



Job fair aims to help laid-off workers

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THE SOUTHERN DU QUOIN - With more than 200 positions for the taking at Tuesday's Employment Opportunity Fair, attendance should be required for anyone seeking a job.

The fair, aimed at former Technicolor Universal Media Services and Maytag employees as well as the general public, offers jobseekers a genuine opportunity to walk out with new employment. Only those employers with current job openings - and who wish to hire candidates that day - are invited to attend the fair.

"The first smart choice a jobseeker could make is attending this one-day event," said Kathy Lively, executive director of Man-Tra-Con Corp. "The job search committee that coordinates this event doesn't invite companies just because they exist. They are invited only if they have job openings. Interviews are held at the event, as well as professional resume assistance and area college representatives to discuss training opportunities. Southern Illinoisans building a future with a solid career is what this Employment Opportunity Fair is about."

Some of the job openings up for grabs include electric/mechanical technicians, sales, administrative assistant, drivers, light industrial, clerical, security, welders, manufacturing, laborers, fabricating, nursing, coders, physicians, management, Web development, as well as many others.

In addition, the fair will have resources available onsite to offer immediate assistance to people searching for employment. Help will be given in such areas as resume preparation and interview skills.

Employer incentives, such as funding for employee on-the-job training, will be explained and assistance given to take advantage of such opportunities.

Representatives from local community colleges will be onsite to discuss educational and training opportunities while Man-Tra-Con reps will provide information on how to fund those opportunities.

John Otey of the Illinois Department of Employment Security, job search committee co-chair, said he is confident job seekers will be glad they attended this event.

"We hosted a similar event in January and had over 1,100 Southern Illinoisans participate. Many were hired that day and even more were employed within weeks. What makes this event more exciting? More job openings offered by the employers attending. A person that brings in a

resume, dresses for an interview and lets a Man-Tra-Con professional give them a few pointers when they arrive will have a really good chance at getting a job. It's exciting."

Participants are encouraged to bring a resume and dress professionally as employers will be conducting interviews that day.

Individuals needing assistance in creating or upgrading their resumes can get free help at the event or they can visit a One-Stop Business and Employment Center in Marion, Carbondale, West Frankfort, Mount Vernon or Du Quoin.

A complete list of employers and job openings can be found on the Internet at www.transitionsSI.com.

For more information, contact Kristen Poshard at 998-0970 ext. 265 or at kristenposhard@mantracon.org.

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