

Norfolk Insider

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“Legal Help on the Internet”



Whether it's information on your rights as an apartment renter to knowing what steps there are in drawing up a will, the Internet can be a valuable resource. On August 24 at 10:00 a.m., there will be a program on “Navigating the Waters of Legal Information and Self Help for Library Patrons” at the Norfolk Public Library.

Experts will be on hand to show those attending various sites on the Internet that provide free legal information and how to use those sites.

Some of those sites include the Nebraska Supreme Court's self help legal website,

websites that give advice to people wanting to represent themselves in court, and online information describing legal research/court process.

Janet Bancroft and Debora Browneyard of the Office of the Administrator of the Nebraska Supreme Court and Mary Jo Ryan of the Nebraska Library Commission will conduct this free Legal Research Seminar utilizing the free online resources provided by the Norfolk Public Library and the Nebraska Library Commission. For more information, contact the library at 402-844-2103.

“Library Broadband Opportunities Open House”

In conjunction and immediately following a Legal Research Seminar on August 24 at 10:00 am, the staff at the Norfolk Public Library will be hosting an open house to showcase the addition of public computers at the library.

The U.S. Department of Commerce awarded the Nebraska Library Commission a \$2.4 million Broadband Technology Opportunities Grant to fund the state's public computer center project. According to details of the grant application, the project is designed to “expand broadband capacity, upgrade public computing resources in libraries, and advance access to employment, learning, health information, and e-government services.” The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation also provided over a \$1 million in matching funds. The Norfolk Public Library received \$14,707 from the grant funds for new computer equipment.

“Among other things, these computers give patrons access to resources that are essential to conducting successful job hunts and legal research, pursuing financial education, applying for benefits, and many other information related tasks,” said Michael Caldararo, director of the Norfolk Public Library.

Immediately following the Legal Training seminar at 11:00 a.m. a short open house will introduce patrons to the new computers and equipment. Library staff will be on hand to provide tours of the library and answer questions.