

# What's New in the City



## City of Natchitoches



### Natchitoches' iPhone APP ready to launch *First La. community to utilize smart phone APP*

Industry partners in Natchitoches have announced the upcoming release of the "Explore Louisiana Crossroads" iPhone application.

The APP will be available for free download some time in January.

This APP will be an easy-to-navigate tool for both pre-trip planning and to get information while on site at a variety of recreational sites in the area. It is intended



both for visitors to the area, as well as local residents who may want to explore more of the historic, natural, and recreational treas-

ures that the Crossroads offers. The APP may be downloaded on any iPhone, iPad, or iPod that can access iTunes APP Store.

Features of the Explore Louisiana Crossroads application include:

- History and significance of the Natchitoches region
- Directions, details and Google map locations for area sites

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### 'Where to Retire' features Natchitoches

The City of Natchitoches will be featured in "Where to Retire" magazine's January/February issue as one of the country's top eight places for retirees to live.

"Where to Retire" magazine, the only magazine in America geared toward helping people with retirement relocation decisions, profiles eight

cities with below-average tax burdens on retirees aged 65 and older.

The cities that are featured are taken from the new edition of "America's



Best Low-Tax Retirement Towns" available from "Where to Retire."

Those cities featured include Natchitoches; Clemson, SC; Cape May, NJ; Woodstock, VT; Eufaula, AL;

Sierra Vista, AZ; Grants Pass, OR and Oak Harbor, WA. The January/February issue of the

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January 1, 2011

Volume VI, Issue 1

#### Inside this issue:

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#### Did you know?

- Natchitoches' Christmas lights will remain on every night in downtown Natchitoches through the first week of January.

- Don't forget to recycle your Christmas Trees! Ward's Waste Services will be collecting live Christmas Trees that are left on the curb after the holiday season. The trees will be placed in the City's "woody waste" landfill. If your Christmas Tree is not picked up, please call Ward's Waste at 354-1001.

- Be on the lookout for the City of Natchitoches' 2011 Annual Report, which will be featured on the City's website in mid-January.

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magazine was mailed to subscribers nationwide in November.

"Where to Retire" editor Mary Lu Abbott said retirees should consider the total tax impact of any city as well as other factors such as the cost of living, recreational opportunities, climate and health care before making a move.

"Retirees in historic Natchitoches, LA enjoy festivals, Cajun cuisine, waterfront living and the Cane River Creole National Historical Park, which encompasses two plantations," Abbott said.

According to the magazine, each year, 700,000 Americans relocate to new towns to retire. Generally, relocating retirees are healthier, better educated and more affluent than retirees who choose not to relocate. These retirees often bring significant economic benefits to their new states and hometowns.

The magazine is old on various newsstands and at Barnes & Noble and Borders bookstores. For a magazine subscription, please visit [www.wheretoretire.com](http://www.wheretoretire.com).

## APP, cont'd. from page 1

- Auto and walking tour ideas
- Safety, service and emergency contact information
- Cane River National Heritage Area
- Natchitoches Area Chamber of Commerce
- US Army Corps of Engineers

A consortium of Natchitoches organizations joined together to provide content for this APP. Project partners include:

- Natchitoches Area Convention and Visitors Bureau
- City of Natchitoches
- Association for the Preservation of Historic Natchitoches
- Melrose Plantation
- Cane River Waterway Commission
- Red River Waterway Commission
- Cane River Creole National Historical Park

The APP is "Powered by Nomad Mobile Guides (TM)".

A community forum will be held on Thursday, Jan. 20 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center to introduce the APP to the community and educate the public about its use. The public is invited to attend this forum.

For more information about the APP, please contact the Natchitoches Area Convention and Visitors Bureau at (800) 259-1714.

## 2010 Annual Report to be released

The City of Natchitoches will release its 2010 Annual Report this month.

The report will highlight accomplishments that were made by the City and its various departments and programs in 2010 as well as provide an outlook on projects to take place in

2011.

The report will be available online sometime in mid-January through the City's web site at [www.natchitochesla.gov](http://www.natchitochesla.gov).

For more information, please call the City's Office of Programming and Promotions at (318) 357-3822.

## January is Arbor Month in Natchitoches



As part of Natchitoches' designation as a "Tree City USA," events are being organized to celebrate "Arbor Month" in Natchitoches during the month of January.

An Arbor Day poster contest is being offered to all Natchitoches Parish fifth grade students, using the theme "Trees are Terrific."

Posters may be submitted on 8.5 X 11 paper in any medium such as crayons, markers, paint, etc. Winners will be selected and recognized at the Jan. 24 Natchitoches City Council

meeting. Entries should be turned into local schools and mailed to Keep Natchitoches Beautiful no later than Wednesday, Jan. 19.

