Things to Do

McNeese's Leisure Learning is offering the following classes:

- Excel I: Introduction to Excel, Sec. A: 6 8 p.m., Tues/Thurs, Sept. 19, 21
- Excel II: Working with Multiple Workbooks, Sec. A: 6 8 p.m., Tues/Thurs, Sept. 26, 28
- Excel III: Frequently Used Functions, Sec. A: 6 8 p.m., Tues/Thurs, Oct. 3, 5
- Excel IV: Styles & Templates, Sec. A: 6 8 p.m., Tues/Thurs, Oct. 10, 12
- Excel V: More Functions, Sec. A: 6 8 p.m., Tues/Thurs, Oct. 17, 19
- Excel I: Introduction, Sec. B: 8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, Oct. 24
- Excel II: Working with Multiple Workbooks, Sec. B: 8:30 a.m.- 12:30 p.m., Tuesdays, October
 31
- Excel III: Frequently Used Functions, Sec. B: 8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 7
- Excel IV: Styles & Templates, Sec. B: 8:30 a.m. 12:30 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 14
- QUICKBOOKS I: Setting Up a Company, Sales, Receipts, Purchases and Payments, 5 8 p.m., Mondays, September 19, 26, October 3
- QUICKBOOKS II: Setting Up Payroll, Financial Reports and Miscellaneous Transactions, 5 8 p.m., Mondays, October 10, 17, 24
- Stained Glass for Beginners, 6 8 p.m., Tuesdays, Sept. 26, Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31
- Wines of France, Australia, South America and USA, 7 8:30 pm, Wednesdays, Sept. 20, 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18

To register, visit www.mcneese.edu/leisure or call (337) 475-5616.

CHRISTUS LiveWell Women's Network presents 'Ignite the Fire Within: A Night with Allison Massari' on Thursday, September 21, from 3 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Lake Charles. Join CHRISTUS Lake Area Hospital and CHRISTUS St. Patrick Health System for a night of insight and inspiration. There will be a women's health expo from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. featuring an afternoon of shopping and interactive booths; followed by a plated dinner, program and door prizes. Bring your girlfriends to celebrate the 7th anniversary of this one girls' night out you won't want to miss! Tickets are \$40 per person or \$300 for a reserved table of eight (8), and can be purchased by calling (866) 200-3627 or by visiting ChristusHealth.org/Lake-Area. Deadline to register is September 7.

On Thursday, September 21, the City of Lake Charles will hold Open House events in ten recreation centers across the city. Each open house will be held from 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. The purpose of the events is to reintroduce the public to a number of Recreation and Parks Department programs and events. At each City of Lake Charles Recreation Center, there will be a number of celebration activities for attendees to enjoy including refreshments, door prizes, table games, youth activities, reading exercises, fun for seniors, and arts and crafts for the entire family. The ten recreation centers Open House event will include the following:

- 1. Bellard, located at 2808 Hillcrest Drive
- 2. Clifton, located at 2415 E. Gieffers Street
- 3. College Oaks, located at 3518 Ernest Street
- 4. Columbus Circle, located at 3520 Grienwich Blvd.
- 5. Donald R. Stevens, located at 1619 Cessford Street
- 6. Henry Heights, located at 801 E. School Street
- 7. Lanza, located at 609 Sycamore Street
- 8. McMillan, located at 343 Goos Street
- 9. Purple Heart, located at 4305 Avenue H
- 10. Willie McCullor Landry, located at 416 Dr. Michael DeBakey Drive

The public is invited to attend these free events. For more information or to schedule a tour of the community center, please call 491-1280.

On Thursday, September 21, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Tuten Park will host a talk titled "Dragonflies: The Ultimate Predators." In this lecture, naturalist Irvin Louque will describe the complex aquatic and aerial lives of dragonflies. Attendees can expect to learn about the amazing adaptations of dragonflies, including migration, hunting behavior, and how to observe them. Bring binoculars and/or a camera, as the group will look for dragonflies in Tuten Park after the talk if time allows. For reservations, please register online at bit.ly/TutenEd or contact Irvin Louque at (337) 491-8770 or irvin.louque@cityoflc.us. Find out more information about the park at the Tuten Park website: www.cityoflakecharles.com/tutenpark.

