

# ExxonMobil News

A publication for neighbors, employees and retirees in the Baton Rouge area

## FUTURE LEADERS IN ACTION: HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS SHOWCASE SUMMER ACHIEVEMENTS

In a packed room filled with parents, friends, and community members, each of our 38 high school interns presented their summer projects, sharing both technical skills and personal lessons learned from their experiences. The highly competitive internship program has expanded from six to 38 interns since its inception and now includes high school students and recent graduates from 23 Baton Rouge area high schools. As the program came to a close, the interns sharpened essential soft skills such as networking and personal branding, preparing themselves for future opportunities.



HSIP Group

The interns began their summer with onboarding and a STEM field trip to LSU and the Water Institute, where they engaged in hands-on projects exploring mechanical and engineering aspects of the sites. Contractors MMR and Turner Industries welcomed the interns to observe current fabrication projects destined for the Complex. The summer was filled with team-building activities, friendly competitions, and a special visit from former intern and NBA player Damien Jones.

Throughout the summer, interns worked closely with their mentors to prepare for their year-end presentations. They also dedicated time to give back to the community, volunteering with the Greater Baton Rouge Food Bank to assist Houston after Hurricane Beryl and collaborating with Habitat for Humanity Baton Rouge to support affordable housing initiatives.

*This internship was a life-changing experience because I want to go into the Chemical Engineering field and learning the steps to get there was really helpful. The internship has also helped me develop my own skills to be a professional and many kids my age do not have that opportunity.*

-Maven, Baton Rouge Magnet High School

## EMPOWERING TOMORROW'S WORKFORCE

In August, the North Baton Rouge Industrial Training Initiative (NBRITI) program celebrated the graduation of over 90 students who earned certifications from the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) Core, Level I, and Level II in various disciplines including electrical, pipefitting, millwright, and welding. This marks the 10<sup>th</sup> graduating class since the program's inception.

NBRITI is a collaborative effort between ExxonMobil and Baton Rouge Community College, offering free training courses in industrial craft fields. Starting in 2024 the program also included training in process technology. Eligible participants receive fast-tracked classroom and hands-on training, which also includes life skills and workforce

preparations. The program aims to provide North Baton Rouge residents with opportunities to establish successful careers in skilled trades with local industrial employers. Since its launch in 2012, the program has graduated more than 600 individuals. Applications for the next NBRITI cohort will be available in late spring. For more information, visit [mybrcc.edu/nbriti](http://mybrcc.edu/nbriti).



NBRITI Graduation Cohort 10  
\*photo provided by BRCC

## ExxonMobil Welcomes New Engineering Deans in Collaborative Celebration



ExxonMobil hosted a reception to celebrate academic excellence and collaboration, welcoming new College of Engineering Deans: Dr. Vicki Colvin from Louisiana State University (LSU) and Dr. Lealon Martin from Southern University. This joint reception marked the beginning of an exciting new chapter for both institutions. Dr. Colvin brings a wealth of experience and a visionary approach to LSU, and Dr. Martin, with his extensive background in chemical engineering and commitment to diversity in STEM, is set to elevate Southern University to new heights.

# EXXONMOBIL NAMED LARGE MANUFACTURER OF THE YEAR



ExxonMobil has been honored as this year's Large Manufacturer of the Year by the Louisiana Association of Business and Industry (LABI), recognizing its significant growth and contributions to the community in Louisiana. This prestigious accolade highlights the company's steadfast commitment to innovation, quality, and community engagement.

ExxonMobil's recognition stems from its substantial growth and modernization efforts, including a \$230 million investment in the Baton Rouge Complex. This investment enhanced technological capabilities, created new jobs, and significantly boosted the local economy. Furthermore, the company's dedication to community support is evident through its extensive philanthropy, environmental initiatives, and training programs for first responders. These efforts underscore ExxonMobil's commitment to both economic development and the well-being of the community.

## Networking and Fellowship brought Annuitants Together



More than 250 retirees gathered for the annual Annuitant Briefing, where they had the chance to reconnect with old friends and colleagues. Site leadership delivered comprehensive updates on current operations, human resource developments, and our ongoing community initiatives. The 2024 annuitant briefing offered a perfect blend of networking, fellowship, and important company news.

## Community Dialogue Group Gets First Look at Baton Rouge General's Mobile Health Unit



Members of our Community Dialogue Group had the opportunity to learn from the Baton Rouge General team about the new Baton Rouge General Mobile Health Unit. BRG Care on the Go, supported with a contribution from ExxonMobil, is a mobile health unit that offers primary and urgent care services, wellness exams, on-site testing, vaccines and more in a comfortable setting at convenient locations throughout North Baton Rouge. To learn more about the unit, visit [BRGeneral.org/CareOnTheGo](http://BRGeneral.org/CareOnTheGo).

