

AGENDA

Louisiana Rural Economic Development Summit
 Paragon Casino Resort
 Sunday, September 10 – Tuesday, September 12



Hosted by: The Tunica-Biloxi Tribe and Southern University Law Center

BRIDGING THE ECONOMIC DIVIDE BY CONNECTING RURAL COMMUNITIES

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
Sunday, September 10 2:00PM – 5:00PM	LaRuE Health Fair Free and Open to the Public Special Musical Show by: Southern University Human Jukebox	Mari Showroom PARAGON CASINO RESORT Earl J. Barbry, Sr. Convention Center
1:00PM – 5:00PM	Exhibit/Vendor Booth Set Up All vendors will be able to set up their booths in advance at this time	Grand Hallway Outside of Mari Showroom
6:00PM – 8:00PM	Chairman’s Welcome Reception VIP Event for all Sponsors, Hosts, Speakers, Panelists, Staff and Special Guests Join us in the Draft Room for Food, Drinks, and Special Entertainment by TopGolf Swing Suites Special Guests: LA Senator Gerald Boudreaux and LA Representative Vincent J. Pierre	The Draft Room Located inside of Paragon Casino Resort
Monday, September 11 7:15AM – 6:30PM	DAY ONE Registration will open at 7:15AM	PARAGON CASINO RESORT Earl J. Barbry, Sr. Convention Center
8:00AM – 4:00PM	EXHIBIT/VENDOR BOOTHS OPEN	Grand Hallway
8:00AM – 9:00AM	Welcome Breakfast OPENING CEREMONY 9/11 Tribute: Russel Honore’ Lt. Gen., United States Army (Ret.) Hear from our hosts, sponsors, special guests and staff. Special Guest: Dr. Shawn Wilson, Former Secretary of LA Dept. of Transportation & Development and Candidate for LA Governor	Mari Showroom
9:00AM – 10:15AM	Session 1- Technology Advancements, Opportunities and Innovation Technology is constantly changing and affects the way we work, socialize, live, and learn. This session will be geared towards what Louisiana is doing to strengthen our technology via broadband connectivity, 5G expansion, digital literacy, and more! Moderator: Lee Fine, Broadband Manager, Tunica-Biloxi Tribe Panelists: 1. LA State Representative Daryl Deshotel, Avoyelles Parish 2. Veneeth Iyengar, Executive Director, LA Office of Broadband Development & Connectivity 3. Greg Clinton, President/CEO, VirtualJustice.us 4. Stephanie Doiron, Director, AT&T Louisiana 5. Robert Hahn, Sr., Higher Education Executive, T-Mobile for Education-Louisiana/Texas	Ballroom

	DAY ONE CONTINUED	
10:15AM – 11:30AM	<p>Session 2- Healthcare & Mental Health Health is wealth. Which is why in this session we will cover what healthcare currently looks like in the state of Louisiana including rural/underserved communities, how to take advantage of healthcare services, education, and opportunities in telehealth including bringing awareness to mental health and the services offered in that arena.</p> <p>Moderator: Cameron Chase, Health Director, Tunica-Biloxi Tribe Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secretary Steve Russo, Louisiana Department of Health 2. Dr. Marcus Jones, President, Northwestern State University 3. Dr. Sandra Brown, Dean of Nursing and Allied Health, Southern University 4. Dr. Karen Wyble, Asst. VP of Community & Public Affairs, Ochsner Lafayette General 5. Charles Ayles, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Louisiana Dept. of Health/OCDD 	Ballroom
11:30AM – 12:45PM	<p>LUNCHEON</p> <p>Keynote Speaker: Donald R. Cravins, Jr. - Under Secretary, Minority Business Development Agency; U.S. Department of Commerce</p> <p>Special Guest: Jeff Landry, LA Attorney General and Candidate for LA Governor</p>	Mari Showroom
12:45PM – 1:45PM	<p>Session 3- Housing Safe and affordable housing are two variables that people in rural Louisiana want and need. This session will cover information about assistance programs, funding resources, energy efficiency, and other ways to help the people of Louisiana put a roof over their heads without breaking the bank.</p> <p>Moderator: Stephanie Stiles, Housing Director, Tunica-Biloxi Tribe Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Deidre Robert, LA State Director, USDA Office of Rural Development 2. Josh G. Hollins, Executive Director, Louisiana Housing Corporation 3. Mandy Ports, President, Louisiana Affordable Housing Management Association 	Ballroom
1:45PM – 2:45PM	<p>Session 4- Workforce Development and Job Training This session will provide you with information and strategies around how to rebuild the workforce in your community and arm employees with the training, skills, education, and services needed to not only better themselves but better their families and communities.</p> <p>Moderator: Wendy Barbry Lemoine, Chief Administrative Officer, Tunica-Biloxi Industries Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Arlanda Williams, Vice Chancellor for Workforce Development and Institutional Advancement, Delgado Community College 2. Matthew Campbell, Strategic Partnerships Program Manager, Delta Regional Authority 3. Lea Bogle, President/CEO, Premier Wireless 	Ballroom
2:45PM – 3:00PM	BREAK	
3:00PM – 3:15PM	Special Guest: Sharon Hewitt, LA State Senator and Candidate for LA Governor	

