26th Annual League Municipal Day Draws Municipal Officials Statewide

Several hundred municipal officials and employees gathered in Santa Fe at La Fonda Hotel on February 25 to listen to a legislative update by League Executive Director William Fulginiti.

At left is League President Linda Calhoun, Mayor of Red River, presenting the League’s Amigo de Las Ciudades Award to State Representative Roberto “Bobby” Gonzales of Taos. The award recognizes Representative Gonzales for his help to municipalities throughout the years. He was the former chairman of the House Transportation and Public Works Committee.
Recent Labor Survey Shows Differences in States’ Employment
By Jack Grovum, Stateline Staff Writer

The state of Hawaii has almost 13 times as many professional dancers than would be expected based on the national average. In New York, there are more than six times as many fashion designers. Florida has five times more professional athletes.

Indiana, home to the Purdue University Boilermakers, has more than six times as many actual, working boilermakers. Those are just some of the results of a Pew Charitable Trusts analysis of data released last year by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (Pew also funds Stateline). The numbers show that in many cases state reputations for certain industries are well-earned and supported by employment data.

The numbers for North Dakota and Texas, for example, show the states’ heavy reliance on the energy industry: North Dakota has almost 36 times more extraction workers than would be expected based on national averages; Texas has almost seven times as many petroleum engineers. Louisiana, too, shows its reliance on energy: There are 20 times more riggers in the state than would be expected.

Other states show similar reliance on certain industries: West Virginia has 77 times more mine shuttle car operators than would be expected. Nevada, meanwhile, is home to 32 times more gaming supervisors. Oregon has more than 40 times as many loggers.

The results in some other states are more curious, although perhaps not for those who live there. Mississippi has almost 17 times more upholsterers within its borders than would be expected based on the profession’s prevalence elsewhere. Missouri has almost four times as many psychiatric technicians. In South Carolina, there are almost 12 times more tire builders.

It’s worth noting the numbers don’t show that one state or the other necessarily has more people working in a given profession than others. The analysis takes the overall prevalence of certain professions nationwide and compares the expected concentration — relative to a state’s population — with how many people are actually working in those jobs in a given state.

In practice, that means high concentrations in certain industries don’t necessarily equal huge raw numbers of workers in those jobs. North Dakota’s extraordinary concentration of extraction workers (almost 36 times the national average), for example, translates into just 910 workers. Texas’ petroleum engineers — about seven times the national average — equal almost 20,000 workers.

In other cases, the prevalence of a certain profession and the sheer number of people pursuing it are impressive. In the District of Columbia, for example, almost 3,400 people are employed in one particular industry, almost 121 times the national average.

So which “industry” is so popular in the nation’s capital? Political scientists, of course.

Stateline is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news service of the Pew Center on the States that provides daily reporting and analysis on trends in state policy.
Getting to Know You

This is a new feature that focuses on learning more about League Executive Committee members, Board members and other elected officials. This month is League Immediate Past President Gloria Chavez, Mayor of Tijeras.

What was your primary motivation to run for political office in your community?
I felt the previous administration was not doing enough for the Village. During my term as Mayor I have brought in about $20 million in funding for infrastructure.

How do you view your role in serving as an elected official in your community?
Be visible and a voice for residents and businesses.

What do you think is the primary role of municipal government?
To ensure all residents and businesses are heard and to keep the municipality running with a balanced budget. We must do what is in the best interests of the municipality.

What do you think is the primary role of the New Mexico Municipal League in municipal government?
To be an advisor for all elected officials throughout the state of New Mexico.

What is your favorite “after work” pastime?
Spending time with my 3 grandchildren, Jazel, JaLara and Daveon.
Runway 3/21 Being Reconstructed at Roswell International Air Center  
By Jennifer Brady, Roswell International Air Center Manager

Runway 3/21 is the primary runway at Roswell International Air Center (RIAC) and was originally used during World War II as part of the Roswell Army Air Field. Later, during the Cold War era, the airfield became Walker Air Force Base. Rated for a 978,000 pound aircraft, Runway 3/21 is 13,001 feet long and was originally 300 feet wide. Runway 3/21 is currently 200 feet wide and consists of a 100-foot wide concrete keel, 50 feet of asphalt runway pavement on each side, and 50 foot paved asphalt shoulders.

