StartUp

Increase in small business hiring for 2007, according to payroll data for mo the SurePayroll Small Business Scorecard. The same report listed a 0.2%

amera culture

The second annual Baton Rouge Jewish Film Festival is on, running Jan. 17 to 20, presented by the Jewish Federation of Greater Baton Rouge in conjunction with Jewish Cinema South in Jackson, Miss., and its affiliate organization, the Institute for Southern Jewish Life.

"A film festival is not just looking at movies," local spokesman Harvey Hoffman says. "You can bring in speakers relevant to the film such as the writer or someone knowledgeable about the subject."

Chris Stelly, director of film and television with the state Office of Entertainment Industry Development, says the festivals also provide a great opportunity for

filmmakers to showcase their talent.

"Our commnity is rich with culture and we are excited that the Jewish Film Fest showcases experiences and heritage captured on film," he says. "We recognize in addition to being a creative exchange, film fests contribute to the economic health of our local community."

—Anna Thibodeaux

Near Commercial I

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TAMAR

Jan. 17—The Rape of Europa, 7 p.m., Darius Spieth, LSU assistant professor of art history, will speak after the feature at the Manship Theatre.

Jan. 19—The Tribe and Blues By The Beach, 7 p.m., at the Manship Theatre. Blues Filmmaker Jack Baxter will speak following the double feature.

Jan. 20—A Jumpin' Night in the Garden of Eden, 2 p.m., at the Manship Theatre. The New Orleans Panorama Jazz Band will perform after the film. At 7 p.m., Varian's War will air as the final presentation.

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MILLION-DOLLARDI

\$2.6 million — Final price tag for Ochsner Health System's completed purchase of Ardent Health System's half of Ochsner Medical Center Baton Rouge at O'Neal Lane and Interstate 12.

\$1.23 million — Sale price for the 3.77acre lot on Siegen Lane near Perkins Road on which the Word of Faith Christian Center is located. The church plans to build a 400-seat sanctuary.

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