

What's New in the City



City of Natchitoches



Local sites named best for 50 and above

January 1, 2010

Several Natchitoches sites were just announced as some of the best in Louisiana for those individuals 50 and above.

The announcement was made in New Orleans on Dec. 15 by the Office of Lt. Governor Mitch Landrieu and Encore Louisiana as part of the results of the "Top 50 for 50+" program.

The Top 50 for 50+ program highlights Louisiana's top attrac-



Shown accepting Natchitoches' awards are (from left) Mayor Wayne McCullen, Encore Louisiana Chair Ed Dranguet, Main Street Manager Leslie Smith, Chamber of Commerce Director Nick Pollacia, Community Development Director Randy LaCaze and NSU's Director of Service Learning Steve Gruesbeck.

tions for residents and visitors

50 and above – as voted on by people 50 and above. Those sites identified through the program offer residents and visitors a guide to Louisiana's most authentic experiences.

Votes were cast by people 50 and above who voted for their favorites in 10 categories. Based on the votes, Natchitoches sites were selected as favorites among five categories, which include:

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Did you know?

- Natchitoches' Christmas lights will remain on every night in downtown Natchitoches through Friday, Jan. 8, 2010.

- 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' 2009 Annual Report, which will be mailed to all residents and businesses in mid-January.

Animal Control reopens to the public

The City of Natchitoches has announced its Animal Control office has reopened to the public, effective immediately.

The Animal Control office, located at 450 Fairgrounds Road, will be open to the public Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Stray dogs and cats found within the City of Natchitoches may now be brought to



Animal Control Director Jeannie Kilgore

Animal Control. Those dropping off animals should have proper identification, proving they are residents of the City

of Natchitoches. Stray animals may be brought to Animal Control on Tuesdays and Fridays between 8 a.m. and noon.

Non-vicious dogs and cats are now available for adoption through Animal Control. Those interested in adopting a dog or cat may visit

Animal Control Mondays through Fridays between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monetary

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Awards, cont'd. from page 1

- Best Neighborhood or Residential Development – Natchitoches National Historic Landmark District
- Best Place to Learn Something New – Northwestern State University Continuing Education
- Favorite Festivals – Natchitoches Christmas Festival/ Festival of Lights
- Favorite Restaurants – Lasyone’s Meat Pie Restaurant
- Top Destinations & Attractions – Natchitoches National Historic Landmark District

For information about Encore Louisiana, visit www.EncoreLouisiana.com. For information about retirement opportunities in Natchitoches, please visit www.RetireNatchitoches.com

Annual Bridal Fair to be held Jan. 17

Plan the wedding of your dreams by attending the City of Natchitoches & KP Jewelers Blush & Bashful Bridal Affair on Sunday, Jan. 17, 2010 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center located at 750 Second St.

Admission is \$5 for adults and free for children 12 and under.

The *Bridal Affair* will feature over 45 exhibitors from top wedding professionals offering the newest ideas in ceremonies & receptions. Exhibitors from all aspects of wedding planning including photographers, caterers, wedding coordinators, beauty consultants, jewelers, travel agencies, designer bridal gowns and tuxedos will all be

under one roof so bring your entire wedding party!

In addition to exhibitors, the



Bridal Affair features a fashion show at 3 p.m. that will give you the opportunity to see the latest bridal attire up close. Bridal wear showcased in the fashion show includes casual

wear, flower girl dresses, mother of the bride dresses, tuxedos, bridesmaid dresses, wedding gowns and much more.

For more information about the show or to become an exhibitor, call Natchitoches Events Center Marketing Director, Chris Post at (877) 238-7502 or email at cpost@natchitochesla.gov.

Natchitoches named as one of top 10 places to ‘Retire & Row’

The City of Natchitoches has been named as one of the Top 10 Best Places to Retire & Row in the United States.

The article will be published this month on www.RowingandSculling.com.

Publishers with “The Rower’s Almanac” examined towns across America and ranked them according to a set of 15 criteria relating to economics, quality of life and rowing factors.

The designation came as a

result of an inquiry from a masters rower who was ap-



proaching retirement and looking for a “small, pedestrian-friendly town, warm weather

and walk-able access to a rowing venue.”

Other rating factors included housing costs, state income tax rates, number of restaurants, theatres, libraries, hospitals, types of water and rowing available, number of boathouses and regattas, and the size of the local rowing population.

Events planned for Arbor Day celebration

Several 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. 25 Natchitoches City Council meeting. Entries should be turned into local schools and will be picked up by Keep Natchitoches Beautiful on the morning

of Jan. 20.

In addition to the poster contest, a tree planting ceremony will take place on Friday, Jan. 22 at 4 p.m. at the Ben



Johnson Park, located on MLK Drive.

A large Live Oak Tree has been donated by Northwestern State

University and will be planted at the park site. The public is invited to attend this tree planting ceremony.

Educational presentations will also be made to local youth in January through volunteers with the LSU Ag Center and Northwestern State University.

Fire Dept. provides meals to families



The Natchitoches Fire Department once again headed up its holiday food drive to benefit local families in need during the holiday season.

The Fire Department worked with local businesses and organi-

zations to collect food in November and December. Representatives from Brookshire's Grocery Store delivered bags of food and gift cards to the Fire Department to purchase needed supplies.

