

Free basic computer classes at Jackson County Library Services

Free Adult Basic Computer Classes are bilingual (English and Spanish) and seating is limited. Reservations are encouraged. Please call the individual library branch to reserve a spot in any or all classes.

Central Point Branch Library, 116 South Third Street, 541-664-3228
Basics II Thursdays, 2 – 4 pm: December 2, 9, 16, 23

Gold Hill Branch Library, 202 Dardanelles Street, 541-855-1994
Basics II Mondays, 11 am – 1 pm: October 18, 25, November 1, 8

Jacksonville Branch Library, 340 West “C” Street, 541-899-1665
Basics II Wednesdays, 2 – 4 pm: October 20, 27, November 3, 10

Medford Branch Library, 205 South Central Avenue, 541-774-8679
Basics II Tuesdays, 10 am. – 12 noon: October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 30, December 7, 14, 21
Basics I Tuesdays, 2 – 4 pm: November 30, December 7, 14, 21
Basics I Wednesdays, 10 am – 12 noon: October 20, 27, November 3, 10, December 1, 8, 15, 22

Phoenix Branch Library, 510 West 1st Street, 541-535-7090
Basics I Tuesdays, 2 – 4 pm: October 19, 26, November 2, 9

Rogue River Branch Library, 412 East Main Street, 541-864-8850
Basics II Mondays, 10 am – 12 pm: Mondays, November 29, December 6, 13, 20

Ruch Branch Library, 7919 Highway 238, 541-899-7438
Basics I Thursdays, 3 – 5 pm: October 21, 28, November 4, 18

Talent Branch Library, 101 Home Street, 541-535-4163
Basics I Wednesdays, 2 – 4 pm: December 1, 8, 15, 22

Basics I

Session One – Using the Mouse and Keyboard – Like all classes in the series, this class is very hands-on.

Session Two – Internet Navigation – Learn what the Internet is, how to navigate around it, and use a search engine.

Session Three – Electronic Mail (E-mail) – Students will learn to establish an e-mail account and practice using the service.

Session Four – Individualized Instruction and Practice – Students may bring their own laptop computers and discuss any additional issues or questions.

Basics II

Session One – Word Processing – Learn to format, edit, and enhance text as well as import text and graphics.

Session Two – Photo Editing – Students will learn to import pictures and adjust the images. A digital camera will be provided by the instructors.

Session Three – File Management – Effectively manage data on the computer, transfer files to a flash drive, and burn data CDs.

Session Four – Review and Practice – Students will practice their skills by creating a simple promotional flyer for the Library Computer Class.

These classes are supported by a bequest from the Kenneth A. & Lucille D. Hulburt Family Trust. For more information, please see the Jackson County Library Services Web site at www.jcls.org.

Contact: Jackson County Library Services, 541-774-8679



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Rainwater harvesting in the Applegate Valley

Groundwater (water stored below the ground surface) is a valuable resource becoming less and less available around the world. The vast majority of the rural residences in the Applegate Valley rely on water from wells or springs for their household and irrigation needs. This water is replenished as rain and snow percolates into the earth and recharges our watertable (the depth at which the soil is completely saturated). Throughout Oregon, there is increasing concern about the deeper levels that need to be dug for wells. The two primary reasons given are the increased consumption of groundwater for human use and the increase in impervious surfaces (buildings and pavement) that block the infiltration of rainwater into the soils.

Before current development, most rainfall infiltrated into the complex structure of the forest soil and slowly percolated through the soil structure towards streams. The water entered the stream from below by means of the water table for days after the storm. Nowadays, water is flushed off rooftops and pavement and directed by storm drains and ditches to almost instantly hit the stream from the entire watershed within minutes of it hitting the first hard surface. Not only does this reduce the amount of water recharging the watertable, but it also erodes the banks and the streambed, negatively impacting most flora and fauna.

Passive rainwater catchment systems

are able to capture and direct rainwater to swales and ponds. This type of system allows the rainwater to passively infiltrate and hydrate the soil and reduces runoff, erosion, and irrigation needs. Active rainwater catchment systems capture and direct rainwater to cisterns or barrels. The water is filtered and then able to be used for irrigation and household uses, including drinking water if treated properly (ultraviolet light, ozone, reverse osmosis). This type of system also reduces runoff, erosion and irrigation needs, plus it reduces the burden placed on our wells. Ultimately, this water makes its way into the soil in the immediate vicinity and helps recharge the local watertable.

Oregon, as well as Arizona, New Mexico, Ohio, Texas, and Washington all have various incentive programs available to homeowners. And there are grants available through federal and private sources. A good place to research those are at www.harvestingrainwater.com. The American Rainwater Catchment Systems Association (ARCSA) is the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (they developed the Uniform Plumbing Code) source for rainwater harvesting expertise. You can get a list of their Accredited Professionals in your area at their website directory at www.arcsa.org.

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Petanque Tournament huge success!

Sunday, August 22, Williams's own "Rogue Bouligans" petanque team hosted the First Annual State of Jefferson Interstate Petanque Tournament. Our esteemed guest team from Hyampom, California consisted of members Jean-Pierre Brandt, Don Flasher, Neil Harvey and Tony Kendrew. The Rogue Bouligan members who participated were Now Reames, Bob Cremins, Brian Barton, Paul Porter, Louisa Lenz-Porter, Peter Paul Montague and Brian Percival. Taking home the first place trophy was Now; coming in second was Don and Peter Paul took third.

The day's games were played on the petanque court on SCA land in Williams. The spectator crowd was small but enthusiastic. The weather was perfect and all had a good time.

The Rogue Bouligans welcome new players and would love some friendly competition from teams throughout our valley. Are there any other players out there? Play continues, for the brave, in winter in Peter Paul's three-sided barn, dubbed The Petanque-a-drome.

Pétanque is the French game of boules where the goal is, while standing inside a starting circle with both feet on the ground, to throw metal balls as close as possible to a small wooden ball called acochonnet (literally "piglet") or jack. The game is normally played on hard dirt or gravel, but can also be played on grass, sand or other surfaces. Petanque is similar to the Italian game of bocce.

About 17 million people in France play the casual form of the game of pétanque, mostly during their summer vacations. England is another place where Petanque has become popular as well as Canada. Happily pétanque clubs have arisen in cities throughout the United States in recent years.

Please phone Rogue Bouligan president Brian Barton for information about joining the fun (541-846-0260).

Photo: Top row, left to right: Neil, Don, Tony, Jean-Pierre, Peter Paul and Paul
Bottom row, left to right: Brian P., Bob, Now, Brian B. and Louisa