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P.O. Box 144, Long Beach, MS 39560

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LBSD hires head coach

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach Bearcats have a new head coach. The Board of Trustees of Long Beach School District have selected Coach Philip J. Pigott as the new head of the Bearcats Football program.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

“After reviewing and researching more than 60 applicants, it was clear to both Terry D’Angelo and myself that Coach Pigott was the top candidate,” Superintendent Jay Smith said. “We are pleased to have a high caliber coach with successful 6-A experience leading our Bearcat program.”

“He’s an energetic young coach who will be a definite asset to our community,” said D’Angelo. “He comes highly recommended and we look forward to working with him and welcoming him into our Bearcat Nation.”

Coach Pigott comes to Long Beach from Petal High School, where he served as the Defensive Coordinator since the spring of 2015. While at Petal, Coach Pigott helped lead the Panthers to 6-A South State Championship and State Finals in 2015, 6-A State Semifinals in 2016 and 6-A Quarterfinals in 2017. Before coaching in Petal, Pigott served as the Safeties Coach for Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC.

Pigott believes his experiences at both the collegiate and high school levels have prepared him to be the man for the job, and his experiences working as an assistant for award-winning coaches have instilled in him the qualities it takes to be a head coach. Players he coached think highly of him, saying “great coach, but most importantly a great man that genuinely cares about his guys”, “I

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Shopping center sees development



By Fred Weller

Photo by Fred Weller

City officials say they are pleased that a local shopping center is seeing some revitalization. Within the next sixty days, a fitness center is expected to open in the former Rouses’ Market. Officials say that

Crunch Fitness will lease half of the former grocery store, and an adjacent storefront will serve as a sales office.

City officials point to the new business as a sign that econom-

ic growth is taking place in an area of Long Beach that has been underused for some time. A cell phone and electronic gadget repair store is also expected to open in the same center.

Long Beach dog park site chosen

By Traci Bonney

With the selection of a park site and the awarding of a substantial grant, F.E.T.C.H. Park is a couple of steps closer to becoming a reality.

F.E.T.C.H. (Friendly-City Exercise and Training for Canines and their Humans) Park is the project of the Long Beach Dog Park Association, a grassroots effort to create an off-leash site for both large and small dogs and their humans to safely play and exercise. The group, which started with about 75 members on its Facebook page six months ago, has grown to 170 members as of February 10.

In January, the Gulf Coast Community Foundation awarded the association a \$24,000 grant from its Jack A. and Gertrude W. Wilson Animal Welfare Fund. Mayor George Bass announced that the City has earmarked a 3-plus acre parcel of land near the Long Beach Senior Activity Center on Daugherty Road.

However, before the park can be

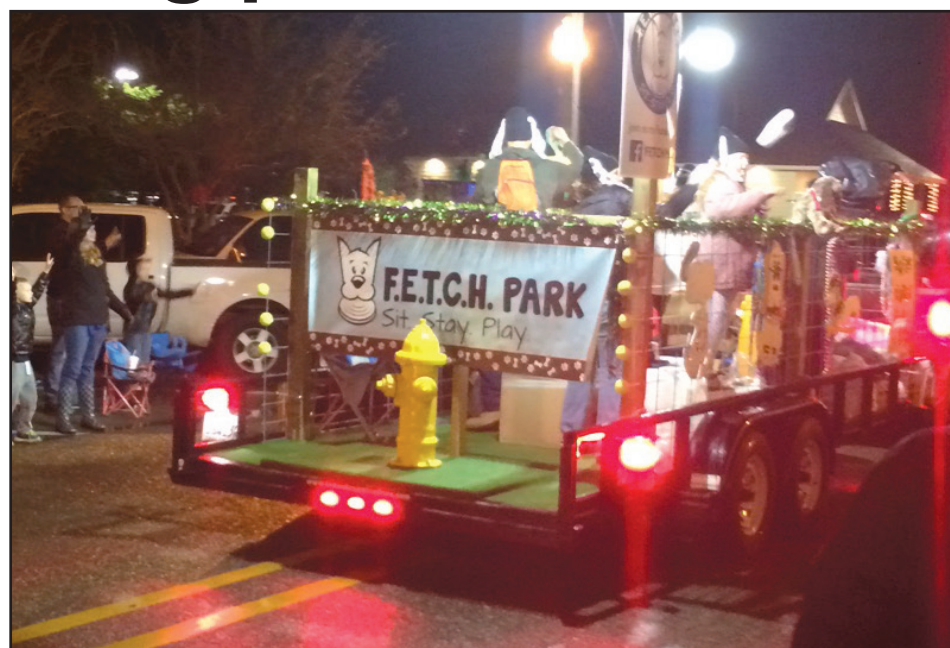


Photo by Fred Weller

built, the Army Corps of Engineers must issue a new permit for the location, as the previous permit has expired. The Board of Aldermen approved a motion at the February 6 City Council meeting to authorize proceeding with the re-application process.

