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March 20, 2018 • Volume 2, Number 3 • “Good News You Can Use”

## Pineville Rd. to have pedestrian improvements

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The City of Long Beach broke ground on the Pineville Road Sidewalk Project after working with Neel-Schaffer on the project since 2015. The project is funded by MDOT, Federal Highway Administration and the Gulf Regional Planning Commission.

The Pineville Road Sidewalk Project was awarded in November 2017 to Moran Hauling, Inc., and a notice to proceed was issued February 6, 2018. The sidewalk improvements along Pineville Road begin at the intersection of Beatline Road and end at Harper McCaughan School. The project will take three to four months to complete. The sidewalk will be 1.3 miles long, with cross walks marked by raised pavement markings. A flashing sign will be installed to warn drivers of pedestrians crossing the street.

Neel-Schaffer prepared a study and design services for the project of a 5-foot wide sidewalk. A topographical survey was performed to begin the preliminary



Preparation for sidewalk

Photo by Fred Weller

design. The project also included some drainage improvements along the route. Neel-Schaffer's original study encompassed a three-mile stretch, evaluated the existing conditions related to the current roadway, right-of-way and utilities.

Neel-Schaffer developed several project options that included improvements to the pedestrian pathway, bicycle access, landscape and lighting improvements, access management and existing utilities. Each alternative included cost estimates and budgets for the City to consider. Neel-Schaffer prepared exhibits for the various multi-use paths and sidewalk improvement options, identified potential environmental review needs, and held a public meeting to encourage coordination and support within the community. City officials say that the recommended improvements will provide a safer and more user-friendly right-of-way for all modes of travel including bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicles.

## Cleanup Long Beach needs volunteers March 24

By Fred Weller

Long Beach citizens are encouraged to participate in a city-wide cleanup effort on Saturday, March 24. The first “Cleanup Long Beach” will meet at 8 a.m. at the Harper McCaughan Town Green to form into teams organized by Residence Ward. The teams will then disperse to the areas needing trash removal. The cleanup activities will end at noon.

Eddie Seal, a fifth-generation citizen of Long Beach, proposed to the Mayor and City Alderman, at a recent Board of Alderman meeting, to allow him to organize his fellow citizens to rid the city's public properties of waste. The effort would provide volunteer manpow-

er to collect and remove unwanted materials from becoming eyesores and clogging drainage systems.

Mayor Bass congratulated Seal on his spontaneous and personal effort addressing a community problem to be resolved by the people and without a major expenditure by the city. Seal explained that he wanted to have an organizational meeting to allocate the effort by voting ward to identify areas needing attention and how much manpower would be required.

The meeting was attended by six of the Aldermen and the Mayor along with approximately 50 volunteers. Each Alderman headed

up the discussion with their constituents to identify problem locations in their specific Ward. Also attending the meeting was Jolanda Taylor, Student Affairs Coordinator for USM Gulf Park and Jenny Levens, Community Affairs

Director for the City of Long Beach.

Taylor was hoping to promote the “Big Event” a national campus-wide service effort, also on March 24, that involves students with their local communities. The USM effort has been to prepare the Garden Park campus for the influx of visitors to the tenth annual “Jazz and Blues Festival” scheduled for Saturday, March 31.

**See more of “Big Event”  
on page 4.**

Since the Long Beach cleanup effort would be city-wide, it was suggested that the citizen volunteers participate with the student effort, and the students in turn could bolster the number of city-wide clean up volunteers. This would allow the cleanup to enhance the area being prepared for visitors attending the Jazz and Blues Festival.

Seal said, “The coming together of the citizen and student volunteers is an example of a community spirit getting things done at the personal level. This will only serve to strengthen the ties between the USM and Long Beach communities and further our goal to promote education as our primary product.”

# LB High Bearcats track teams excel at Rockachaws

By Andy Kanengiser

Long Beach High Bearcats track teams competed in the 2018 season at a key Gulf Coast meet. Entering the twenty third annual Rockachaws Relays, the Lady Bearcats captured the team title. The girls defeated ten other high school squads from Mississippi and Louisiana on March third.

