium-size businesses with crucial information to help improve your company's financial management program. Keith Crawford, an expert in financial management and CEO of the <u>Loftin Group</u>, will cover the following topics:

- Financial Management Why is it so important to overall business management?
- Viewing your business health through a financial prism
- Using financial management to make better decisions How do you do it?
- The difference between financial management & accounting
- How financial management can lead to business success

Join us Wednesday, September 24th, at the East Bank Regional Library's Jefferson Room (4747 W. Napoleon Ave. Metairie) from 9:00-10:30. Admission is free, but registration is required to attend. The event is open to all businesses and entrepreneurs. Click <u>here</u> to register. For more information, contact Kelsey Scram at <u>kscram@jedco.org</u> or call (504) 875-3927.

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About JEDCO: JEDCO is an independent, yet complementary arm of Jefferson Parish government with the main objective of attracting, growing and creating new business in our area. Since its inception in 1987, JEDCO has aided thousands of companies through business incubator and loan programs, tax incentives and rebate programs, workforce development and information services. While dedicated to assisting existing Jefferson Parish businesses, JEDCO's efforts also target the recruitment of new businesses for the area.

Simmons & White: A local consulting firm, Simmons & White partners with high-potential companies to navigate

challenges and opportunities. Whether you are troubleshooting management issues, seeking best practices, or exploring new ways to grow, our team of experts can help. Simmons & White provides a comprehensive range of services in the areas of financial management, business process improvement, sales and marketing, access to capital, policies and procedures, risk management, strategy and technology.

About the Loftin Group: The Loftin Group is a linked network of executives and professional consultants, committed to the highest level of financial, strategic, and operational support to its clients. The mission is to improve client value and performance, to lead by action, and to deliver the most innovative solutions possible.

About the Business Innovation Center at Churchill: <u>The Business Innovation Center at Churchill</u> provides a place to develop up-and-coming businesses. Not only can startups find office space at below-market rent, but the incubator program is designed to connect business innovators, market experts and capital providers to transform business ideas into viable business ventures. The Business Innovation Center at Churchill provides an atmosphere in which startup businesses can survive and prosper.

Contact: Kelsey Scram JEDCO Marketing and PR Manager (504) 875-3927 kscram@jedco.org www.jedco.org.







By <u>Mark Waller, NOLA.com | The Times-Picayune</u> Email the author | <u>Follow on Twitter</u> on September 08, 2014 at 3:56 PM, updated September 08, 2014 at 4:01 PM

The <u>Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission</u> is hosting a session on managing business finances Sept. 24 at 9 a.m. in the Eastbank Regional Library's Jefferson Room, 4747 W. Napoleon Ave. in Metairie.

JEDCO is producing the event with the Simmons & White business consulting firm. It's called "Managing Company Finances: Tips & Things You Should Know" and will feature Keith Crawford, chief executive of the Loftin Group management consulting firm. Crawford will cover points such as the distinction between accounting and financial management and using financial management to make better decisions.

The session is free and open to any businesses or entrepreneurs. <u>Registration is available online.</u> For more information, contact Kelsey Scram at kscram@jedco.org or call 504.875.3927.

JEDCO Conference Center Opens its Doors to the Public Churchill Technology and Business Park reaches new milestone







There's a new space in which to host your corporate events on the West Bank! The JEDCO Conference Center made its public debut in the Churchill Technology and Business Park in June. The state-ofthe-art facility highlights the continued growth and success on the West Bank of Jefferson Parish.

The newest building to open in the West Bank technology park, the JEDCO Conference Center was designed with the local business community in mind. The facility was developed to serve the future tenants of the Churchill Technology and Business Park, providing high-end event space for training, recruitment, and corporate meetings. The conference center can seat up to 150 people and offers a variety of configurations to meet the needs of any business.

The facility has an ample supply of audio/ visual equipment for use and a full-service prep kitchen. Additionally, the JEDCO Conference Center is home to ten pieces of Michalopoulos artwork, generously donated

by Jack and Jerri Stumpf, Pat and Henry Shane, and the Michalopoulos Gallery.

