bdpatoday

ICYMI 04.04.20 | In Case You Missed IT

Visit **bdpatoday.com** for more news, events, internships, tech careers, and scholarship deadlines

Special Report

National BDPA President's Covid-19 Message: *Page 3*

BDPA2020

More COBOL Programmers needed for new jobless data

Photo graphic courtesy NASA and National BDPA

TRENTON, NJ (BDPA-NJ) — "New Jersey needs COBOL Programmers." At a press conference today, governor Phil Murphy asked for the help of volunteer coders who still know how to program in COBOL.

In New Jersey and perhaps other states with "legacy systems", experts are urgently needed to fix COBOL-based unemployment insurance systems—some at least four decades old—that are overwhelmed due to COVID-19 related job losses.

The state recently experienced a 1,600% increase in claims volume in a single week, said labor commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo during today's briefing, stating that "over the prior two weeks we saw more than 362,000 people apply for unemployment as a result of this public health emergency."

Tech industry and cybersecurity experts feel such "volunteers" are likely well over 60 years old, making them especially vulnerable to COVID-19. Whether they would risk venturing out to work or volunteer to update legacy systems that should have been updated decades ago remains an open challenge if they cannot remotely perform these emergency upgrades.

Discover more. Preview full stories with related technical career articles from Industry via **bdpatoday.com**. bt

— Sources: ***New Jersey Department of Labor***, **Quartz**, and ***BDPA-NJ***

SMART, AMBITIOUS, READY TO CHANGE THE WORLD...

You are a Force to be Reckoned With.

We get it. We see your potential. That's why we want you on our team doing challenging and satisfying work essential to the security of our nation.

Consider Air Force Civilian Service (AFCS). Your talents and professional skills will find a home with us and your unique background and perspectives will be highly valued. We offer a supportive and inclusive workplace where excellence is rewarded and work-life balance is a priority. Factor in great benefits and you'll see why AFCS is a place where you can excel.

At 180,000 strong we too are a force to be reckoned with. Find your place with us and watch your career soar.

afciviliancareers.com/bdpa

Equal Opportunity Employer. U.S. citizenship required. Must be of legal working age.

AIR FORCE CIVILIAN SERVICE

Forces. Joined.

All,

The circumstances surrounding the coronavirus are continuing to develop each day. This is a rapidly evolving situation and we encourage our members to exercise safety and caution. We are closely monitoring developments and offer the following information and guidance.

What to know about COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus):

The general risk remains low; however, there have been several confirmed cases across the country including two confirmed cases in Georgia (Our conference location).

In confirmed COVID-19 cases, reported illnesses have ranged from mild symptoms to severe illness and death. Symptoms can include:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

According to the CDC, older adults and those with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk for serious illness from COVID-19.

Please follow guidance from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, World Health Organization and U.S. State Department for recommendations and travel advisories.

Person-to-person spread is occurring, although it's unclear exactly how it is transmitted and how easily the virus spreads between people.

The CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a face mask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.

We could be in this state for an extended period of time and encourage you to plan accordingly for student and adult programming. Crisis ultimately breeds innovation. This is a unique opportunity for us to re-evaluate how we may still nurture and develop working professionals and future STEM leaders, all while being mindful of our members' health, safety, and being intentionally inclusive of those without resources.

The National Executive Committee and Conference Team are working closely to assess the situation and consider the potential options for the conference. We are evaluating the development of a virtual conference experience. Our goal is to create an unmatched experience that retains the same energy, value, and diverse experience for all participants no matter the format the conference takes. Rest assured, we are continuously monitoring this developing situation and will continue to keep you all updated on plans for the conference experience as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Terry J. Morris, BDPA President

BDPA2020: Register Now!

Copyright © 2020 BDPA, All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
BDPA
9500 Arena Dr Ste 106
Largo, MD 20774-3711

bdpatoday | about us

BDPA, formerly known as ***Black Data Processing Associates***, was established in 1975 and founded in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to promote professional growth and technical development to those in or entering information and communications technology (ICT) career fields and related industries.

Now in its 45th year (***Volume* XLV**) National BDPA (NBDPA) and participating local BDPA Chapters publish daily and weekly blogs with quarterly or monthly newsletters.

bdpatoday (ISSN 1946-1429) is a periodical published monthly and weekly by participating local BDPA Chapters of National BDPA (NBDPA) within their respective media markets by local BDPA Chapter Communications Committees.