NEW INFO! The Golden Nugget Casino is hosting the DJ Jose Mata Birthday Bash at the Blue Martini on September 21 starting at 9 p.m.

The Lake Charles Little Theatre will open its 91st season with the production of The Marvelous Wonderettes with performances on September 22, 23, 24. Adults: \$20; Seniors (65+) \$15; Students \$10. Tickets available on-line at the lclt.com or leave a message at (337) 433-7988. The Lake Charles Little Theater is located at 813 Enterprise Blvd.

The Golden Nugget Lake Charles is pleased to announce the September 2017 live entertainment schedules for the Grand Event Center: Dwight Yoakam (September 22), Chris Isaak (September 23), and Bill Engvall (September 29). The following shows have been rescheduled from last week: The Commodores (November 10) and The Charlie Daniels Band (May 18).

Climb on your bikes, jump on your Jeeps and lace up your running shoes! CHRISTUS St. Patrick Foundation is gearing up for the seventh annual Run with the Nuns Charity and Cook-off, which will take place on Saturday, September 23, at the Lake Charles Civic Center Amphitheatre at 900 Lakeshore Drive. This year they have something for everyone, no matter how you like to get around. The newly added 5K Run begins at 7:30 a.m., Rice and Gravy Cook-Off begins at 8 a.m., and the Motorcycle & Jeep ride begins at 9 a.m. This year's event features a 5K run, supported by CHRISTUS Louisiana Athletic Club-Lake Charles. Registration for the 5K Run is \$30 and includes a lunch and door prize ticket. Runners may race in tasteful nun's garb. The ride is open to both Motorcycle and Jeep Riders. Registration is \$30 for each driver and \$20 for the first passenger and includes lunch, medal and door prize ticket. This year's 96-mile ride will depart at 9 a.m. escorted by the Blue Knights. There will also be a "Like Nun Other" rice and gravy cook-off during the Run with the Nuns event. The entry fee is \$125 per team and includes 15 pounds of round steak, rice and water for cooking. This event is dedicated to the memory of Coach Max Caldarera. Proceeds will help complete funding for a new hybrid surgical suite, giving our community access to the absolute best in cardiac care. For more information or to register, visit www.stpatrickfoundation.org or call (337) 430-5353.

NEW INFO! On Wednesday, September 27, the Lake Charles North Redevelopment Authority (LCNRA) will hold two community meetings in the Jean Lafitte Room of the Lake Charles Civic Center, 900 Lakeshore Drive. The first meeting will be held from 10 a.m. to noon, and the second meeting will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. The purpose of the meetings is to introduce Lake Charles residents to the LCNRA board of directors as well as its current programs and services. Topics that will be discussed include current North Lake Charles initiatives including community development, adjudicated property programs, and its ongoing Small Business Summit series. As a result of its adjudicated property programs and partnership with CivicSource, numerous abandoned properties have been redeemed or sold to responsible property owners, consequently turning local blight into commerce. Through the Small Business Summit, the LCNRA partners with local agencies to encourage a spirit of entrepreneurship in the district. The Summit's current priorities are providing quality small business training in the District and youth entrepreneurship initiatives. The community meeting is free and open to the public and is sponsored in part by the City of Lake Charles Community Development Division. Learn more about the LCNRA at www.lcnra.com.

NEW INFO! Families Helping Families is hosting "Coffee and Conversation" with Shannon Choate, LCSW - Clinical Director and Faith Hooks, Community Resource Specialist of Choices Coordinated Care Solutions. Choices is the State Medicaid appointed Wraparound Agency selected to manage the Coordinated System of Care (CSoC) program in SWLA. Choices provides a care coordinator for each child and family they serve. The care coordinator helps build a custom plan for each youth and family. This event will take place on

Thursday, September 28, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Families Helping Families in the FHF Conference Room. RSVP to China Guillory at info@fhfswla.org or (337) 436-2570.