Not only will this new facility provide a first-rate event space for the West Bank community, but also it will serve as an attractive feature as JEDCO continues to market the Churchill Technology and Business Park to prospective companies.

Jefferson Parish The Economic Development Commission (JEDCO) is tasked with improving the economic climate of the entire area through business retention, expansion, and attraction. In recent years, JEDCO has helped to develop the Churchill Technology and Business Park, the largest master-planned site in the Greater New Orleans region. It boasts 500 acres of developable land and sits just 20 minutes from downtown New Orleans.

The Park grew out The Jefferson EDGE, the parish's comprehensive strategic plan to improve quality of life and business in the community. Tasked with encouraging technology development and attracting high wage industries to the region, JEDCO identified a need for a business and technology park. The organization has worked in cooperation with the Parish and local landowners for fifteen years to bring the park to life.

Today, the Churchill Technology and Business Park is home to the JEDCO administrative offices, the Business Innovation Center and the Patrick F. Taylor Science and Technology Academy, a regional magnet school. Delgado Community College recently announced plans to build its River City Campus in the Park as well. Each new opening in the park highlights the continued investment into the community, creating a premiere destination for businesses.

If you are interested in hosting an event at the new JEDCO Conference Center, call (504) 875-3908 or email Scott Rojas at srojas@jedco.org.



Louisiana ranks 6th state for business, magazine reports



<u>Print</u>

By <u>Renita D. Young, NOLA.com | The Times Picayune</u> Email the author | <u>Follow on Twitter</u> on September 15, 2014 at 3:25 PM, updated September 15, 2014 at 9:20 PM 0 Reddit

When it comes to doing business in the U.S., Louisiana ranks among the top 10 states, according to a recent trade magazine ranking.

Site-selection and facility-planning magazine *Area Development* ranked Louisiana 6th in its fifth annual Top States for Doing Business survey, the same ranking the state achieved last year. This

year, Louisiana has also ranked within the top four in sub-categories, including first in incentives programs.

"Today there are more people working in Louisiana than ever before. Since 2008, we've worked hard to make Louisiana one of the best places in the world for businesses to invest, including reducing burdensome taxes and government spending, and this ranking is proof that our work is paying off," said Gov. Bobby Jindal in a statement. "Today, we now rank higher in every national business climate ranking than we ever did prior to 2008. Indeed, this recognition shows how far Louisiana has come--but we won't stop working until Louisiana is ranked No. 1 for business development and job creation."

The magazine noted Louisiana's leveraging of the film industry, in which 18 major-studio productions were shot, and billions in petrochemical industry-driven investment as high points for the state.

Location consultants ranked the states on 18 categories, including business environment, labor climate and infrastructure/global access.

Area Development's Top 10 States for Doing Business in 2014 were:

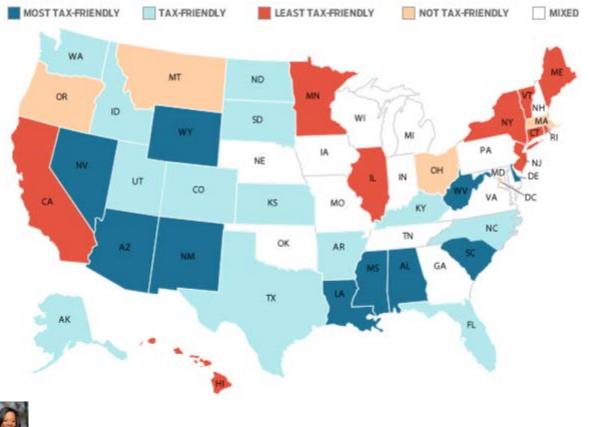
- 1. Georgia
- 2. Texas
- 3. South Carolina
- 4. Alabama
- 5. Tennessee
- 6. Louisiana
- 7. Indiana
- 8. North Carolina
- 9. Ohio
- 10. Mississippi

View the complete Area Development rankings.

According to Area Development, Georgia ranked first, because, "the state has combined a business-friendly approach with enduring advantages such as a highly and well-trained workforce and a modern transportation infrastructure."