For ***bdpatoday*** or web banner advertising rates, publication schedules, and online calendars with Industry events, contact regional offices or local BDPA Chapters by visiting **bdpa.org** or **bdpatoday.com**.

bdpatoday (ISSN **1946-1429**) is published by participating Local Chapters of National BDPA (NBDPA) with their respective chapter Communications Committees and mailed to BDPA members, BDPA corporate sponsors or electronically delivered to local BDPA Chapters and Chapter Interest Groups (CIGs) via email or social media channels as a benefit of membership. ***Popular Technology TV*** (PTTV) is produced by bdpatoday with technology industry mission partners.

First Class and Periodicals postage paid at Washington, D.C. and additional regional mailing offices.

Cover photos NASA, BDPA, and BDPA-DC. Unless otherwise noted by attributed credits or copyrights, all photographs, art and graphics herein are ©GettyImages or © BDPA

Chapter publications, such as **bdpatoday**, are available for online publishing of ICT industry, chapter news, and community IT, Cyber, and STEM events. Forward advertisements, articles, calendar of events, or images with captions and credits to: **info@bdpatoday.org**. Readers may use National BDPA's landing page, **BDPA.org**, to review local events or visit **www.bdpatoday.com.** Advertisements, articles, announcements, OP-EDs, tweets, re-tweets, or following National BDPA on social media does not constitute an endorsement. Contributor opinions are not necessarily those of National BDPA, local BDPA Chapters, nor **bdpatoday**.

NATIONAL BDPA CO-FOUNDER
Earl A. Pace, Jr.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT
Terry Morris

NATIONAL BDPA VICE PRESIDENT
Dr. Michael Wulf

NBDPA VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE
Nathaniel Bolden

NBDPA VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP
Judy Lane

NBDPA VICE PRESIDENT
NORTH REGION
Goldie Bonney

NBDPA VICE PRESIDENT
SOUTH REGION
Jonica Cowan

NBDPA VICE PRESIDENT
MIDWEST REGION
Kristina Johnson

NBDPA VICE PRESIDENT
WEST REGION
Timothy Butts, Sr.

NBDPA CHIEF of STAFF
Eric Ejiofor

FOUNDING PUBLISHER

Perry Carter

MANAGING EDITORS

Perry Carter, Tech + Industry
Ron Hamm, Government Affairs
E. Sean Lanier, Military Liaison
Kia Silver-Hodge, Corporate Affairs
LaToya Staten, Tech + Community

PHOTOGRAPHERS

Neal Daniels
Lynn Dunigan
Roy Lewis
Charlie Perkiins
Catherine Williamson

MULTIMEDIA + SOCIAL MEDIA

Wayne Bertram
DaMisha Brown
Evan Carter
Kyle Carter
Sharrarne Morton
Jerod Neal
Corey Parrish
Charleen Robinson

BDPA
ENABLING DIGITAL THOUGHT LEADERSHIP.