## United Way Recognizes ExxonMobil for Exceptional Support and Leadership



ExxonMobil was honored at Capital Area United Way's Annual Meeting for placing in the Top 10 for Total Support, Top 10 in Workplace Giving, and Going the Extra Mile. Chemical Plant Manager Dave Luecke was honored by the Board of Directors for his service as the 2023-2024 Board Chair. Additionally, annuitants Carolyn and Howard Vigie were celebrated as Volunteers of the Year in recognition of their more than 35 years of dedicated service to United Way. ExxonMobil has been a proud supporter of the Capital Area United Way for over 50 years.

## ExxonMobil Joins City of Baker for Annual Prayer Breakfast Event



ExxonMobil was proud to sponsor the City of Baker Mayor's Annual Prayer Breakfast, which featured East Baton Rouge Mayor-President Sharon Weston Broome as the guest speaker. Thank you to City of Baker Mayor Darnell Waites for his warm welcome to the ExxonMobil team who attended the event.

## BAYOU BLITZ: EXXONMOBIL AND VOLUNTEERS TACKLE TRASH AT MONTE SANO BAYOU



ExxonMobil volunteers joined together with the Louisiana Stormwater Coalition, LSU AgCenter Botanic Gardens, and BREC Conservation for the "Bash the Trash" event at Monte Sano Bayou, located in north Baton Rouge near ExxonMobil facilities. During the cleanup, volunteers gathered over 46 bags of trash, weighing 630 lbs., along with 35 lbs. of debris and hundreds of tires. They also focused on recycling, collecting 4 bags (weighing 36 lbs.), 503 plastic bottles, and 213 aluminum cans. Thanks to ExxonMobil's investment, a litter boom was installed to assist with the cleanup and to collect data for future stormwater management and litter abatement initiatives.

## COOKING FOR A CAUSE: ANNUAL JAMBALAYA COOK-OFF UNDER THE OAKS



The 34th annual Jambalaya Cook-Off brought together 52 teams of employees and contractors to support the Capital Area United Way campaign, which aims to empower the local community. With over 500 attendees and nearly 600 to-go plates distributed, the event was a delightful mix of competition and camaraderie. Judges from the community, nonprofit organizations, and business leaders savored every bite before making the challenging decision on the best jambalaya.

Participants enjoyed more than just the delicious food; they also had a blast dunking their managers in the dunking booth, feasting on jambalaya, and mingling with colleagues. The day concluded with a celebration of the winning teams, who were honored with awards for first, second, and third places, as well as People's Choice and Best Costume.

# EXXONMOBIL INSPIRES FUTURE LEADERS AT THE WOMEN IN INDUSTRY FORUM



ExxonMobil was proud to be one of the sponsors of the inaugural Greater Baton Rouge Industry Alliance (GBRIA) Women in Industry Forum. The event brought together over 250 high school students from 20 different schools to explore exciting career opportunities in science and manufacturing. Our employee resource groups, the Women Interest Network (WIN) and Women at the Frontlines, engaged with the students to discuss career paths, provide interactive demonstrations, and facilitate enjoyable lunch conversations about women in industry.

## Baton Rouge Polyolefins Hosts Local Chamber for Insightful Tour



The Zachary Chamber of Commerce Leadership North Class had the opportunity to visit the Baton Rouge Polyolefins (BRPO) facility. During their tour, participants received a thorough overview of the diverse products manufactured at BRPO. The highlight of the visit was an in-depth look at the newly added Polypropylene Growth Project, showcasing the latest advancements and innovations at the plant.

## ExxonMobil Scholars Join Together for Networking Event



ExxonMobil Scholars from Louisiana State University (LSU) and Southern University (SU) recently held a networking event to conclude the semester. During the event, they reflected on their personal growth by describing their semester in just one word and sharing new insights about their peers. This gathering fostered connections between the two universities and highlighted ExxonMobil's commitment to developing future industry leaders.

## Barbara Beckmann Honored as Louisiana Role Model



The Baton Rouge Chapter of The Links, Incorporated recently celebrated its 60th anniversary at its Annual New Orleans Style Jazz Brunch, with ExxonMobil as the presenting sponsor. Barbara Beckmann, Senior Economic Advisor, was honored as one of the 2024 Louisiana Role Models in the National Trends and Services category. This facet of The Links focuses on eliminating disparities and reducing barriers to services through leadership, education, and service. Beckmann, the first woman to graduate with an engineering degree from the University of Mississippi in Oxford, began her career at the Baton Rouge Refinery in 1961. By the 1980s, she had risen to the supervisor level. Today, she mentors many young engineers and is a trailblazer for women professionals.