Louisiana ranks 3rd in Kiplinger's 10 most tax-friendly states, report shows

Kiplinger Tax Map



By <u>Renita D. Young, NOLA.com | The Times Picayune</u> Email the author | <u>Follow on Twitter</u> on August 25, 2014 at 3:10 PM, updated August 25, 2014 at 3:37 PM

When it comes to ranking states on the friendliness of their income taxes sales tax ant other taxes, Louisiana proved among the most friendly, according to Kiplinger's annual ranking of the 10 most and least tax-friendly states.

Louisiana ranks third among Kiplinger's <u>10 Most Tax-Friendly States</u>, behind Wyoming, which ranked second and Delaware, the most tax-friendly state.

The rankings and online tax map compare a range of taxes in each state, including income tax, sales tax, gas tax, and "sin" taxes on products like alcohol and tobacco.

Kiplinger's 10 Most Tax-Friendly States:

- 1. Delaware
- 2. Wyoming
- 3. Louisiana
- 4. Mississippi
- 5. Alabama
- 6. Arizona

- 7. Nevada
- 8. New Mexico
- 9. South Carolina
- 10. West Virginia

Kiplinger's 10 Least Tax-Friendly States:

- 1. California
- 2. Connecticut
- 3. New Jersey
- 4. New York
- 5. Hawaii
- 6. Rhode Island
- 7. Maine
- 8. Minnesota
- 9. Vermont
- 10. Illinois

Along with its rankings, Kiplinger's produced a tax map, a sister project to the organization's annual <u>Retiree Tax</u> <u>Map</u> which presents each state's income taxes on investment income, retirement-plan distributions and Social Security benefits. It also includes a rundown of sales taxes, property taxes, and estate and inheritance taxes.

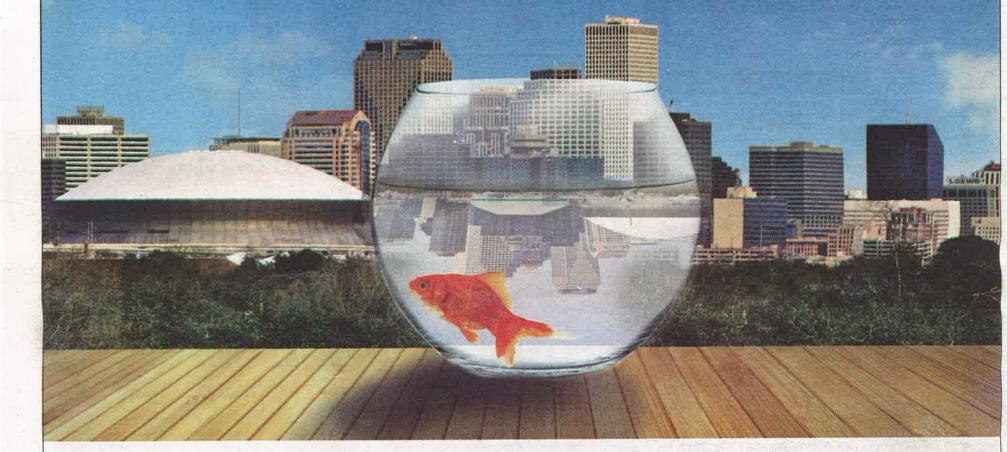
"The Tax Map is a valuable tool for anyone considering a move, whether it's cross country or just over to the next state," said Robert Long, Managing Editor at <u>Kiplinger.com</u>. "It's also important for users to consider the potential tradeoffs associated with varying taxation policies. For example, states with lower tax revenues may not spend as much on critical services that residents might benefit from in other states."

To view the complete Tax Map for a detailed summary of a state taxes, visit www.kiplinger.com/links/taxmap.

"Many of the states that consistently rank among the least tax-friendly for retirees are also the least tax-friendly across the board," said Sandra Block, Senior Associate Editor at *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*. "Our rankings and the Tax Map tool help users to make the most financially sound decision when considering an interstate move."

BACK PAGE-SEPT. 5

Move beyond boundaries.