The Bearcats boys team finished in the number two spot that day at St. Stanislaus High in Bay St. Louis.

Long Beach Athletic Director Forrest Williams was asked about the early season success for both Bearcats squads.

“We’re excited to get the outdoor track season started with great results,” Williams said. “Our track program, led by Coach Olan Welch and his staff, looks forward to the coming season. We hope these early results are an indicator of good things to come for the Bearcat track program this spring.”

There were many individual

Lady Bearcats who won. First place winners for the Long Beach girls were the 4 x 100 meters relay team comprised of Tytianna Burance, Muonie Pickens, Diamond Thornton and Destini Pickens. Also finishing number one was the 4 x 200 meters relay squad composed of Muonie Pickens, Diamond Thornton, Americus Knight and Destini Pickens. Burance doubles as a Long Beach Lady Bearcats basketball player.

Ending the race number one was the 4 x 400 meters relay squad of Muonie Pickens, Tytianna Burance, Cindy Anweiler and Destini Pickens.

Crossing the finish line in first place was the Lady Bearcats distance medley relay squad consisting of Ash Osness, Alexa Nanatovich, Alex Segura, Brooklyn Biancamano and long jumper Tytianna Burance.

Welch saluted all his student-athletes but pointed out one of the girls. Track fans should remember the name Brooklyn Biancamano. The

Long Beach High student is the Number two ranked high school girls’ cross-country runner in the nation. Biancamano clocked a 5:18 mile time on the anchor leg of the distance medley relay. Biancamano’s speed helped secure a first-place relay finish.

Lady Bearcats sprinter Destini Pickens (ranked number eleven in the USA during the Spring 2017 track season) also was outstanding. Pickens anchored all three of the Lady Bearcats sprint relays (400, 800 and 1600 meters relays) and each time the Long Beach girls finished first.

The Long Beach boys turned in performances for second place. Bearcats Ahmad Hawthorne won a first-place finish in the high jump. Dyvonne McCord finished first in the long jump at the meet.

There’s little time for the Long Beach squad to rest. Other key dates include the track and field meet on home turf March 22 at Long Beach High. The squads compete March 30 on the road at the Clinton Arrows Invita-

tional Track & Field meet at Pearl High.

Long Beach teams travel to Mobile, Alabama for the Challenge of Champions track meet on April 6-7. The Friday site is at the U.M.S.-Wright Military School. The competition that Saturday is at St. Paul’s Episcopal School.

Sites and dates for Mississippi High School Activities Association divisional, regional and South State meets will be announced later. The 2018 State Championships at Pearl High begin May 4 to close out the season.

Home or away, Coach Olan Welch brings credentials as he guides the Bearcats track squads this season. He’s coached track and cross country during a storied 31-year career. His record includes capturing eight MHSAA state championship track & field titles during head coaching stints at Biloxi High and Corinth High. Those are just a few of the honors coming his way.

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# The Froghead Grill leaps into franchise

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

With a fun, “Feeling Froggy?” slogan and a quick and tasty menu, The Froghead Grill bounded into Clinton, hopped south with a second location in Ocean Springs and is now eyeing new ponds to call home.

The Froghead Grill is looking for qualified franchise partners in its quest to expand in the central Mississippi market.

The family-friendly restaurant’s casually Cajun vibe and quick “hop to it, hop through it” service have made it everyone’s favorite lilypad, earning Small Business of the Year and Restaurant of the Year honors.

“It’s a proven track record,” says The Froghead Grill founder Joshua Welch. His engineering and communications skills plus expe-

rience at the Walt Disney Company feed into a strong business model for the highly competitive restaurant and hospitality industry.

“We’ve made ourselves more than just an eatery in the commu-

nicities we’re in,” Welch says, with robust community engagement, the family draw of its whimsical legend and Fred the Frog mascot, and a focus on food, fun and friends.