## Port Allen Lubricants Welcomes Neighbors for a Visit



The Port Allen Lubricants Plant had the pleasure of welcoming its neighbors, the West Side Women's Club, to its facilities. During their visit, the members toured the plant, learned about its operations, and reconnected with familiar faces among the employees. The educational insights and warm interactions made for a truly memorable experience for the residents of West Baton Rouge.

## Community and Leaders Gather for ExxonMobil's Annual Holiday Open House



Over 150 guests recently gathered for ExxonMobil's annual Holiday Open House, transforming the venue into a vibrant hub of holiday cheer. The event brought together community members, elected officials, business leaders, and nonprofit organizations to celebrate the season and reflect on the year's achievements.

## USAAE Conference Participants Welcomed with Refinery Tour



The United States Association for Energy Economics (USAAE) kicked off its annual conference, hosted by Louisiana State University's Center for Energy Studies, by participating in a tour of the Refinery facilities. The USAAE brings together professionals from business, government, academia, and other sectors to enhance the understanding and application of economics in all areas of energy development and use.

## ExxonMobil Proudly Sponsors 51st Bayou Classic



ExxonMobil was proud to sponsor the 51st Bayou Classic between Southern University and Grambling State University. Our employees and leadership enjoyed supporting both teams, and our Southern alumni were thrilled to see the Jaguars take the win!

## ExxonMobil and BRYC Launch Engineering Mentorship Program



ExxonMobil has launched an exciting new collaboration with the Baton Rouge Youth Coalition (BRYC) to provide comprehensive mentoring services for BRYC college students majoring in engineering. This initiative began with a kickoff dinner in August, which included site and BRYC leadership, mentors, and mentees. The program aims to support and guide these students—many of whom are first-generation college attendees—through their academic and professional journeys. The mentorship program features monthly mentor-mentee meetings, virtual events that address the unique challenges faced by first-generation college students, and hands-on experiences through a "day in the life" program to help students understand the workplace environment and the daily responsibilities of an engineer.

## ExxonMobil Welcomes Blue Wave Supplier Development Program



The 2024 cohort of the American Petroleum Institute (API) Blue Wave Supplier Development Program had the opportunity to visit the Baton Rouge Refinery, which included an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour. During the visit, participants heard firsthand accounts from employees, providing them with an eye-opening look at the refinery's operations and the groundbreaking innovations driving the energy industry forward. This tour was part of the Energy Workshop, which brought together over 30 small and mid-sized business owners.

The Blue Wave Supplier Development Program is dedicated to empowering local and diverse suppliers by equipping them with the knowledge of the standards required by major corporations and government organizations. This initiative opens the door for these suppliers to compete for high-value business opportunities, ensuring their growth and success in a competitive market.

## Forty Under 40 Recognition



David Hou, Operating Services Technical Supervisor, was named a Forty Under 40 recipient by the Greater Baton Rouge Business Report. Representing a diverse range of industries, Forty Under 40 honorees are selected for driving transformation in business and the community. David was certainly a worthy recipient. David has been recognized with the 2018 ExxonMobil Value Chain Award, 2020 ExxonMobil President's Excellence Award and for the 2023 Capital Area United Way Employee Campaign of the Year. David's passion for the energy industry and his heart for the community in Baton Rouge are evident in his everyday life.

# EMPLOYEES IN ACTION

## Thanksgiving Giveaway



Our employee resource group, Black Employee Success Team (BEST) joined together with Allen Chapel AME Church to distribute turkeys and pies to community members before the Thanksgiving Holidays!

## STEM Fest



Employees volunteered at the STEM Baton Rouge events, where hundreds of K-12 students engaged in over 60 STEM activities. They provided hands-on, interactive experiences that included building circuit structures, demonstrating forces and motion, exploring biology and chemical reactions, and learning how engines and motors operate.

## Veterans Day



Our Veteran Advocacy and Support Team (VAST) celebrated Veterans Day with a series of activities that brought employees together in a heartfelt tribute to those who have served. One of the main events was the Veterans Day Murph Challenge, which pushed participants to their limits through various physical feats, showcasing their strength and determination. A special ceremony was also held to honor all ExxonMobil veterans and their family members.

# IN THE NEWS

- [Project Development Supervisor Bukky Harthoorn is mom next door.](#)
- [ExxonMobil is leveraging its expertise to collaborate with LSU, aiming to position itself as the national leader in energy research.](#)
- [ExxonMobil was recognized for environmental excellence through a recent certification.](#)
- [Meet the Forty Under 40. ExxonMobil employee, David Hou was recently recognized as an honoree.](#)
- [Hands-on STEM activities at the Wildlife Education Building \(WEB\) offered summer fun.](#)