NEW INFO! The 1911 Historic City Hall Arts & Cultural Center is hosting "Waterworks: A Watercolor Exhibition" in conjunction with the Gallery Promenade on September 29, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Historic City Hall is located at 1001 Ryan Street in Lake Charles.

The City of Lake Charles Sesquicentennial Planning Committee has announced plans for its fall Sesquicentennial Celebration Kick-off to be held Friday, September 29, through Sunday, October 1, 2017. On Friday, September 29, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., an exhibit opening will be held at 1911 Historic City Hall (1001 Ryan Street). The exhibit, titled 150 Years of Lake Charles, is a 16-panel, multimedia display that covers the storied history of Lake Charles from its early years through present day. On Saturday, September 30, at 6 p.m., the Sesquicentennial Parade of Festivals will roll through the streets of Downtown Lake Charles. The parade will line up on Mill Street and travel south down Ryan Street to 7th Street/Dr. DeBakey Drive. Area festivals and events as well as businesses / organizations / churches who have been in existence 50 years or more are invited to participate. To request a parade entry application form, visit www.cityoflakecharles.com. After the parade, a Community Event will be held at the Arcade Amphitheatre, 900 Lakeshore Drive, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Dance the evening away to the sounds of Louisiana Express while enjoying the tasty menu items from local food trucks on site. Stroll along the Lakefront Promenade and experience a Street Fair packed with local performers and entertainers. Cap the night off with a spectacular fireworks display over Lake Charles. The event and fireworks are funded by sponsors through the Community Foundation of Southwest Louisiana. All three events are free and open to the public to attend. As these are family events, they are alcohol free. American Press Sesquicentennial Calendars are still available for a \$5 donation at Historic City Hall. Historic City Hall is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Arts & Humanities Council of SWLA is excited to announce that Gallery Promenade will return on Friday, September 29 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., for the City's sesquicentennial year celebration. Gallery Promenade, a cooperative driving tour, includes cultural institutions and a diverse group of homegrown artworks on display throughout the Lake Area. This annual event celebrates the art spaces, galleries, and museums that work year-round to provide cultural resources, exhibits, and opportunities for both artists and residents. For one evening, participating art spaces will open their doors to showcase current and one-night-only exhibits, performances, live music, and culinary delights. For details, visit www.artscouncilswla.org or call (337) 439-2787.

On Saturday, September 30, the Children's Museum hosts "Kids Choice" where kids can use extra projects that were leftovers from previous workshops and weekly projects. Projects will be available from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. on a first-come first-served basis. Limit one project per child.

Calcasieu Historic Preservation Society will unveil and dedicate three new "Lost Landmark" signs on Saturday, September 30 at a "Trolley Tour" event beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the City Transit Center, Clarence at Ryan Street in downtown Lake Charles. The event will begin with fellowship and light refreshments, and the City Trolley will begin boarding at 10 am to travel to the sites of three new Lost Landmarks. The sites for 2017 include Barbe Pier, St. Charles Academy, and Goldband Records. An onboard docent will provide information about the program and about the existing signs en route. At each site, a brief program will highlight the site, acknowledge the host and dedicate the sign with a reading. In addition, there will be photo opportunities at each location. Lost Landmarks is an ongoing project of the Calcasieu Historical Preservation Society, and this event is co-sponsored by the City of Lake Charles. Should attendance exceed the capacity of the City Trolley, please carpool and motorcade following the bus.

NEW INFO! Presented by Lake Charles Toyota, Mickey Smith, Jr.'s Sax in the City 150, will celebrate the Sesquicentennial Anniversary of the City of Lake Charles on Sunday, October 1, in the Buccaneer Room of the Lake Charles Civic Center. A chicken and sausage gumbo dinner catered by Cajun Cafe will be served at 6 p.m. with the concert beginning at 7 p.m. Guests should arrive early to view works of celebrated local visual artists in the Buccaneer Lobby. That night's music will connect to Lake Charles' past as Leah Howard sings Nellie Lutcher's famous songs of the 1940's and 50's, and will showcase a bright musical future with