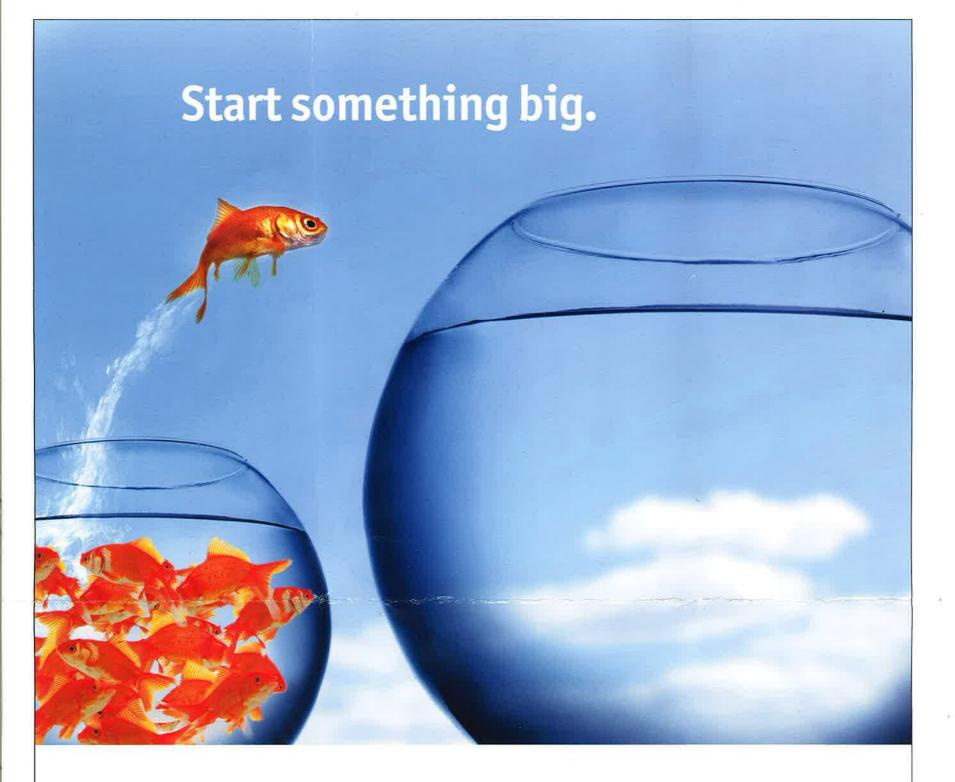
In today's challenging economy, emerging business leaders know what it takes to get ahead: the ability to

move quickly and confidently into the global economy. With over 500 acres in close proximity to railways, interstates, international airlines and shipping ports, Churchill Technology and Business Park offers unbridled opportunity. We're conveniently located just 20 minutes from downtown New Orleans in thriving Jefferson Parish.

If you're ready to move, we're ready to help with customized growth strategies, loan programs and incentive packages. Call to talk about your future at **504-875-3908.**



Think big. Move beyond. Churchillpark.org



There's a new vision for Louisiana and with it, the leadership to make it happen. For those who dream big, there's a new home in the Churchill Technology & Business Park.

Just 20 minutes from downtown New Orleans, this high-profile park in Jefferson Parish is the largest master-planned site in the metro area. And, it's located in an area that didn't flood. With 500 acres in close proximity to ports, airlines, railways and interstates, Churchill offers strategic advantages to companies moving ideas, products and services into the global economy.

To learn more, call 504-875-3908 or visit www.churchillpark.org.



Think big. Move beyond.

BOOK OF LISTS 2014 - INSIDE FRONT COVER



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-Michael Maenza, Founder and CEO, MMI Culinary Services

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"We looked at five parishes as possible locations for our business. JEDCO was first to respond, and they also helped with meeting space, staff involvement, and discussions with area businesses. They really made the difference."

-Dr. Laney Chouest, NOLA Motorsports

Your vision goes into overdrive when we get involved.

We'll steer you to prime sites, facilities, business contacts, financing, data, and marketing expertise. Look to the future. We're making it happen.



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