Computer Classes & Lawyers in Libraries

The Natchitoches Parish Library is offering Basic Computer classes for FREE as two, one-hour sessions. There will be four classes for the month of October, there is limited space and you must sign-up to attend.

The classes offered are:
- October 7th (Wed) & 8th (Thurs) at 10:00AM
- October 14th (Wed) & 15th (Thurs) at 2:30PM

The first segment will cover the terminology for common parts and user interface elements, how to navigate in the desktop environment, launching/closing/minimizing applications, saving and moving files, and basic use of Microsoft Word (use of templates and basic document editing).

The second segment will cover internet and computer safety (Thurs) at 2:30PM

The Natchitoches Parish Library, in partnership with the Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) and the Louisiana Library Association (LLA), is presenting its first “Lawyers in Libraries” program on Thursday, Oct. 29.

A local attorney will present an Ask-a-Lawyer Program (or a legal presentation addressing specific topics) beginning at 10a.m. – 12p.m. in the library’s meeting room.

The program is free and open to the public, but those interested should contact Amy Walmesley at 318-357-3280 to reserve a space.

The “Lawyers in Libraries” program is part of a larger LSBA initiative called the Legal Education and Assistance Program (LEAP). The LSBA and the LLA aim to have limited space and you must sign-up to attend. an attorney in a library in each parish in the state on Oct. 23.

“Libraries are a natural starting point for people seeking information about a particular issue, which is why the LSBA is excited to launch the Legal Education and Assistance Program to help meet the legal needs of low-income families in Louisiana,” said LSBA President Joseph L. (Larry) Shea, Jr.

“Louisiana’s civil legal aid programs’ resources have been significantly reduced in recent years. In response to this, the LSBA and our partners have had to do more with less,” Shea said. “LEAP is the type of innovative collaboration that we hope will lay a foundation for future initiatives that address the needs of communities and connect vulnerable individuals with the resources they need,” he added.

The “Lawyers in Libraries” initiative was designed in partnership with the LLA.

“The Louisiana Library Association is thrilled to be collaborating with the Louisiana State Bar Association and the legal community to provide much needed services to public library patrons,” said Vivian McCain, past president of LLA. “We believe this partnership will enable librarians to answer many legal questions that were previously not possible. We appreciate the dedicated attorneys who have given of their time and expertise to make this collaboration a reality,” she added.

For more information about the program, go to www.louisianalawyersinlibraries.org.

The Louisiana State Bar Association assists its more than 22,000 members in the practice of law. The statewide association, as part of its multi-faceted mission, promotes and maintains access to justice initiatives for the state’s residents, assists the Louisiana Supreme Court in its regulation of the practice of law, upholds the honor of the courts and the profession, and supports programs that increase public understanding of and respect for the law.
Roz’s Famous Guacamole

Ingredients
- 2 Lg Ripe Avocados
- 1 Fresh Jalapeno, chopped
- 1 Ripe Tomato, chopped
- 1 Handful of Cilantro, chopped
- Lime Juice & Salt to Taste
- 1Pkg Concord Foods Guacamole Mix (found in produce dept.)

Instructions
1. Peel, seed and mash the avocados in a bowl.
2. Add all other ingredients.
3. Serve with tortilla chips right away or refrigerate for a few hours after sprinkling with extra lime

Tech Sense with Alan
A few months ago, I texted family and friends while on a trip. No big deal normally, except on this occasion I was in Europe! I texted both back home to the US as well as to friends in Europe, all without paying extra for an international plan or getting a temporary service while out of the US. But how?

Earlier this year I received access to Google’s invite-only phone service. Yes, you read that right, Google has a phone service: Project “Fi,” short for wifi. With it and a Nexus 6 phone - a no interest financing option - I was able to call across the US and text over a wifi network or with Google), you can call your phone much away from a wifi network, Project Fi can result in great savings.

Before you jump on board, there are some caveats. The only phone Fi currently works on is the Nexus 6, which is a year old at this point (but a great phone none-the-less). Also, you must purchase the phone outright, meaning $499 for the 32GB model or $549 for the 64GB (though Google offers a no-interest financing option that rolls into your bill to soften the blow). Also, if you’re considering the service, you may want to wait until Sept. 29, as Google is expected to announce a 2015 update to the Nexus 6 along with a smaller Nexus 5, which may also work with Fi and will probably reduce the price of the older phone.

With the potential for a lower bill for data, unlimited U.S. calls and international texts, and cheap calling overseas sound good to you? Google certainly hopes so, and, even if it doesn’t, this new business model will certainly shake things up. And some claim that is the whole point of Google Fi: To change the wireless industry’s pricing structure and operational procedures from the inside. Most would celebrate that, whatever their thoughts of Google.

Library Express
Library Express, a homebound and books-by-mail service, extends traditional library services to residents of Natchitoches Parish who are physically unable to come to the library. Depending on an individual’s residence within the parish, library materials are either hand-delivered or mailed directly to their home – for FREE! To qualify for Library Express services, patrons must reside within the Parish, have a valid library card in good standing, and meet the terms of the program. Parish residents interested in learning more about the Library Express service may pick up an application in-person at the library or print one from the library’s website, www.youseemore.com/natchitoches. Completed application must be submitted to the library.

Meet the Librarian Open House
Friends of the Natchitoches Parish Library, LLC will sponsor a series of free lectures/discussions by Dr. Rodney Allen on the life and literary works of the acclaimed American writer Kurt Vonnegut. Dr. Allen has published extensively on Vonnegut, and is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library in Indianapolis, Indiana. Allen is the editor of Conversations with Kurt Vonnegut, and the author of Understanding Kurt Vonnegut.

Friends of the Natchitoches Parish Library, LLC is also sponsoring a Meet the Librarian open house. On October 16 from 4 – 6 p.m. the public is invited to come to the library at 450 2nd St. to meet the new librarian, Jessica McGrath. Refreshments will be provided by the Friends group. This is free and open to the public.

Friends Fall Speaker Series
The Natchitoches Parish Library is the place to be this fall. Beginning October 15 the library will begin a three week fall speaker program with Dr. Rodney Allen.

Friends of the Natchitoches Parish Library, LLC will sponsor a series of free lectures/discussions by Dr. Rodney Allen on the life and literary works of the acclaimed American writer Kurt Vonnegut. Dr. Allen has published extensively on Vonnegut, and is a founding member of the Board of Directors of the Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library in Indianapolis, Indiana. Allen is the editor of Conversations with Kurt Vonnegut, and the author of Understanding Kurt Vonnegut.

Rodney Allen taught English at LSMSA for 28 years before his retirement in 2011. He is happy to be reinterested in professional development. Anyone interested in the new speaker program can pick up an application in-person at the library or print one from the library’s website, www.youseemore.com/natchitoches. Completed application must be submitted to the library.