

Things to Do

The Lake Charles Little Theater is holding auditions for its first show of its 90th Season - NUNSENSE II - The Second Coming. Auditions will be held at 813 Enterprise Blvd tonight at 7 p.m. All ages are welcome. Actors are required to bring and perform 18 to 24 measures of any song. They are casting for five female roles. The performance dates are Sept 9 through 25.

The 2016 Salty Catch Fishing Rodeo partners with Golden Nugget Lake Charles to benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital with an event held at Golden Nugget Beach Thursday-Sunday, July 21-24. The tournament features six divisions: Offshore, Inshore, Spearfishing, Youth, Guide and Calcutta, with cash prizes worth over five hundred dollars for participants of every age. The weekend long event will launch on Thursday, July 21, with the Captain's Kick-off Party at 6 p.m., with live music by the Kadillacs, followed by the Miss Salty Catch Bikini Contest. Throughout the day, there will be giveaways, interactive sponsor booths, food and beverages, raffles, fish displays, live entertainment by Under the Influence, DJ David Verret, and much more! The Awards Ceremony will begin on Sunday at 3 p.m., which will conclude the tournament. Tickets are now available for purchase. Ticket locations and all tournament information are listed online at www.saltycatch.com. The event is sponsored by Bolton Ford, Performance Contractors, Lake Area Marine and Blackjack Boats. For more info on how to register or how you can become a sponsor, contact Crystal Lafosse, event director, at 337-802-5525 or email saltycatchfishingrodeo@gmail.com.

NEW INFO! The Walnut Grove Institute and the Arts & Humanities Council of Southwest Louisiana will host a gallery opening for their latest Art Exhibit on Thursday, July 21, from 5-6:30 p.m. The exhibit is housed in the Walnut Grove Post Office, located at 2025 W. Walnut St, Suite 1B, in Lake Charles. This quarter's exhibit features the works of artists, Emily Martindale, Ogden Myers, and Josh Guillory. Select pieces are available for purchase, and the exhibit will remain on display through October 7, 2016.

The Calcasieu Parish Parks and Recreation department is celebrating Park and Recreation Month with Movies Under the Stars. Bring your blankets and snacks to Prien Lake Park on July 22, and don your super capes for a top-secret assignment with Pixar's hilarious look at superheroes coming out of retirement in "The Incredibles". The show start at sundown near 8 p.m., but get there early to claim a good seat!

Jack Ingram will perform at Golden Nugget Lake Charles on Saturday, July 23 at 8 p.m. in the Grand Event Center. The Texas-born singer and songwriter has long been active in the Texas country music scene and reached the U.S. Country Top 40 in 2005 with his hit "Wherever You Are." In 2008, Ingram won the Academy of Country Music award for Best New Male Vocalist. Ingram is known for hits such as "Love You," "Lips of an Angel," "Measure of a Man," "Maybe She'll Get Lonely," "That's a Man," and "Barefoot and Crazy." Tickets prices start at \$15 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

Bijoux Jewelry Design Center is hosting a NinaGuyen Trunk Show from Wednesday, July 27 to Friday, July 29. Attendees could leave with a free bracelet with qualifying purchase.

Jana Kramer will perform on Friday, July 29 at 8:30 p.m. in the Grand Event Center at Golden Nugget Lake Charles. Known for her role as Alex Dupre on the television series One Tree Hill, Kramer started her career in country music in 2012 with her debut single "Why Ya Wanna." She was named Top New Female Artist by the Academy of Country Music in 2012 and her single "I Got The Boy" has certified gold. She was recently honored by the ACM with a nomination for Female Vocalist of the Year. Tickets prices start at \$12.50 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

Jerry Jeff Walker will perform on Saturday, July 30, at 8 p.m. in the Grand Event Center of Golden Nugget Lake Charles. He is known for being associated with the outlaw country scene that was centered around the Austin, TX area in the 1970s and included artists such as Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Guy Clark and Billy Joe Shaver, among others. His Prolific career and widespread musical influence have made him an iconic fixture in the Texas country music scene. Tickets prices start at \$20 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