The Froghead Grill’s American eclectic menu includes home-made appetizers, sandwiches, quesadillas and wraps, platters and salads, and brings in Cajun flair with po’boys, seafood gumbo, red beans and rice and more. Earth-toned decor delivers easy comfort and flow in a 3,000-to-3,500-square-foot model, adaptable for existing buildings and shopping strip locations.

The attractive price point and fast-casual service — counter during the day and table side after 5 p.m. — make it a tasty draw for lunch and dinner. In addition to sodas, The Froghead Grill offers craft and local beers (including a few hoppy ones, of course!) as well as the classics.

Franchise partners through FHG Management can rely on site selection assistance, precision training and ongoing support from the franchise development team.



*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

# USM Jazz and Blues Festival year ten

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

For the tenth year in a row, the University of Southern Mississippi will host its Jazz and Blues Festival Saturday, March 31, at the University’s Gulf Park campus in Long Beach at 730 East Beach Boulevard. The festival gates will be open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Free and open to the public, the Southern Miss Jazz and Blues Festival is a day of fun and music for families and people of all ages. The Easter egg hunt, for children ages 12 and under, will begin promptly at 11 a.m. near the festival grounds. In addition to the Easter egg hunt, a variety of children’s activities will be available. These activities are sponsored by various student organizations at Southern Miss Gulf Coast.

The festival features arts and crafts and offerings from food and drink vendors set up throughout the festival grounds.

Leading off at the Main Stage is the Coast Big Band. The Coast Big Band consists of 20 plus pieces that play a mix of dance,

pop, soul, Latin and jazz renditions. The compositions cover favored classics by Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Benny Goodman, Count Basie, Stan Kenton, Harry James and Tommy and Jimmy Dorsey. For added flavor is a “Blues Brothers” segment. The band plays the traditional instruments-saxophones, trombones, trumpets, guitar, bass, piano and drums.

The Salseros del Sur is a group from Hattiesburg that rocks with a pulsating, velvet smooth approach to a Latin beat. The band features a fusion of Afro-Cuban, Mambo, Cha Chas, Boleros and Jazz. The result is music for listening and/or dancing the time away.

Tom “Bones” Malone wraps up the day with his virtuoso trombone playing. Bones has played for many groups from the “Tonight” band to “The Blues Brothers.”

Malone is originally from Sumrall, Mississippi and said he is always glad to be back in Long Beach.

Leading, off on the Side Stage is

Dr. John Wooten and his metallic “Steel Pans”. Dr. John is the Director of Percussion studies at USM and plays the vibraphone for the Southern Miss Jazz Quintet. Dr. John also leads his band “Kaiso” on the steel pans.

Following up on the side stage is Jimmy Robinson, who has been known for his method of attacking the guitar in his virtuoso performances. Robinson studied classical guitar at Loyola in New Orleans before developing his own compositional skills.

## MAIN STAGE SCHEDULE

**Coast Big Band**

10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.

**Salseros del Sur**

12:45 p.m. – 2 p.m.

**Tom “Bones” Malone**

2:30 p.m. – 4 p.m.

## SIDE STAGE SCHEDULE

**Dr. John Wooten Steel Pans**

12 p.m. – 12:45 p.m.

**Jimmy Robinson**

2 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**Jimmy Robinson**

4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

# Southern Miss readies for annual “Big Event”

Special to Long Beach Breeze

University of Southern Mississippi students, faculty and staff at the Gulf Park Campus in Long Beach will leverage their passion to serve others during “The Big Event” Saturday, March 24. Since 2010, Southern Miss has participated in The Big Event, which is also held at other colleges and universities across the country during which service projects benefiting local communities are undertaken by university volunteers.

The Big Event is supported by the USM Student Government Association (SGA), with assistance from the University’s Center for Community and Civic Engagement (CCCE). Check-in will be at 8 a.m. at both Reed Green Coliseum in Hattiesburg and at Lloyd Hall, room 101 on the Southern Miss Gulf Park Campus in Long Beach, as well as at Harper McCaughan Town Green for Long Beach community members. Students are eligible for community service hours through their partic-



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ipation.