Since RIAC is used by a wide range of aircraft for a variety of tactical exercises and flight testing the condition of the pavement is especially critical. The RIAC staff is diligent about keeping the condition of their runways at an exceptional level; however, there was concern with foreign object debris (FOD) from the failing asphalt portions of the runway and shoulders. Through the cooperation of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), NMDOT Aviation Division, and the City of Roswell, plans were made to reconstruct Runway 3/21 in order improve the condition of the runway and meet compliance with current FAA standards.

Design for the reconstruction of Runway 3/21 began in 2013 by Armstrong Consultants, Inc. The preliminary engineering investigation concluded the runway keel section was structurally sound and was not in need of replacement. However, the existing asphalt pavements on the outer edges of the runway were in need of reconstruction. To meet current FAA standards, the runway is being reduced from 200 feet to 150 feet wide, failing asphalt sections adjacent to the concrete keel are being reconstructed with concrete, and the remaining shoulders are being milled and overlaid.

The newly constructed concrete runway sections were designed to match the existing runway pavement strength. Other items being addressed during the reconstruction of the runway include a mill and overlay of the existing blast pads, reconfiguring the connector taxiway fillets, resealing existing runway and taxiway concrete joints, repairing spalls, relocating several exit taxiway lights, and remarking the runway.

In order to minimize impacts to operations and to meet funding requirements, the project was split into three construction stages across two fiscal year funding phases. Phase I construction consists of the reconstruction of the approximately 5,000 feet of the southwest end of the runway. Phase II construction includes the remaining length of the runway, with the northeastern 5,000 feet being completed first, then finally the center 3,000 feet. Phase I construction began on November 3, 2014 by Constructors, Inc. and is scheduled for completion in late spring of 2015. Phase II Construction is expected to go out to bid in spring of 2015 and to be completed in 2016. This $21 million project is being funded by the City of Roswell, NMDOT Aviation Division, and the FAA.
This century has seen many changes in our country and in the lives of this very famous Apache population. The history of the American Southwest has pivoted around the Wars waged between the United States Cavalry and the Historic Apache leaders, Mangas Coloradas, Victorio, Cochise and Geronimo. At the end of these wars, Geronimo and his followers were transported first to Florida, then to Alabama and finally interned at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. In 1914, the survivors of this group were allowed to leave captivity.

One of the first children born out of captivity was Allan Haozous (Houser), destined to become a world renown sculptor and fine artist. Over this last century, the Warm Springs/Chiricahua people have produced many fine artists.

The Deming Arts Council is pleased to host the first Art Exhibition exclusively featuring the work of descendants of Mangas Coloradas, Victorio, Cochise and Geronimo. This slice of history is overshadowed only by the quality of the art they produce.

The disbursement of Warm Springs/Chiricahua population adds to the uniqueness of this exhibition, as artists will be traveling from Oklahoma, Louisiana, California, Santa Fe and Albuquerque, NM. These artists will show Print Making, Digital Arts, Paintings, Installation Art, Sculpture, Pottery, Traditional Bead Work, Fine Jewelry and Photography. Allan Houser made Santa Fe his home and we are proud to announce that four generations of his family will be represented in the showing. Rarely do artists travel such distances to take part in showing their work. We are fortunate that Deming is in the Ancestral Homelands of this group of artists and that this is a Commemoration of the Last 100 Years of Freedom for their tribe.

The Artists will be present at the Artist Reception that will be held on April 4, 2015, from 1-3 p.m. at the Deming Art Center, located at 100 S. Gold St., Deming, NM 88030. The exhibit will run from April 4 – 28, 2015.
POSITIONS AVAILABLE
To check the municipal job opportunities click on http://nmml.org/classifieds/positions-available/