NEW INFO! Country superstar Wynonna and her band, The Big Noise will perform at Golden Nugget Lake Charles in the Grand Event Center on Friday, August 12, at 8:30 p.m. Wynonna Judd rose to fame performing with her mother Naomi as the country music duo known as The Judds. Together they produced 14 number one hits. She began her solo career in 1992 and is a five-time Grammy winner and New York Times best-selling author. Her hits include "No One Else on Earth," "Things That I Lean On," "She Is His Only Need" and "I Saw The Light." Tickets prices start at \$35 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance starting at 2 p.m at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

NEW INFO! Comedian Ron White will bring his unique brand of standup humor to Golden Nugget Lake Charles on Saturday, August 13, at 8 p.m. White is best known as a member of the Blue Collar Comedy Tour which included Jeff Foxworthy, Bill Engvall and Larry The Cable Guy. Known by the nickname "Tater Salad," White is the author of the New York Times best seller, *I Had the Right to Remain Silent But I Didn't Have the Ability*. His comedy albums have twice been nominated for Grammys. Tickets prices start at \$55 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance starting at 2 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

NEW INFO! Country music icon Vince Gill will perform on Friday, August 19, at 8:30 p.m. in the Grand Event Center at Golden Nugget Lake Charles. Gill hit the national scene as a member of the Pure Prairie League band in the 1979. As a solo artist, he has sold over 26 million albums, won 20 Grammys and 18 CMA Awards. He was inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame and in February 2016, was inducted into the Guitar Center Rock Walk by Joe Walsh of The Eagles. Some of his many hits include "When I Call Your Name", "Go Rest High on That Mountain", "I Still Believe in You" and "Trying to Get Over You." Tickets prices start at \$45 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance starting at 2 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

NEW INFO! Kellie Pickler will perform at Golden Nugget Lake Charles on Saturday, August 20, at 8 p.m. in the Grand Event Center. Pickler gained fame as a contestant on American Idol Season 5 where she was the sixth place finisher. She has gone on to have numerous country hits and her debut album, *Small Town Girl*, sold over 900,000 copies and was certified gold by the RIAA. Pickler dazzled judges and audiences with her dance partner, Derek Hough, to win the 2013 season of ABC's *Dancing With the Stars*. Pickler's hits include "Red High Heels", "I Wonder", "Things That Never Cross a Man's Mind" and "Best Days of Your Life". Tickets prices start at \$20 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance starting at 2 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

NEW INFO! Christopher Cross will perform at Golden Nugget Lake Charles on Friday, August 26, at 8:30 p.m. in the Grand Event Center. Known for his smooth and sophisticated ballads, Cross was a mainstay on the radio in the 1980s. He is a five time Grammy winner and is best known for the songs "Sailing", "Ride Like the Wind" and the Oscar-winning "Arthur's Theme (Best That You Can Do)". Tickets prices start at \$10 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through

Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance starting at 2 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

NEW INFO! Country music legend Tanya Tucker will perform at Golden Nugget Lake Charles on Saturday, August 27, at 8 p.m. in the Grand Event Center. Tucker rose to fame at the age of 13 with her first hit, "Delta Dawn", which earned a Grammy nomination for "Best Female Vocal of the Year". Her hits "Love Me Like You Used To," "Can I See You Tonight," "Some Kind of Trouble," and "It's a Little Too Late" established her status as an icon in the music industry. Tickets prices start at \$25 and are available online at www.ticketmaster.com or by phone through Ticketmaster at 1-800-745-3000. Tickets can also be purchased on the day of the performance starting at 2 p.m. at the Golden Nugget Box Office.

NEW INFO! Registration is now OPEN for the 11th Annual "Fore for Families" Golf Tournament. This year's tournament will be held at the beautiful Gray Plantation Golf Course in Lake Charles. The tournament date is Friday, September 9, 2016. FHF SWLA will host a 2 person scramble that will begin with a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. Team registration will open at 11 a.m. followed by lunch with a 12:30 p.m. Shotgun Start. The \$250 fee per team covers the course, cart, and lunch. Ditty bags will be given to all participants. 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes will be given in two divisions. Join us for a great day of golf to support FHF SWLA! If you need more information or have any questions, please contact Susan Riehn at smbenoit@fhfswla.org or call (337) 436-2570 or visit our website at: www.fhfswla.org.