After checking in and having breakfast, volunteers will be divided into groups by service sites and led by SGA volunteers, and work until lunchtime. Beneficiaries of USM’s commitment to volunteerism through The Big Event include the Salvation Army, The Edwards Street Fellowship Center, local public schools, the Humane Society, Southern Pines Animal Shelter and many oth-

ers. “The Big Event is a great partnership between our campus community and Gulf Coast areas,” said USM Associate Dean of Student Wynde Fitts. It truly gives our students an opportunity to give back and invest in the communities they love.

The fact that this initiative is student-driven and student-planned, with student volunteers, makes it a unique chance to see these student leaders make a difference right

here at home.

“The CCCE has worked with the SGA over the past few years to expand the number of Big Event service sites, and to ensure meaningful service experiences,” said Christy Arrazattee, director of the CCCE. “If a student wants to get involved as a volunteer in their local communities, but isn’t sure where to begin, The Big Event is a great option for them to do service, meet other students and learn more about the wonderful things that are happening on the Gulf Coast,” Arrazattee said.

For more information about how to get involved with The Big Event, including to register, visit <http://forms.usm.edu/sga/view.php?id=111485> or email Associate Dean of Students Wynde Fitts at [wynde.fitts@usm.edu](mailto:wynde.fitts@usm.edu). For information about participating in The Big Event at Southern Miss Gulf Park in Long Beach, visit [www.usm.edu/GPBigEvent](http://www.usm.edu/GPBigEvent); or email [Jolanda.W.Taylor@usm.edu](mailto:Jolanda.W.Taylor@usm.edu) or [jenny@cityoflongbeachms.com](mailto:jenny@cityoflongbeachms.com).



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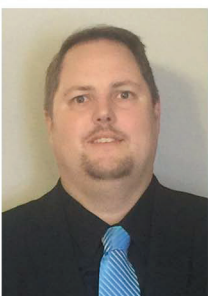


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# Long Beach Lady Bearcats wrap up successful season

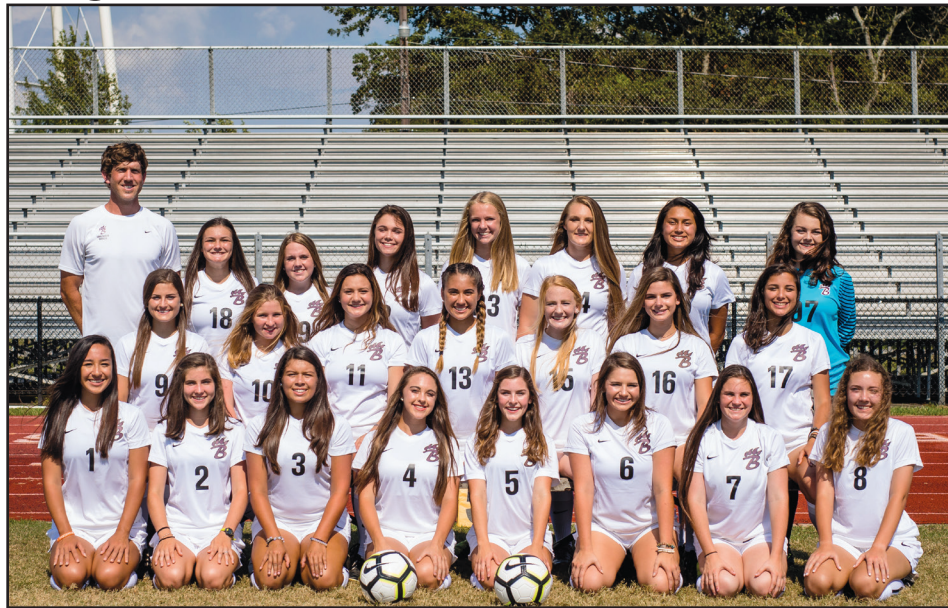
By Andy Kanengiser

Long Beach High Lady Bearcats shined during the soccer season. The awesome 20-1-1 record included a run in the 5-A playoffs. It was capped off by the Gulf Coast squad's triumph in the South State Championships.