Sean Ardoin. This concert will be a benefit for MusicMakers2U, a nonprofit and volunteer organization with a mission to pair donated, gently used musical instruments with deserving students in Southwest Louisiana. Instruments may be brought to the concert for donation. Tickets are \$30 which includes dinner and may be purchased at www.musicmakers2u.org. Ticketmaster, Lake Charles Civic Center Box Office, Swicegood's and Bearden's Music Stores, or PayPal. Joining Lake Charles Toyota as sponsors are CSE Federal Credit Union, Lake Charles CBS Affiliate Channel 17, Thrive Magazine, The Jambalaya News, and Sam Hebert Financial Group. MusicMakers2U is supported by a SWLA Convention & Visitors Bureau Tourism Marketing Grant from the Lake Charles/SWLA Convention & Visitors Bureau as administered by the Arts Council of SWLA. For more information on MusicMakers2U, please visit www.musicmakers2u.org and our Facebook page. Please view https://mickeysmithjr.com or the Mickey Smith, Jr. Facebook page for information about Sax in the City.

NEW INFO! Dr. Eric Snow is offering Grocery Shopping 101 to help keep you and your family healthy and happy. This event will take place on October 2 at 6 p.m. Call (337) 853-3335 for additional details and to reserve your spot.

Lake Charles Care Center is hosting a fundraiser raffle to benefit The Alzheimer's Association. They will be raffling off a full day fishing charter for 3 people with Capt. Chris Davidson, of Waltrip's Saltwater Guide Service (Big Lake). Tickets are \$10 each and the drawing will be held October 6 at Lake Charles Care Center. Tickets may be purchased at Lake Charles Care Center, Cajun Tackle, or Hebert's Marina.

Families Helping Families of SWLA is hosting their 2017 Empowerment Conference, & Resource Fair on Wednesday, October 11, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Harbor's Edge Pavilion in the Calcasieu and Sabine Rooms at Prien Lake Park (4150 W. Prien Lake Rd, Lake Charles). This full-day, information packed conference promises to offer something for everyone on topics relevant to individuals with disabilities and their families and interested professionals related to empowerment and advocacy. This year's keynote speaker is Mark Thomas, Office for Citizens with Developmental Disabilities (OCDD) Assistant Secretary, and guest speakers include Jeff Arseneaux, People First of Louisiana; Nomica Guillory, Excellence In You, LLC; Dr. Brandi Kelly, OCDD Clinical Director; and Dr. Amy Greer, OCDD Assistant Clinical Director. At the event there will be a light lunch (at no cost) and an area provider/agency resource fair where guests can visit information tables from area agencies that will spotlight services and supports available in Southwest Louisiana for individuals with disabilities and their families. There is no fee to attend, but you must register to attend. Contact Wallace Johnson at info@fhfswla.org, (337) 436-2570 or 1-800-894-6558.

CARC is hosting a free breakfast seminar on Wednesday, October 18, from 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. at the SEED Center (4310 Ryan Street, Lake Charles). Attorneys John Bradford and Ross Raley with Stockwell Sievert Law Firm will be covering tax credits for employers that go unnoticed. Please RSVP with Cindy Dewees at cdewees@carc.us or call (337) 433-3620. Bring business cards for a chance to win a prize!!

The City of Westlake is holding their 2nd Annual Community Citizen of the Year Banquet on October 19 at the Isle of Capri Event Center. This event will be from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person or \$650 for a table of ten. There will be a cash bar, live auction and entertainment. All proceeds will benefit the Westlake Armed Forces Commission. Get your tickets by September 29 through Becky Cryer at mayorsoffice@cityofwestlake.com or by calling (337) 802-0077.

The Girl Scouts of Louisiana Pines to the Gulf is hosting their first Thin Mint Sprint on October 28 at the Lake Charles Civic Center. Visit gslpg.org/thinmintsprint to register.

