



# City of Natchitoches



## Back to School Bash to take place Aug. 13

August 1, 2011

The City of Natchitoches will help ring in the new school year with a "Back to School Bash" on Saturday, August 13 at City Park.

The Bash begins at 9 a.m. at City Park, located at 300 Amulet Street.

The Back to School Bash will be used to create excitement within the community for the upcoming school year and generate support for local schools, athletic teams and spirit groups.

The Bash will feature



performances by local high school spirit groups and those from Northwestern State University. Several school athletic teams are expected to participate in the Bash to update the public on what they can expect this fall season.

Complimentary hot dogs will be provided by the Bank of Montgomery. Other refreshments will be sold during the Bash.

During the Bash, collection drives will be taking place for needy students preparing for the school year – school supplies, uniforms, backpacks and food items.

For information or to participate, call the Natchitoches Main Street office at (318) 352-2746.

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### Did you know?

• Entries are now being accepted for the 2011 Miss Merry Christmas and Miss Natchitoches Teen Pageants, which will take place on Sunday, Sept. 11 at the Natchitoches Events Center. Call the Main Street office at 352-2746 if you are interested in entering the pageant.

• Be the first to know about happenings in the City of Natchitoches by finding us on Facebook. The Natchitoches Main Street Program, Recreation and Parks Department and Cane River Green Market are all on Facebook. Be sure to find us and "like" those pages to be up to date on events, programs and possibly win prizes!

## Recreation & Parks to hold Back to School Dash

The City's Recreation and Parks Department will host the first-ever Back to School Dash 1 Mile Fun Run and 5K Walk/Run on Saturday, Aug. 13 at City Park, located at 300 Amulet Street in Natchitoches.

This event will be held to raise money to support additional improvements to City Park, complementing recent cleanup efforts and a \$25,000 grant from The Rapides Foundation. Funds will



be used to construct a new walking trail, outdoor fitness equipment and additional improvements.

Runners or purposeful walkers in the 5K will start at City Park at 8

a.m. The race route will leave City Park and continue onto Second Street and throughout the Northwestern State University campus, returning to City Park.

Runners and walkers in the 1 Mile Fun Run will begin at 7:30 a.m. and travel up Amulet Street to Howell Street and return.

A pre-registration fee of \$15 for the 1 Mile Fun Run and \$25 for the 5K will include a T-shirt,

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## Race, cont'd. from page 1

and entry for door prizes. Day of registration will be \$20 and \$30 respectively.

after race snack and entry

Awards will be given to the top three winners in each event in the male and female categories.

Registration forms can be requested by



emailing Tracey Colson at the Recreation and Parks Department at tracey-colson@ymail.com or call (318) 357-3892.

Pre-registration will end on Saturday, Aug. 6. Anyone interested in volunteering or being a sponsor for this event can also contact Colson for more information.

## June Employee of the Month



Jacob Johnson was named as the City of Natchitoches' Employee of the Month for June.

Johnson is a lineman for the City's Electrical Department and has worked for the City for five years.

Shown in the picture are Human Resources Manager Edd Lee, Mayor Wayne McCullen, Johnson and Utility Director Bryan Wimberly.

Johnson was nominated because of his hard work and dedication to the City. He was recently recognized for helping rescue a maintenance worker whose foot became stuck when performing repairs on a cell phone tower.

To nominate someone for Employee of the Month, please call HR Manager Edd Lee at 357-3824.

## Recreation and Parks gear up for fall football and programs

The Natchitoches Recreation and Parks Department is gearing up for another great youth football season. The Fall 2010 Youth Tackle Football Season was a huge success with over 200 boys participating ages 8-11 years old.

Although only in its first year the 8/9 and 10/11 year old teams made a strong showing against Leesville and St. Mary's. NRPD

expects to see a large increase in participants for the Fall 2011 season as well as an increase in teams.

NRPD provides a positive learning environment for all football players with knowledge from experienced coaches that have played at the high school and college level. Speed and conditioning training as well as regular practices will be held prior to the start of the season. This program is offered to all boys ages 8 - 11 years old.

NRPD is currently accepting registration forms on July 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> and August 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the MLK Center at 660 MLK Drive from 10am -12pm. The Recreation Department is currently offering sports packages for regis-



trants including a Football Package that includes registration for both Tackle and Flag Football, practice and game pants and jersey, usage of helmet and pads, t-shirt and flags,

free entry into specialized football camps offered by the Rec for only \$90. Tackle football only registration fee is \$75 or \$50 with a Medicaid card.