NEW INFO! Junior Achievement of SWLA invites everyone to attend the Phillips 66 Dream on the Green Golf Scramble on Friday, September 23, at the National Golf Club in Westlake. There will be two flights with tee times at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Contact Meg Lovejoy at (337) 527-6168 or meg.lovejoy@ja.org for more information or to register.

Multiple Activities

L'Auberge Casino Resort Lake Charles' iconic Liquid Society summer concert continues with The Fray (July 21), and American Authors and Sister Hazel (July 28). Tickets for Liquid Society are available at www.ticketmaster.com or by visiting the L'Auberge Box Office.

The Children's Museum is offering many exciting activities and workshops over the month of July! On Thursday, July 21, kids can go on musical adventures with Julian Q at 11:30 a.m. On Saturday, July 23, it is Kids Choice from 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. On Tuesday, July 26, kids can paint a knight shield in the ArtSpace Workshop at 11 a.m., 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. On Thursday, July 28, kids are encouraged to Get Movin' Anytime with Bruce Broussard of Anytime Fitness at 11:30 a.m. Kona Ice will also be at the museum on Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. all month. The Children's Museum is located at 327 Broad Street downtown Lake Charles. Museum hours are from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Admission is \$8.50 for children and adults. Admission applies to all workshops and activities. Call 337-433-9420 or visit www.swlakids.org for a complete list of admission fees, memberships and birthday party information.

L.I.F.T. (Living Information for Today), is a social program for lake area widows and widowers sponsored and hosted by Hixson Funeral Homes. They meet on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at their Moss Bluff location, the 3rd Wednesday in Sulphur, and the 4th Wednesday in Lake Charles. All start at 10 a.m. For more info call Jody Barrilleaux 337-794-3113.

Support / Volunteers Needed

NEW INFO! Families Helping Families is hosting the LaCAN-LaTEACH-FHF Legislative Wrap Up: Potluck Dinner & Social on July 27 starting at 5:30 p.m. Come learn about LaCAN and LaTEACH and our accomplishments in the last legislative session. They have invited area legislators to come and are

supplying fried chicken and drinks. Guests are welcome to bring a side dish to share! Register by contacting Mylinda Elliott at maelliott@fhfswla.org or (337) 436-2570.

Direct Auto & Life Insurance will be giving away free backpacks and school supplies through August 20 to families who come in for a free quote. They are looking for help from the business community collecting school supplies to give out throughout their campaign. During that time, they are also hosting a Back-to-School sweepstakes to win a \$1000 gift card for them and their favorite school to use towards school supplies. Our local Direct Auto & Life Insurance office is located at 1413 East Prien Lake Road in Lake Charles.

Win a car for only \$20! Three local dealers - Jack Hebert, Billy Navarre and Philip Tarver - came together to organize a community fundraiser, Cars For Cowboys. In this fundraiser, \$20 raffle tickets are sold in the chance to win one of three brand-new cars. 100% of the proceeds from Cars For Cowboys will be donated to the McNeese Athletic Program and other student organizations! Get involved by selling or buying raffle tickets! Call 337-936-7864 or go to our website www.mcneesecarsforcowboys.com. Let's support McNeese and help back our Blue and Gold! Cowboy Up!

Job Opportunities / Training / Funding Available

NEW INFO! The Senior Circle Chapter at Lake Area Medical Center is hosting a seminar featuring LifeShare Blood Center on Thursday, July 21, at noon the Senior Circle Activity Center located at 4200 Nelson Rd. LifeShare Blood Center will be on hand to discuss the need for donors and benefits of donating blood at any age. Senior Circle is open to men and women ages 50 and better. Attendees are encouraged to bring a lunch and a friend- it's never too late to learn something new! To RSVP, please call (337)-475-4018.

NEW INFO! Families Helping Families is hosting the "Transitioning into Vocational College" workshop on July 26, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Families Helping Families. Attendees will learn about vocational college options for students with disabilities in middle school and high school. Seating is limited! There is no fee to attend but registration is required! Register by contacting Wallace Johnson at info@fhfswla.org or (337) 436-2570.