"We had a great group of girls this season," said Lady Bearcats soccer coach Neil Scott. "This was a pretty young team that had to learn fast to be successful on the field."

Home and away, the Lady Bearcats featured a talented bunch of student-athletes on the field for all 22 games. The Long Beach, girls defense, yielded just two goals during the regular season. It was a well-rounded team with many leaders.

The Long Beach girls continued in post-season play and reeled off wins to take the squad to the state 5-A championship game. The Long Beach girls came up short, a 2-1 loss in an overtime shoot-out to Germantown High. That game ended their season on February 17.



2017-18 LBHS girls soccer team and coach Neil Scott

Special to Long Beach Breeze

"Our playoff run was a fun one. Each playoff game was a new experience and a good test for us," said Scott, who wrapped up a second year as Long Beach coach.

The players were nervous when playoff games rolled around in February, but with each contest, their confidence kept building. "The players realized game by

game that they could compete with any team."

The Long Beach girls fought with Germantown of Madison County from the championship game's opening few moments until the finish. On the road at Brandon High's field, the game was tied 1-1 in regulation. Germantown scored in the fourth overtime period with

90 seconds left before a shoot-out decided things. Then, it was a three-hour bus ride back to Long Beach.

When all was said and done, MaxPreps.com rated Long Beach High the number 8 girls' soccer team in the Magnolia State. The Lady Bearcats remained undefeated in district play.

Key playoff wins for the Lady Bearcats, led by player Nathalie Salvador, included a 3-2 nail biter against Hattiesburg High on February 13.

Other Long Beach highlights were the 3-0 triumph on February 9 over Pearl River Central led by Lady Bearcat, Breton Charman. A 1-0 overtime win over South Jones happened thanks to Long Beach player Amanda Anderson.

There were really so many players on the team, it's difficult for Coach Scott to single out individuals.

Maddie Beets, a forward, and Alexis Wilson, the goalkeeper, are the only two starters graduating. A junior, Susie Stevison, served as

cont. on page 9



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# Long Beach Outreach: an ecumenical ministry

By Pastor Dave Parr,  
Grace Lutheran Church

Several churches in Long Beach have outreach ministries geared toward aiding those in the community who need help with food, utilities, and rent. But benevolence funds often run low. Addressing medical, dental, and vision costs have often proven to be more than one church can address effectively.

Realizing that “a bundle of sticks is stronger than each individual stick,” a group of local churches decided to band together in a collaborative called Long Beach Outreach (LBO). Each church continues to help as they have always done, but when a need is greater than an individual congregation can meet, the outreach minister of that church contacts the other LBO members for help. The collaborative was initially formed to combine resources for assisting with vision and dental costs, but sometimes pool resources to assist with other essential needs.

We have limited our ministry to the Long Beach community to avoid spreading our resources too thin to be effective. Proof of residence and a photo I.D. are part of the process of application for assistance.

Long Beach Outreach has established a highly effective communications network and meets regularly to review LBO resources and known community needs. We share information, except for that which is given in confidence, and work together to help meet the spiritual and financial needs of the people of Long Beach.

Participating churches are Grace Lutheran, First Baptist, First United Methodist, Long Beach Presbyterian, St. Patrick’s Episcopal, and St. Vincent de Paul (St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church). We would be happy to have other churches join our collaborative!

For more information contact Norah Bryant at 228-863-7882 or Pastor Dave Parr at 228-864-4248.