NEW INFO! Fundraising is a tall order—especially during a tough economy -and on November 3, Evergreen Life Services takes it to new heights with **Rappel for a Reason**, an innovative fundraising event hosted by Over the Edge. This event will allow 92 thrill-seeking participants to rappel 120 feet down the Charleston Manor in downtown Lake Charles. Each participant must raise a minimum of \$1,000 in donations for Evergreen Life Services to go Over the Edge. Rappel for a Reason is a day-long event, which will run on Friday, November 3, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Charleston Manor. Family, friends and spectators are

invited to come down and support participants. All funds raised through Rappel for a Reason will go towards supporting those served with intellectual and developmental disabilities served by Evergreen in the Southwest Louisiana area. Evergreen's Rappel for a Reason fundraising event is conducted by Over the Edge, a U.S.- based company that specializes in creating unique fundraising events for non-profit organizations. Their staff includes fully-trained professionals who have conducted more than 500 events over the last 13 years. Registration is now open for this event. www.otecwe.com/lakecharles. For more information on this event, please contact Peggy Johnson at (225) 921-7473. For more information about Evergreen Life Services, visit www.evergreenls.org.

NEW INFO! Join international online media guru Jim Brody at the SEED Center on December 6, for a master class on Reputation Management. Presented by th9+e Lake Charles/Southwest Louisiana Convention & Visitors Bureau, this event will be held from 8:30-11:30 a.m., and will cover the behavior of social media users, turning the right visitors into online advocates, social media best practices, how to best leverage your platforms and gain permission to use third party content, and how to effectively measure your social media strategies long term. If you have a social media page and respond to customers/fans, manage a Trip Advisor or Yelp review page, and/or have a website for your business or brand, this seminar is for YOU! This class is free, but pre-registration is required. Register online at www.VisitLakeCharles.org/YOUniversity.

Job Opportunities / Training

The City of Lake Charles is hosting a free workshop for foster parents and others interested in learning more about child safety and wellbeing. The workshop entitled "Linked" will be held on the second Tuesday of each month from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Church of the King, 2145 Oak Park Blvd. in Lake Charles. The schedule for the remainder of 2017 follows: October 10 - Risk Reduction Methods of SIDS and Accidental Suffocation, November 14 - Stress Relief, and December 12 - To Be Determined. Foster parents can receive one training hour per workshop. The workshops are free to the public, and supper and childcare will be provided. Preregistration is required. You can register to attend at www.swlafostercare.com or call (337) 491-8735 for more information.

The Louisiana Industrial Development Executives Association, or LIDEA, has teamed up with the Louisiana Municipal Association, Louisiana Economic Development and CLECO to host a series of one-day classes on The Role of Elected Leaders in Economic Development. Local and state elected officials are encouraged to attend a class to learn more about economic development efforts in Louisiana and the important roles that elected officials play in securing economic-driver projects in the state. The classes, which are free and include lunch, will be 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For Southwest Louisiana, the class will be held in Lake Charles on Sept. 27. Reservations are required and must be made no later than the Friday preceding the date of the desired class. For more information and to secure your reservation, please contact Cami Barlow via email at cbarlow@lma.org. Classes will include the following topics: Economic Development Fundamentals, Building a Team and Brand, Community and Economic Development, and Thinking Regionally. The same courses will be taught at all locations. The class will include three case studies on projects in Louisiana, with participants using the information provided to determine the outcome best-suited for their respective local economies.

NEW INFO! Asset Builders of Southwest Louisiana is now expanding to help small business owners. Those eligible for the program are business owners in the five-parish area who meet the following criteria: must live in Allen, Beauregard, Calcasieu, Cameron, or Jeff Davis parishes; must be one year active in business; must have a business banking account, EIN, Schedule C (if applicable), and occupational license (if required by their local government); and must attend a program orientation. Those accepted into the program would open IDAs to capitalize on existing businesses. IDAs are savings accounts that match the deposits of participants - up to a pre-determined maximum. The match program can be as brief as six months or as long as two years. First Federal Bank and JD Bank are the banking partners in this initiative. The program will kick off Oct 1. For more information about the program, call Alyssa Hebert at (337) 439-7191 or visit www.assetbuildersswla.org.