	DAY ONE CONTINUED	
3:15PM – 4:30PM	<p>Session 5- Renewable Energy Initiatives & Development Renewable energy is clean, green, and a growing trend. Use this session to learn about the state of Louisiana's renewable energy initiatives, how to access these resources, and create a green economy in your community by decreasing unemployment and increasing innovation.</p> <p>Moderator: Brian Hanks, CEO/President, Beta Land Services</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Mark Zappi, Director, Energy Institute of LA; Professor, University of Louisiana 2. Monique M. Edwards, Esq., Commissioner of Conservation, LA Dept. of Natural Resources Office of Conservation 3. Jin Kang, Partner, Anarock Global Partners 	Ballroom
5:00PM – 6:30PM	<p>Networking Reception Public Service Leadership Awards Hors d’oeuvres; Cash Bar; DJ Special Guest: John M. Schroder, LA State Treasurer and Candidate for LA Governor</p>	Club Mezazz Paragon Casino Floor
	<p>Dinner on your own Legend’s Steakhouse, Roxy’s, and The Draft Room are Open. Reservations are recommended for Legend’s Steakhouse.</p>	
Tuesday, September 12 7:15AM - 4:00PM	<p>DAY TWO Registration will open at 7:15AM</p>	PARAGON CASINO RESORT Earl J. Barbry, Sr. Convention Center
8:00AM - 4:00PM	EXHIBIT/VENDOR BOOTHS OPEN	Grand Hallway
8:00AM – 9:00AM	<p>Breakfast Keynote Speaker: Michelle Purl, CEO, United Way of Central Louisiana Special Presentation by: Premier Wireless & T-Mobile for Business</p>	Mari Showroom
9:00AM - 10:15AM	<p>Session 6- Small Business Development and how to navigate State and Federal Resources We all know the saying; small businesses are the backbone of the economy. In this session, learn all about how to access state and federal resources to build up small businesses in your community all while bringing strength, stability, and opportunity back to rural Louisiana.</p> <p>Moderator: Ileana Ledet, Economic Development Representative, EDA</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ted James, Regional Administrator, Small Business Administration (SBA) 2. Brenda Guess, Assistant Secretary, Louisiana Economic Development (LED) 3. Keith Moore, Operator, Minority Business Development Agency, Federal Procurement Center 4. Dr. Geoff Stewart, Director, LA Entrepreneurship & Economic Development Center (LEED); Associate Professor of Marketing, University of Louisiana 	Ballroom
10:15AM – 11:30AM	<p>Session 7- Creating and Improving Relationships with Native American Tribal Governments through creating economic development, etc. Economic development opportunities are not just about the opportunity itself, it's about the relationships you can create that will help everyone reach a common goal. This session will help in understanding how to work with Native American communities to utilize each of your resources to create lasting businesses and workforces to propel your community into the next generation of innovation, success, and partnerships.</p>	Ballroom

DAY TWO CONTINUED

Moderator: Jessica Myers, Chief Operating Officer, Tunica-Biloxi Industries

Panelists:

1. Jeff Grubbe, Former Chairman, Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla
2. Kevin Killer, Former President, Oglala Lakota Sioux Tribe
3. Roy Holleman, CEO, Tunica-Biloxi Industries
4. George Rivera, Tribal Solutions Group

11:30AM – 1:00PM

Luncheon

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Mike Strain, Louisiana Commissioner of Agriculture
Special Presentation by: **T-Mobile**, Business Coniutiny/emergency

Mari Showroom

1:00PM – 2:15PM

Session 8- Agriculture in Louisiana

Agriculture is more than just crops and livestock, it encompasses everything that people in our communities, state, and the world need in order to live. Join this session to learn about the economic growth opportunities/resources in agriculture and how our rural communities in Louisiana can create strategies and infrastructures to overcome the hurdles that we are experiencing within the world of agriculture today.

Moderator: Ron Bordelon, Director of Land, Facilities, & Maintenance, Tunica-Biloxi Tribe

Panelists:

1. Dr. Brian Keith Phillips, Associate Small Farm Specialist, Southern University Agriculture Center
2. Lisa Couvillion, County Executive Director for Avoyelles Parish, USDA LA Farm Service Agency
3. Tom Graves, Chief Strategy Officer, Premier Wireless

Ballroom

2:15PM – 3:30PM

Session 9- Grant Funding and How to Navigate the Grants Process

Grant funding equals financial, economic, and business opportunities. This session will walk you through the process of how to find grants that are right for you, how to apply, and how to best utilize this state/federal funding to take your business and economic goals from dream to reality.

Moderator: Rachel Allgaier, Grant Communications Manager, Premier Wireless

Panelists:

1. John Gallagher, Executive Director, Louisiana Municipal Association
2. Leslie Durham, Executive Director, Louisiana Infrastructure Technical Assistance Corporation
3. TBD

Ballroom

3:30PM – 4:00PM

Concluding Comments

Thank you to all of our wonderful Sponsors!

Ballroom

For Details and to Register visit www.sulc.edu/larue or call 318-264-1799