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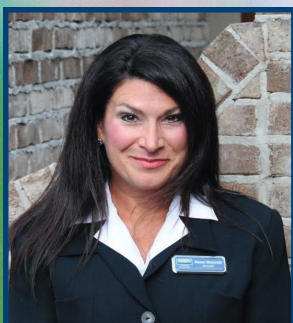
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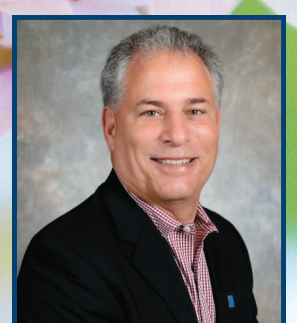
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# APRIL SPECIAL

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# Students learn value of STEM careers with SeaBees

By Ryan Labadens,  
NCBC Public Affairs

For some people, choosing a career field can seem like a daunting task, especially for young students who might not have a clear direction as to what they want to do with their lives.

The Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport played its part in giving sixty-three high school students the opportunity to see what careers they might want to pursue when they become adults by hosting NCBC STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) Day 2018.

According to Kevin Byrd, NCBC Gulfport school liaison, the goal of the event was to introduce students from Gulfport, Long Beach, and Harrison Central High Schools to various career paths and to give them an inside look at NCBC Gulfport and the types of jobs the Seabees do in the construction and mechanical career fields.

“This will hopefully broaden their scope in life regarding the career possibilities that are out there and give them some exposure to what we do in the Navy,” said Byrd.

Before the students began their tour, NCBC Gulfport commanding officer Capt. William Whitmire addressed them at the Seabee Heritage Training Center on base, encouraging them to investigate what career paths – both on the civilian and military side – might



Photo by MCC Rosalie Chang

appeal to them before they enter the work force.

“This is a wonderful opportunity to introduce these young men and women to the various careers available to them in the engineering, medical, electronic and mechanical fields, and to talk to them about the many other types of technical careers the Navy and civilian world have to offer,” said Whitmire. “It’s also exciting to be able to show them what our first-rate Seabees, Sailors and civilians do here and share with them the rich history and heritage of the Seabees.” While here, the students visited several sites on base, including the Naval Construction Training Center, Naval Facilities, the Emergency Operations Center and the Youth Center.

At NCTC, the students learned

about how to use a computer to diagnose and troubleshoot problems on a diesel engine as well as how to build hydraulic circuits on a hydraulics trainer. At NAV-FAC they learned about the Solar Farm here at NCBC Gulfport and discussed different career paths in energy, while at the EOC they learned about the technology used at the operations center. In addition, the Youth Center gave them various tips on writing resumes and cover letters and provided them pointers on interviewing for a job.

The students also experienced Navy cuisine while eating lunch at the Colmer Dining Facility.

“It’s been a really good experience,” said Logan Deangelo, a senior at Gulfport High School. “For my career, I’m interested in

marine biology and engineering, so this helped me know the things I would need to learn and showed me a lot of things I can use later in life.”

“We learned a lot about interviews and how to make your resume,” said Katera Raymond, a senior at Long Beach High School. “I’ve learned about this before, but it’s always good to get a little more information.”

“The hands-on stuff they showed us was very helpful. It helped show me what I would be doing if I was in that kind of career,” said Jackson Meeks, a freshman at Harrison Central High School regarding the hydraulics circuits trainer presented by the NCTC. Then he smiled and pointed to the lunch he was eating at the dining facility. “And the food is great!”

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# Long Beach's first Ride and Dine set for April 5



Special to Long Beach Breeze

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The first Ride and Dine, First Thursday community bike ride will start at 6 p.m. on Thursday, April 5, 2018. The ride will start at Harper McCaughan Town Green at Jeff Davis and Third Street.

Everyone must have a bike to ride and a helmet to wear. The ride is free for all ages.

The ride is a five-mile loop through Long Beach with an optional Dutch treat dinner stop at the end of the ride.

For details call or text: Tonda 228 -297-7229

cont. from pg 5

# Long Beach Lady Bearcats wrap up successful season

team captain in 2017-18.

The dream season for the Lady Bearcats showed progress from Scott's inaugural year. In 2016-17, the girls' soccer team finished with a record of 8-7-2.

