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LovetoWork

Press Release

LovetoWork.org launches on Labor Day 2006

LovetoWork.org, LLC is a new workforce consulting business aimed at helping companies, job seekers, and students become more productive in the workplace – creating a more enjoyable work environment.

Charleston, SC, September 4, 2006: LovetoWork.org, LLC is a new corporation with a goal of helping businesses and individuals with their corporate/personal productivity. The founder and President is Gary Crossley, recently retired from the SC Employment Security Commission and a veteran of over 30 years in the field of employment and training. The release on Labor Day 2006 is appropriate given the history of Labor Day in the United States.

Many people are not aware of the history of the Labor Day holiday. According to the US Department of Labor, the first Labor Day started in the late 1800's. There is a contention on who actually came up with the idea, but in the early 1880's there were several efforts by union labor officials in New York and New Jersey to have a day dedicated to honoring workers via picnics and demonstrations of union support. The first holiday celebration occurred in New York City on Tuesday, September 5, 1882 via the plans of the Central Labor Union. Gradually the holiday grew and was moved to Mondays and spread across the country.

In this time of the late 1800's and early 1900's the nation was undergoing struggles in the workplaces, many of them factories which were producing the many new goods, from food to cars and clothes. Controversy surrounded the safety of the workplaces, from the number of hours worked each day to the conditions of the work sites. Much of this unrest turned violent and there were many deaths from strikes and riots. Fortunately, the violence was reduced as the safety conditions improved via legislation and employer action.

Congress passed on June 28, 1894 an act that made the first Monday in September of each year a federal holiday, a national tribute to the contributions of workers have made to the strength, prosperity,

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and well-being of the nation. The holiday has evolved over the years with now there being very little fanfare. Perhaps now with our nation experiencing labor shortages in several occupations and as the economy continues its shift from a production to services structure, Labor Day will begin to focus on skill development and lifelong learning.

LovetoWork.org is in the process of developing its web site (coming soon in mid-September) and available products/services (will be posted on the web site). Interested employers, job seekers, and students should call LovetoWork.org for more details on making work a more enjoyable event!

Labor Day Facts to Celebrate Work

- The first recorded Labor Day celebration was in New York City on Tuesday, September 5, 1882.
- Labor Day became a national holiday in 1894 when Congress made the first Monday in September a federal holiday.
- The holiday has migrated from a day of picnics, demonstrations, and parades to a day of mostly family outings, celebrating the end of summer, and a break from a day of work.
- Between the ages of 18/21 and the mid 60's, most people spend about one third of their life at work during their non-weekend days.
- There are over 135.4 million workers in the U.S., almost 1.9 million employees in South Carolina, and just over 288,000 job holders in the Charleston metro area.
- Services now comprise over 84% of the national employment totals, 79% of the state total, and 84% of the Charleston metro employment numbers.
- Occupations that dominate the employment numbers are: Primary, Secondary, & Special Ed Teachers, 4.27 million employees in the US; Retail Salespersons, 60,130 in SC; and, Retail Salespersons, 9,660 in Charleston.
- The greater the person's educational attainment, the more likely the chance that person will be employed and participate in the labor force.
- Women now nationally represent 46% of the total US labor force.
- The more you enjoy your work, the more productive you will be in your work environment!

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