

## ***Keeping up with Technology Trends: A 3-week course***

**Introducing a New Technology Series – no computer needed! We've designed a new format for technology issues just for Lifetime Learning Center participants AND both PC and Apple users are included in every session! All sessions are for intermediate to advanced computer users.**

### **Week 1: What is online backup and why should I use it?**

**Monday, April 26, 1:00-3:00**

Instructor: Nancy Ferrell

Online services can keep your data safe no matter what sort of disaster strikes your local computing system. Local backup can't always protect your data. (Thieves stole both the computers AND backup devices of director Frances Ford Coppola. He lost 15 years of computer records, writings and family photographs.) If there's a fire, flood or earthquake where you keep your computers, backup devices and media, you too can say good-bye to all your data. If you want near-real time off-site backup, an online backup service is the way to go.

Using a whole-room screen, (you won't be using a computer in this demo-style class) Nancy will review how these services work, time and cost involved, security and encryption issues, and will demo at least one of the top-rated sites with time for questions and discussion included. You'll get a handout summarizing what we've covered with a list of the top 5 rated sites.

### **Week 2: What is voice recognition software and how can it make using a computer easier for me?**

**Monday, May 3, 1:00-3:00**

Instructor: Nancy Ferrell

Do you have difficulty with typing and using a mouse or touchpad? Why type it when you can say it? Voice recognition software has reached the point where you can actually navigate your computer, search the web and write email and documents faster than you could with a keyboard and a mouse. Voice recognition software is a huge benefit to those with limited mobility or some other kind of disability that makes it difficult to use a keyboard and mouse (hand injury, arthritis, tremor). Perhaps you are tired of slowing pecking out your messages with two fingers?

Using a whole-room screen, (you won't be using a computer in this demo-style class) Nancy will give an introduction to voice recognition technology and demo the top-rated software for PC and Apple computers. Depending on class size, at least some and possibly all participants will have a chance to give it a try. You'll get a handout summarizing what we've covered.

### **Week 3: Using free video and voice calling software to stay in touch with distant family and friends.**

**Monday, May 17, 1:00-3:00**

Instructor: Nancy Ferrell

Tired of long distance calling bills? Miss seeing the faces of those you love? Learn about Skype, the free Internet video and voice calling software. See how to download and install it, set up your free account, and use it to have free video and voice calls.

Using a whole-room screen, (you won't be using a computer in this demo-style class) Nancy will give an introduction to no-cost video and voice calling software and demo the top-rated software for PC and Apple computers. Depending on class size, at least some and possibly all participants will have a chance to give it a try. You'll get a handout summarizing what we've covered.