Despite the Maroon & White state championship loss, fans and players can all look back on the season. "We are happy with all of the other individual and team accomplishments," Scott said.

While serving as Athletic Director, Forrest Williams applauded the solid effort of Coach Scott and the girls.

"We knew when we brought him in we were getting a first-class coach and the results show," Williams said. "Our coach and our girls put in a tremendous amount of work and we're proud of how they showed it on the field this season."

Counting the regular season and

playoffs, the Lady Bearcats gave up only six goals.

"We remain excited about the path Coach Scott has led us on and the direction of the soccer programs," Williams noted.

Scott brings considerable experience as the Long Beach girls soccer coach.

A Pascagoula High graduate, Coach Scott played soccer at two community colleges (Holmes and Meridian) and at Belhaven University. He coached soccer at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College for five seasons and two years at Pascagoula High before taking the Long Beach job. He earned a master's in sports coaching at the United States Sports Academy in Mobile, Alabama.

Scott is anxious to begin his third season coaching the Long Beach Lady Bearcats.

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# Fingerprinting services will be provided by LBPD



Long Beach Police Headquarters 201 Alexander Road

Photo by Craig DeRoche

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Whether a person is a resident of Long Beach or not, the Long Beach Police Department can fingerprint for:

- Employment Applications
- Concealed Carry Permits
- ATF Permit
- Taxi Permits
- Liquor Permits
- Child ID Records

The Long Beach Police Department provides this service on Tuesdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. except during holidays. There is a processing fee of \$25, cash only.

For more information, call the Long Beach Police Department at 228-865-1981, Ext. 247 and ask for Detective Craig DeRoche.

The Long Beach Police Department is located at 201 Alexander Road.

# Local churches prepare for Easter sunrise service

By Pastor Dave Parr,  
Grace Lutheran Church

Seven Long Beach churches are preparing for the annual Community Easter Sunrise Service, held at the Long Beach Pavilion near the harbor. Each year, hundreds gather in the pavilion parking lot to participate in an ecumenical Christian worship service led by local clergy. Prayers, hymns, and a brief sermon are integral parts of the service. This year's sermon will be given by Dr. James Hightower, pastor of Long Beach Presbyterian Church USA. An offering will be received during the service and will go directly to the Long Beach Food Pantry, located at 21081 Johnson Road. A representative of the food pantry will be present to provide a report on their ministry.

Participating churches this year are Grace Lutheran, First Baptist, First United Methodist, Christ United Methodist, Long Beach

Presbyterian, St. Patrick's Episcopal, and St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church.

Organite say that all are welcome to come and share in the joys of Easter Sunrise. Following the service, everyone is invited to breakfast at the Christian Life Center of First United Methodist Church, located at 208 Pine Street.

The Long Beach Pavilion is located at Beach Blvd. and South Cleveland Avenue. The service begins at 6:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 1. In case of light rain, the service will be held under the pavilion.

For more information, contact Dr. LaRue Stephens at 228-864-2584 or Pastor Dave Parr at 228-864-4248.



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## Where is your estate?

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- Stephen B. Hand

"I would simply like to say a heartfelt thank you to Mr. Patrick Kirby. Like others, we were leery of having his assistance, however, he delivered on his promises. I recommend him for anyone who is thinking of making these kinds of preparations for their families."  
- Thomas J. Hill



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[Patrick@GulfportEstateLaw.com](mailto:Patrick@GulfportEstateLaw.com)

## **YOUR UTILITY BILL WAS HOW MUCH?! I COULD NOT BELIEVE IT!**

The long hot summer months are fast approaching South Mississippi and, this year we've seen some unusual weather, so who knows what to expect. Having served Long Beach residents for the past 15 years, I am still **SHOCKED** when I'm in a new customers home and find out they pay way to much on their electric bill. I was recently in a home here in Long Beach and asked Ms. Fields, what was her average monthly electric bill. She said my bill is really low it's only \$150 per month. I had already connected and done a complete system efficiency report, so when she told me she's paying \$150 per month, I asked her if she likes giving monthly financial contributions to the utility company?