Grand Ecore Town Hall meeting Jan. 13

The La. Department of Transportation and Development will host a public Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2010 to discuss upcoming repair work on the Grand Ecore Bridge.

The meeting will take place on Wednesday, January 13 at 5:30 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center, located at 716 Second St.

The meeting will be used to discuss upcoming repair work on the Grand Ecore Bridge and how bridge closures may impact local

businesses and residents. The public is encouraged to attend this meeting, especially representatives from local industries who have 24-hour work shifts.

Construction on the bridge is tentatively set to begin toward the end of February 2010.

For more information about the Town Hall Meeting or the Grand Ecore Bridge project, please contact La. DOTD Project Engineer Michael DeSelle at (318) 357-3158.

Second Line Parade set for Jan. 8

The Mystic Krewe de St. Denis will host a "Second Line Parade" on Friday, Jan. 8 in downtown Natchitoches.

The parade will begin at 9 p.m. on Jan. 8 in front of the Natchitoches Arts Center at 716 Second St. The parade will travel down Second

Street, turning left onto Touline Street. The parade will then travel down Front Street up to Lafayette Street, where the parade will end at the Natchitoches Events Center. The public is invited to view the parade.

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fees and paperwork are required to adopt an animal.

Animal Control Director Jeannie Kilgore said the office cannot house more than 19 cats and 32 dogs at one time. This capacity will be strictly enforced. Animal Control will work with community organizations to find homes for as many of these animals as possible.

Mayor Wayne McCullen and Police Chief Micky Dove stressed that only dogs and cats found within the City can be accepted.

For information about Animal Control, call 357-

3885. If you have lost a pet and believe it may have been picked up by Animal Control, call the office to provide staff with a photograph or description of your pet.

To report an after-hours emergency such as a vicious animal or an animal in distress, call the Natchitoches Police Department at 352-8101.

Animal Control is still in need of donations of supplies and materials. Needed items include dog food, collars, leashes, brushes, cat litter, flea shampoo and cleaning supplies. To donate, call the office at 357-3885.

City emails to change Jan. 1

Beginning Jan. 1, 2010, all City of Natchitoches employees will have a change in their email addresses.

Email addresses will now feature the first letter of the employee's first name followed by their last name, ending with "@natchitochesla.gov."

For example, Community Development Director Randy LaCaze's email address will now be: rllacaze@natchitochesla.gov

For a directory of city departments and their contact information, please visit the City's web site at www.natchitochesla.gov.

Vendors sought for Sign Up Saturday

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana will present Sign Up Saturday, a health, wellness and activity fair on Saturday, Feb. 20 at the Natchitoches Events Center.

The event will target families with the goal of increasing physical activity and healthy lifestyles among area children.

Organizations are being offered the chance to

present their program offerings to hundreds of prospective families. Groups will also have the opportunity to demonstrate their skills on the activity stage.

Booths are free of charge. To learn more about the event, please call Sports Care USA at (800) 868-0415 or email corporate@sportscareusa.com.

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

E-mail:

cityhall@natchitochesla.gov

Happy New Year!



CRGM seeks 2010 coordinator

Market seeking vendors for season

The Cane River Green Market is preparing to open its 2010 season this spring. In preparation, the market is looking for a coordinator to serve as the on-site manager on market days.

The Cane River Green Market will celebrate its 10-year anniversary in 2010.

The Green Market coordinator is a seasonal, part-time job that manages the market, which operates every Saturday on the downtown riverbank from April through the end of July and again in the fall.

The coordinator is responsible for

opening the market every Saturday, collecting vendor fees, establishing vendor relations and helping plan special events and promotions at the market.

Anyone interested in applying for the coordinator position should call Human Resources Manager Edd Lee at 357-3824.

In addition, vendors are

being sought for the 2010 market season including those that sell fresh fruits, vegetables and produce and value-added items such as breads, jams and jellies. Call the market at 352-CRGM for information.



Upcoming holidays and important events

Jan. 1 – New Year's Day. City of Natchitoches closed.

Jan. 4 – Historic District Commission meeting at 5 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 5 – Natchitoches Planning and Zoning Commission meets at 6 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 6 – National Guard Deployment Ceremony at the Natchitoches Events Center at 10 a.m.

Jan. 8 – Second Line Parade

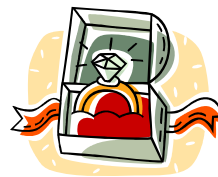


hosted by the Mystic Krewe de St. Denis at 9 p.m. in front of the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 11 – Natchitoches City Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 11 – First day of classes at Northwestern State University.

Jan. 17 – Blush and Bashful Bridal Affair from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Natchitoches Events Center.



Jan. 18 – Martin Luther King

Jr. Day; City of Natchitoches closed.

Jan. 19 – Airport Commission meeting at 5 p.m. at Natchitoches Regional Airport.

Jan. 21 – Historic District Development Commission meeting at 10 a.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.

Jan. 22 – Tree planting ceremony at 4 p.m. at Ben Johnson Park.

Jan. 25 – Natchitoches City Council meeting at 7 p.m. at the Natchitoches Arts Center.