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*Immediate Release*

*More information: Doug Parsons (304-269-4993)*

## **North Central West Virginia Oil and Gas Fair offers jobs, training**

*Major Companies will be represented at May 1 event at Jackson's Mill*

WESTON, W.Va. - The North Central West Virginia Oil and Gas Fair, a job fair that offers opportunities for interviews and training in the natural gas industry, will be held on May 1 at WVU Jackson's Mill conference center near Weston.

The event is sponsored by the Lewis County Economic Development Authority, Workforce West Virginia and the West Virginia Region 6 Workforce Investment Board. Chesapeake Energy, Nabor's Well Services, U.S. Well Services and Weatherford International will be among more than a dozen companies represented at the job fair.

"This is an outstanding event. It will be our fourth year, and each year we've had tremendous interest from West Virginia residents looking to find employment in the natural gas industry. This will be the biggest one so far," said Doug Parsons, executive director of the Lewis County Economic Development Authority.

Parsons said the expo will offer job listings and work applications, as well as free training opportunities for those that qualify. Technical advisors will be on hand, and classes will also be offered to assist applicants with interview skills and resume writing.

"The natural gas industry is growing. You could almost say it's booming. Good jobs are available. And this is an excellent way to break into the industry," Parsons said.

Because of the heavy activity in the natural gas industry, Lewis County's unemployment rate has recently been listed as the third lowest in West Virginia.

"You can see the impact the natural gas industry is having on our region," Parsons said. "We would urge people to come to this event. See what's out there."

For more information on the North Central West Virginia Oil and Gas Fair, contact the Lewis County Economic Development Authority (304-269-4993) or the Region 6 Workforce Investment Board (304-368-9530).

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