We both had a laugh and she said of course **NOT** and listed off other things she would invest the money on if there were energy savings. I explained that even though some people would be happy to have a \$150 dollar electric bill. Based on her specific situation with the size of her home and the improper FREON charge along with other minor system deficiencies she was spending around \$40 too much every month. To some people \$40 dollars per month is no big deal, however, let's put it into a perspective of the bigger picture.

Her Air conditioning and Heating system with proper maintenance technically could last another 12 years. At \$40 per month that's \$480 dollars per year and over the 12-year life of the system that's \$5760 dollars in additional utility payments. After connecting and doing a complete energy analysis of the HVAC system we routinely find homes that are paying \$60-\$120 in additional energy bills every month.

I'm sure you can think of many things to invest in, other than giving it to the power company every month.

It's important to make sure you ask any air conditioning technician that comes to your home to **SHOW YOU** a complete efficiency analysis of your system. Notice I said to show you the real-time performance of your system. Just because a system comes on and blows cold air doesn't mean that it is running efficiently.

If your Air Conditioning system has minor problems, or if you just think it's running inefficiently - we know you have options on which A/C & Heating company you call. If you decide to give **ABLE A/C & Heating** a call

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# Residents encouraged to enjoy new library events

By Renee Rayburn

The library's "Seussie Saturday" event that was held on March 3 was a success thanks to all who participated, donated, and/or were involved in creating the event. Parents, grandparents, and children came ready to play the Dr. Seuss trivia scavenger hunt, and the turnout was what the library staff said spectacular. We thank you all. "You know how much it means to us and the community that you support, the Long Beach Public Library."

In April, there are three major events. One is National Library Week - the theme is Libraries Transform. To show appreciation, library patrons have the chance to clear the slate and make a fresh start! No new fines will be accrued during the week of April 8 - 14, and \$5 will be waived on any existing fines paid during that week.

The Friends of the Long Beach Library will not have a meeting this month. However, it will be part of our Patron Appreciation Day on Thursday, April 12, from

3 p.m. - 5 p.m. Members of the Friends will be in the main wing to greet patrons with homemade goodies and refreshments as a special "Thank You" for the years of patronage. Friends, for the upcoming 2018-2019 year, beginning in September, may join April 12. There will also be a "how to" session for the public on some of the software programs used at the library.

The second major event is the "Tacky but Formal Ball" on Saturday, April 28, from 7 p.m. - 10 p.m. This fun evening includes dinner and live music. A silent auction and door prizes are planned for the event as well as awards for the Tackiest Dressed Couple, Tackiest Dressed Man, and Tackiest Dressed Woman. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$70 per couple and can be purchased at Half-Baked Subs in Long Beach. All proceeds will be donated to the library. If you would like to bring a book, with a dedication in it from the book list, \$5 will be deducted from the ticket for each book up to \$20. The book list will be available mid-March at Half-Baked Subs.

The third major event is the "Science Café," exact date and time to be announced. Watch for updates on the webpage!

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Renee Rayburn is the Director of Youth and Technology Services for the Long Beach Public Library.*

## April Library Events

**Parents' Coffee Break**

Tuesday, April 3 | 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

**Preschool Story Time**

Every Tuesday and Thursday | 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Long Beach Library Board Meeting**

Tuesday, April 10 | 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

**Patron Appreciation Day**

Thursday, April 12 | 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

**Long Beach Book Club Meeting**

Tuesday, April 16 | 1 p.m. - 2 p.m.  
*Vanshing Acts by Jodi Picoult*

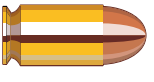
**Tacky but Formal Ball**

Saturday, April 28 | 7 p.m. - 10 p.m.

**CLOSED - Confederate Memorial Day**

Saturday, April 28 - Monday, April 30

**Science Cafe- TBA**

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