All job seekers and employers are invited to attend the Calcasieu Business & Career Solutions Center's Quarterly Job Fair, which is scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon, Thursday, Oct. 12, at the Lake Charles Civic Center's Exhibition Hall. Job seekers should wear business attire and bring a picture ID and several copies of

their current resume. Arrive early to ensure the opportunity to meet with employers at the fair. Preregistration is not required. Employers may register to take part in the job fair through Wednesday, Oct. 4, by contacting the Business & Career Solutions Center at 337-721-4010. There is no cost for employers to participate. Veterans will be given priority services. The job fair is sponsored by the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury, in conjunction with the Workforce Development Board, the Louisiana Workforce Commission and is funded by the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. For more information, contact the Calcasieu Business & Career Solutions Center at (337) 721-4010.

NEW INFO! Baton Rouge Entrepreneurship Week (BREW) organizers have announced the launch of registration for BREW 2017. BREW will take place November 14-16, featuring events targeted at celebrating innovation in the Capital area. This year, all BREW events will take place in the downtown Baton Rouge area with a focus on creating more opportunities for spontaneous connections, facilitating walkability among venues, and encouraging full three-day attendance. Events and speakers include: "Elevate Your Brand," a women in business conversation led by local leadership expert Dima Ghawi; Arts Entrepreneur Summit hosted by the Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge; "This is Personal" cyber security briefing by Jeff Moulton, executive director of LSU's Stephenson National Center for Security Research and Training; small-group huddles on everything from virtual reality to business development; lunch lottery meetings for attendees to connect around the tables of downtown restaurants; and an EO Accelerator Test Drive. "Entrepreneurs' Organization (EO) has been involved in BREW since its inception in 2011. BREW is produced by NexusLA in collaboration with dozens of supporters and partners throughout the community. Registration for the three-day event is \$20 and open to the public. The full schedule, which is subject to change, along with additional details on accommodations, sponsors, and partner organizations, can be found at www.celebratebrew.com.

Sponsorships / Assistance Needed

The Arts Council of SWLA and the City of Lake Charles are currently accepting nominations from the public for persons to be honored at the 2017 Mayor's Arts Awards ceremony which is scheduled for Friday, November 2, at 6 p.m. in the Benjamin W. Mount Auditorium at Central School. The Mayor's Arts Awards honors those working in the arts by recognizing the contributions of Southwest Louisiana's creative workers, patrons, and artists to the region's culture. Newly-elected mayor Nic Hunter presents the awards to each recipient. Categories include Artist of the Year, Citizen of the Arts, Citizen of the Humanities, Arts Educator of the Year, Arts Organization of the Year, and Patron of the Year. The Keystone Award is also given to an individual who works diligently behind the scenes, without whom programs and performances would not be possible. Award winners are chosen by an independent panel, and kept secret until the night of the ceremony. Those who wish to nominate an organization, individual, or group can download a nomination form at www.artscouncilswla.org. Nominations must be received by the Arts Council office no later than Friday, October 20, 2017. For more information about this year's Mayor's Arts Awards, call the Arts Council at 439-2787.

The 13th Annual HOPE Breast Cancer Walk/Fun Run will be held on Saturday, October 21, at the Lake Charles Civic Center. The Foundation was formed in 2008 with the sole mission of providing 100% of proceeds directly to individuals in the Calcasieu and Cameron Parishes who are going through breast cancer treatment. Monies raised from this fundraising event are awarded as a financial stipend, regardless of insurance coverage, and may be used for transportation to receive treatment, wigs, prostheses, bras and other items related to a diagnosis of breast cancer. To date, over \$365,000 has been donated to help 675 individuals. Sponsorships for this years' walk come in various levels, with no amount being too small. All donations and door prizes of any amount are greatly appreciated! All sponsors \$1,000 and above will receive a vendor booth on the day of the walk if requested by October 6. To become a sponsor or with questions regarding this years' walk, submitting donations or to learn more about the Ethel Precht HOPE Breast Cancer Foundation, please visit www.EthelBreastCancerWalk.org.