NEW INFO! Families Helping Families is hosting "Potty Training: Tips to help you help your child become toilet trained" on July 28, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Families Helping Families. China Guillory of EarlySteps Community Outreach Specialist will walk everyone through the process of potty training! Seating is limited! There is no fee to attend but registration is required! To register, contact Ms. Guillory at info@fhfswla.org or (337) 436-2570.

NEW INFO! Lake Area Medical Center will host their next Healthy Woman event - "Pregnancy Prep 101" - Thursday, July 28, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Lake Charles Country Club located at 3350 Country Club Drive. Come and meet the newest OB/GYN to join our staff at Lake Area Medical Center, Uzma Porche', M.D. Dr. Porche' will speak on problems women face with infertility, different methods of contraception, the factors that make a pregnancy "high risk" and dealing with postpartum depression. If pregnancy is in your future, or you know someone who is pregnant; this event is for you. Register now or get more information by visiting www.lakeareamc.com/HealthyWoman today!

NEW INFO! "Capacity Building for Small Businesses" will be offered on Wednesday, August 17, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. During this event, small business owners will learn more about strategic positioning, teaming agreements, joint ventures, strategic alliances, and partner evaluation. This seminar will be held at the SEED Center located at 4310 Ryan Street in Lake Charles. This seminar is free, however seating is limited. Please pre-register for this seminar by clicking on this link: http://www.ptassist.com/services/ptac_web_register.php?id=D1CED48148. If you experience any

difficulty with the link, please contact Peggy Sammons at prs6182@louisiana.edu. This seminar is sponsored by Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center, SWLA Economic Development Alliance, SWLA Chapter of SCORE, and the Louisiana Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at McNeese State University.

SOWELA is excited to offer first-time and returning students the opportunity to pursue a career in the healthcare field as a Registered Nurse as the College introduces the Associate of Science degree in Nursing (ASN). Applications are now being taken with classes to begin in fall, 2016. Visit <https://www.sowela.edu/academics/Nursing-RN>.

NAMI SWLA will sponsor a Family-to-Family education course, a free course for families and friends of individuals diagnosed with mental illness taught by trained NAMI family members and other caregivers of individuals living with mental illness. The course will cover information about schizophrenia; the mood disorders (bipolar disorder and major depression); panic disorder and OCD; coping skills such as handling crisis and relapse; basic information about medications; listening and communication techniques; problem-solving skills; recovery, rehabilitation; and self-care around worry and stress. The 12-week class (Tuesday evenings) will begin August 23, from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at the Vineyard, 9541 Gulf Highway, Lake Charles. Call 337-433-0219 to register or visit www.namislwa.org for more info.

The U.S. Army Transition Assistance Program is offering a Job Fair on Thursday, September 8, for all transitioning military, veterans, and military family members. The event will take place at the Warrior Community Center at Ft. Polk from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you are interested in hiring veterans, call (337) 521-4621, (337) 521-1591 or visit their event on Facebook: www.facebook.com/fortpolkSFLTAP.

McNeese State University is hosting a Career Fair on September 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the McNeese Recreation Complex. If you have any questions on how to capture this new wave of Southwest Louisiana worker, call (337) 475-5612, email careers@mcneese.edu or visit www.collegecentral.com/CCNEngine/LiveEvents/LiveEvents.cfm?EventID=2040.

SOWELA Technical Community College will also offer an Associate of Applied Science degree in Chemical Laboratory Technology beginning Fall 2016. The program is designed to prepare students for immediate employment in a petro-chemical laboratory environment as a Chemical Laboratory Technician. The State of Louisiana classifies Chemical Technicians as a four-star (out of five) occupation based on high-wage, high-demand, and high-skill. Further, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Lake Charles is included among the highest metropolitan areas with available Chemical Technician positions. In addition to job prospects, graduates of the Chemical Laboratory Technology program have the opportunity to continue their education at a four-year university leading to a Bachelor of Science Degree. While at SOWELA, students complete the standard 15 credit hours of general education courses, which can be used for transfer. For more information or to apply to the program, call (337) 421-6550 or visit www.sowela.edu/academics/chemical-laboratory-technology.