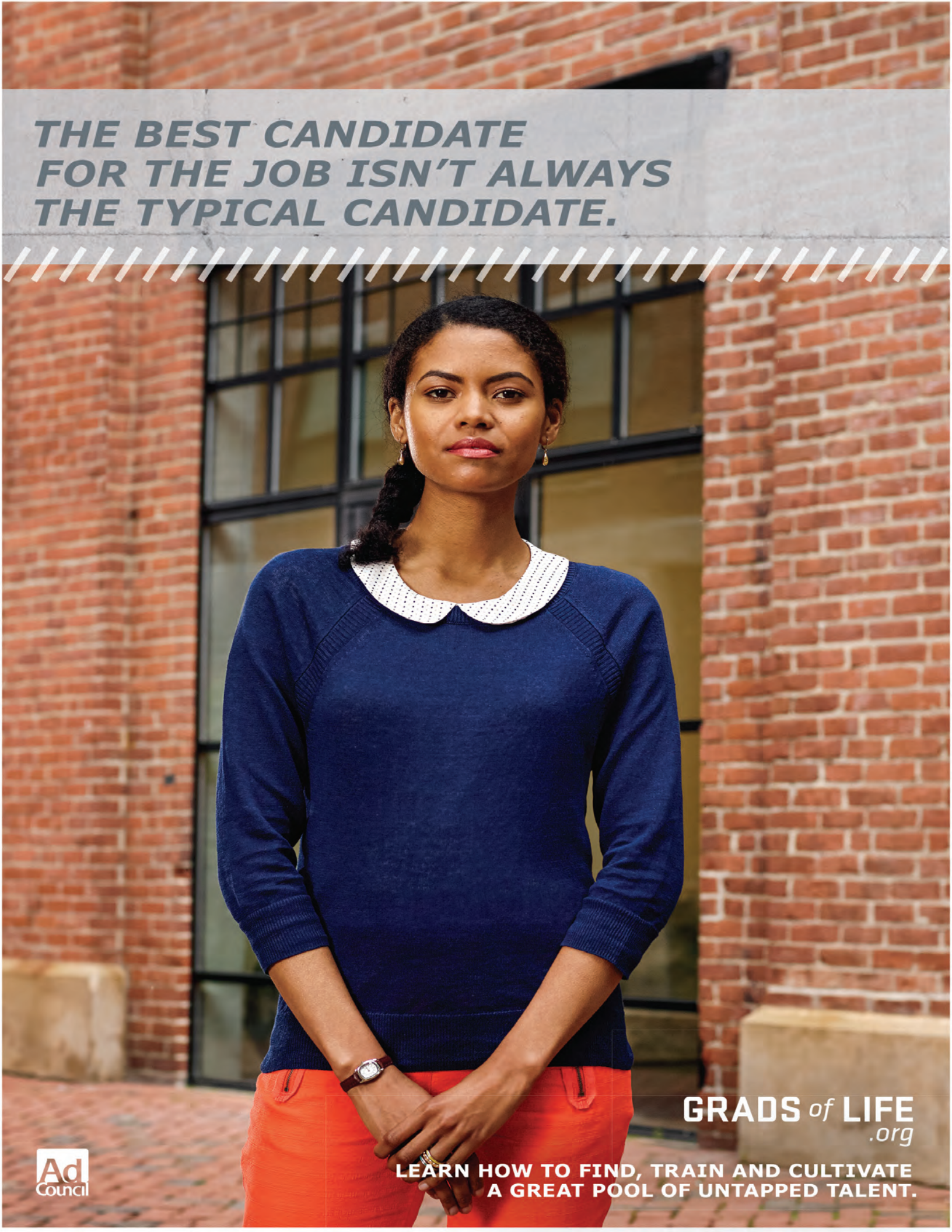
For 40 years, BDPA has enabled the upward mobility of African Americans and other minorities in the Information Technology (IT) and STEM fields. Through its 40+ local community chapters in major cities across the United States, BDPA has been at the forefront of promoting the minority agenda within the IT profession since 1975. BDPA has been a leader and pioneer in technology and STEM training for IT professionals and High School students since 1986.

JOIN TODAY!
www.BDPA.org
bdpatoday.com

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Connect to a network of IT professionals
- Enhance and develop additional technical skill sets
- Acquire professional and leadership skills
- Participate actively in an organization that is setting trends in emerging technology
- Discount rates to the Annual Technology Conference and Career Fair
- Obtain exposure to technical and professional topics through program meetings, seminars and workshops
- Participate in certification support groups
- Discounts on IT certifications and training courses

bdpatoday PTTV


THE BEST CANDIDATE
FOR THE JOB ISN'T ALWAYS
THE TYPICAL CANDIDATE.
GRADS of LIFE
.org
LEARN HOW TO FIND, TRAIN AND CULTIVATE
A GREAT POOL OF UNTAPPED TALENT.
Ad Council

©2017 Paid for by the U.S. Air Force. All rights reserved.

U.S. AIR FORCE

Cyberspace controls and laser defense systems came as no surprise to the U.S. Air Force. In fact, they came off our drawing boards. No wonder we're always looking to hire the best and brightest. You can leverage your degree immediately and get hands-on experience with some of the most sophisticated technology on Earth.
AIRFORCE.COM • 1-800-423-USAF

¢ode On¢e. $ell Many.

JOIN. SUBSCRIBE. PARTNER. www.bdpatoday.com

bdpatoday

611 Pennsylvania, Avenue, SE., Suite 213
Washington, D.C. 20003
bdpatoday.com