There will be a meeting for anyone interested in coaching, sponsoring or volunteering on July 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm at the MLK Recreation Center at 660 MLK Drive. Any former players or anyone interested in coaching should attend or contact Tracey Colson or Davin White at 318-357-3892.

## Green Market announces fall dates

*Fall produce workshop to be held Aug. 4*



The Cane River Green Market has announced its 2011 fall market dates.

The Green Market will take a summer hiatus in August and September but will reopen in the fall, beginning on Saturday, Oct. 8.

Fall market dates are: October 8, 15, 22 and 29 and November 5, 12, 19. All markets will continue to be open on the downtown riverbank from 8 a.m. to noon.

The market will feature special programs, live music, children's activities and demonstrations throughout in the fall including a celebration of sweet potatoes, pumpkins and other fall produce.

To encourage potential market vendors and the community to plant fall crops, the Green Market, LSU Ag Center and Natchitoches Master Garden-

ers are providing a free "lunch and learn" workshop on Thursday, Aug. 4 on how to plant a fall garden.

The workshop will be provided by Kiki Fontenot, a vegetable specialist for the LSU Ag Center. The workshop will be held from noon to 1 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center, 716 Second Street.

For more information about the upcoming lunch and learn on Aug. 4, fall market dates or to receive the market's electronic newsletter, please call the market office at (318) 352-2746 (CRGM), email [green-market@natchitochesla.gov](mailto:green-market@natchitochesla.gov).

Visit us online at: [www.canerivergreenmarket.com](http://www.canerivergreenmarket.com)

## Community groups collecting items for back to school

Several community groups and organizations are sponsoring collection drives this summer to benefit students as they prepare to start school in mid August.

The City of Natchitoches and Cane River Green Market are partnering with the Food Bank of Central Louisiana to collect backpacks and food items for the Food Bank's Backpack Program.

Backpacks and food items are used to help feed local school children during the weekends throughout the school year.

Donated items or monetary donations may be dropped off at the City's Office of Programming and Promotions at 700 Sec-

ond St. or the City's Back to School Bash on Saturday, Aug. 13. Items may also be dropped off at all Sabine State Bank

branches in Natchitoches.

Food items that are needed include granola bars, microwave popcorn, tuna fish, trail mix, nuts, cereal bars, etc.

Several groups are also collecting school supplies and school uniforms for students, including the Natchitoches Kiwanis Club and the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office, Community Services Division. The Community Services Division can be reached at (318) 238-7550.





**Good luck to all  
Students  
During the 2011-2012  
School Year!**

## Natchitoches Regional Airport to host Cane River Aviation Rendezvous



Natchitoches Regional Airport is preparing to host its Cane River Aviation Rendezvous Fly-in on Sept. 30 and Oct. 1.

The Cane River Aviation Rendezvous will be held in conjunction with the Classic Car Show held the same weekend in the Natchitoches Historic District. The airport is located at 450 Wallenberg Drive.

Fly-ins often attract pilots and aviation enthusiasts from all across

the country. The event is open to the public and provides an opportunity to view an assortment of planes.

Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday. For more information about the July 30 event, please call Airport Manager Larry Cooper at (318) 352-0994 or email him at lcooper@natchitochesla.gov.

## Upcoming holidays and important events

Aug. 1 – Historic District Commission meeting at 5 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Aug. 2 – Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission meeting at 6 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Aug. 4 – Lunch and Learn “how to grow a fall garden” at the Natchitoches Arts Center from noon to 1 p.m.

Aug. 6 – Natchitoches Art Guild Juried Art Competition.

Aug. 8 – Natchitoches City

Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Aug. 10 – First day of school for Natchitoches Parish public schools.

Aug. 13 – Back to School Bash and Back to School Dash at City Park, beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Aug. 15 – Natchitoches Airport Commission meeting at 5 p.m. at the Natchitoches Regional Airport.



Aug. 18 – Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission meeting at 10 a.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Aug. 22 – Natchitoches City Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Aug. 22 – First day of classes at Northwestern State.

Sept. 5 – Labor Day, City of Natchitoches closed.