Please call Keep Natchitoches Beautiful at 357-3822 for more information.

There are several reasons why trees should be planted. Trees conserve energy in the summer and winter and help clear the air. Trees help clean rivers and streams and help fight global warming. For information about the benefit of trees, please visit [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org).

## Parish holiday food drive a success

The Food Bank of Central Louisiana conducted the first-ever Natchitoches Parish Christmas Cheer Food Drive in Natchitoches Parish schools.

All food collected in the parish will be used by parish agencies including the Natchitoches Fire Department, Council on Aging and the Robeline Food Pantry.

Several parish schools participated in the food drive, and those schools that collected the most food received cash prizes from the Tunica-Biloxi Tribe in Marksville.

Winners in Natchitoches



Parish include Natchitoches Central High School with 1,059 pounds and L.P. Vaughn Elementary with 1,174 pounds.

## December Employee of the Month *City Electrical Crew Recognized*



The City of Natchitoches Electrical Crew was named as the City's Employee of the Month for December.

The entire crew was nominated for their contributions to the Natchitoches Christmas Festival - the countless hours they spent hanging Christmas lights, set pieces and this year, snow machines on Front Street. Christmas lights will remain on this holiday season through the first week of January.

The crew received gift certificates from Miss Merry Christmas and the Christmas Belles as well as gift certificates from the downtown merchants.

Shown in the photo are (kneeling) Rodney Achord, HR Manager Edd Lee, Mack Verzal, Chris Howard, Bryan Lee and Matt Anderson.

On the second row are Charles Brossette, Miss Merry Christmas Connie Lawson, Toni Brossett, Robert Tucker, Mayor Wayne McCullen, Christmas Belle Megan Session, Jacob Johnson and downtown merchants Sandra Dickens and Phyllis Stroud.

On the third row are Utility Director Bryan Wimberly, Tim Tousek, Aubrey Garcie, Charles Rushing, Spence Payton, David Dobson, Terry Pack and Jim Matthews. Not shown are Junior Brown, Bob Howard, and Terry Elter.

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



## Christmas Festival one of biggest ever

Thousands of people attended the performance of Christmas Festival Grand Marshal Anna Margaret on the downtown riverbank Dec. 4.

Festival organizers believe the 2010 Natchitoches Christ-

mas Festival was the biggest festival Natchitoches has experienced in years.

Christmas lights will remain on in the Natchitoches Historic District through the first week of January.

## City of Natchitoches

Oldest Permanent  
Settlement in the  
Louisiana Purchase

P.O. Box 37  
700 Second Street  
Natchitoches, La. 71457

Phone: 318-352-2772

Fax: 318-357-3829

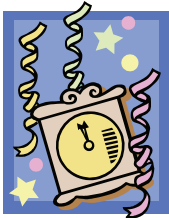
Web:

[www.natchitochesla.gov](http://www.natchitochesla.gov)

E-mail:

[cityhall@natchitochesla.gov](mailto:cityhall@natchitochesla.gov)

## Happy New Year!



## Start Your New Year by Getting Healthy!

The City of Natchitoches wants the community to start the new year with a resolution to get healthy and fit.

Through its initiative "Get Fit Natchitoches," the City of Natchitoches will be offering information on ways to eat healthy and become more physically active, using your local parks and other recreational facilities.

The City's Recreation and Parks Department maintains dozens of local parks and playgrounds, many of which offer walking tracks.

Programs and classes on health and fitness will be offered to the pub-

lic during the new year.

Various tips and information will be provided to the public. For example, did you know it is recommended

that people get five servings of fruits and vegetables and drink eight 8oz glasses of water a day?

More tips on getting healthy and fit this new year will be posted online at

the City's web site at

[www.natchitochesla.gov](http://www.natchitochesla.gov) and at the Cane River Green Market's web site at [www.canerivergreenmarket.com](http://www.canerivergreenmarket.com). A listing of City parks, park amenities and programs offered by the Recreation and Parks Department can also be found on the City's web site.



## Upcoming holidays and important events

Jan. 1 – New Year's Day.

Jan. 3 – City of Natchitoches closed in obser-

ance of New Year's holiday.

Jan. 4 – Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission meets at 6 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 5 – Historic District Commission meeting at 5 p.m. at the Natchitoches



Arts Center.

Jan. 10 – Natchitoches City Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 10 – First day of classes at Northwestern State University.

Jan. 17 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day; City of Natchitoches closed.

Jan. 17 – Airport Commission meeting at 5 p.m. at Natchitoches Regional Airport.

Jan. 20 – Historic District Development Commission meeting at 10 a.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 20 – Community forum to launch Natchitoches' iPhone APP from 5-7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center.

Jan. 24 – Natchitoches City Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.