

# Computer Center seeks summer help

The Port Aransas Computer Center has made a number of major changes over the past two years. Thanks to a number of local businesses and the help of the Weir Foundation, 15 older computers have been replaced with new Dell machines with upgraded memory and faster processors.

Laptop connections have been increased in number

and are available for those who prefer to bring their own laptops in and use the center's network for printing or for Internet connections. This past spring, volunteers replaced all the old front room furniture with new computer tables set at a comfortable height. They also replaced many of the recycled chairs with new, more comfortable ones, allowing expansion of the laptop user space available and



The Port Aransas Computer Center has added new computers as well as new tables and other furniture. As always, the center needs volunteers to keep it open.

more than doubling the number of laptop users the center can accommodate. Software has also been upgraded although much of what was done in this area is "behind the scenes," improving usability but not visible to the user. We are currently making more of the behind the scenes changes including moving our home page

to our own server.

New equipment from Cisco has been installed to improve wireless reception and the wi-fi network is available around the clock in the parking lot. Two scanners are available as well as CD and DVD writers ("burners").

The center uses a networked Dell laser printer able to

handle all user needs.

The center continues to be all volunteer operated and as a 501(c)3 organization is completely donation supported. All donations go to buying equipment and supplies and Internet service.

Bring in your printer ink cartridges, laser cartridges and old cell phones. The center has a recycling program, and they bring in cash to help with the center's operating expenses.

The center plans to be open regular hours—Monday through Friday 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Hours may, however, vary depending on volunteer availability.

As always, the center needs volunteers - and you don't have to be a computer guru to help out. If you'd like to volunteer, stop by the center at 430 N. Alister St. and fill out a volunteer form or call 749-4011. Volunteers have personal accounts that allow them to download programs and do other things that regular patrons can't do. It's a great learning and service opportunity.

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