Meanwhile, the group is continu-

ing its fundraising efforts. Association president Barbara Reed said that while the grant is much appreciated, it doesn’t cover all the costs. “We will be having a draw-down on April 14. We’re also selling t-shirts and will have tables at most events in Long Beach.”

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What is your definition and meaning of the word trust?

By Guest columnist Patrick W. Kirby, Esq.

A trust is defined as a legal relationship which results when someone transfers title of an asset to a person whose job it is to administer it for another.

Every trust has one or more settlors, trustees, and beneficiaries. The Settlor is typically the person who sets up the trust. The Trustee is the person who manages the trust assets, it can be the Settlor or the Settlor can choose someone else to be the Trustee. The beneficiary is the person who benefits from the trust.

Trusts are complicated to the lay person. But when used properly, they can be a valuable estate planning tool. Some of the common uses for trusts include: avoiding probate, minimizing federal estate tax, protecting your children from squandering their inheritance, providing for grandchildren's education or other needs, protecting your spouse from your children of a previous marriage, protecting your children of a previous marriage from your spouse, protecting the inheritance of a special needs



child, and much more.

There are many types and uses of trusts. While the revocable living trust has been a popular estate planning tool around the United States for decades, its popularity in Mississippi has intensified in recent years. There are three reasons why the revocable living trust is a popular estate planning tool.

The properly funded living trust avoids attorney costs and court costs involved in settling your estate through the court-supervised Mississippi Probate proceeding; distributing assets after death to beneficiaries of a living trust is faster than distributing assets to heirs in a Mississippi Probate; and a Mississippi Probate requires a detailed public listing of all your assets when you die. A living trust can be settled without the necessity of a public detailed listing of your assets.

Example: Charlene has three children. Charlene went through a difficult and lengthy Probate when her father died, and she wants to make sure that her children do not have to go through a similar process when she dies. Charlene sets up a revocable living trust, naming her three children as equal beneficiaries at her death. Charlene names herself as the initial trustee, and she names her daughter, Karen, as the successor trustee to be in charge when Charlene dies. Charlene reserves the right to change or revoke her trust at any time. Charlene transfers her real estate and her investments to her trust. When Charlene dies, Karen immediately disburses the investments and the real estate equally to Charlene's three children. No Probate was necessary, because no assets were titled in Charlene's name which would require Probate court orders

to transfer.

The Revocable Living Trust is used primarily as a Probate avoidance tool. If your assets are titled in your name when you die, your assets titled in your name will be frozen, and your family will have to go through a Probate and obtain court orders, which orders banks, financial institutions, and others to transfer your assets to your heirs. If your assets are titled in the name of your trust, your Successor trustee will have immediate access to your assets and will be able to sell or distribute them to your beneficiaries that you named in your trust. No Probate is necessary to transfer these assets after your death.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Patrick W. Kirby has been practicing law on the Mississippi Gulf Coast for fifteen years and has worked for some of the top law firms in the state of Mississippi. Prior to law school, he was a Registered Nurse. In addition, he is a Colonel in the Mississippi Air National Guard and is currently the Commander of the 172nd Medical Group in Jackson, Mississippi.

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LBHS concert choir enters competition



2017 - 2018 LBHS concert Choir

Photo Courtesy of Terry Walker, Choir Director

By Traci Bonney

The arts are alive and well at Long Beach High School, and music is in the air as the school's Concert Choir prepares to attend the first-ever State Performance Assessment sponsored by the Mississippi Music Educators Association (MMEA).

Terry Walker, who is in his fourth year as director of the choir, said 2018 is the first year the MMEA has attempted a one-festival system in place of the district festivals held in the past. This year, there will be a single assessment event, held at three sites throughout the state. The Southern District's SPA will take place at Pearl River Community College's Brownstone Performing Arts Center on March 6 and 7. Walker said the performances are open to the public.

The choirs that perform at the SPA are required to perform both from memory and by sight reading musical selections they have not previously practiced. The prescribed music list ranges from baroque to folk and spirituals, and includes songs in English, Latin, Spanish, French, Italian, German, Swahili and other languages.

The choir is performing a pre-view concert Thursday, February

22, at 7 p.m. in Fleming Auditorium at The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Park campus. Walker said it will be a combined concert, including the members of both the middle school and high school choirs.

The high school choir is also scheduled to give a concert March 20, 7 p.m., at St. Thomas Catholic Church. Two days later, they'll be singing at the State Chorale Convention.

"It's one of the best in the state," Walker said of the group he's been teaching and directing for the last few years. Previous directors Joanne Edwards and Joel Dunlap are synonymous with excellence in concert choirs, and the rich history and tradition continues.

Edwards was not only a longtime director of the Long Beach choir, she was founder of the Gulf Coast Choral Festival, which grew to be the largest such event in the state over the 25 years the LBHS Choir hosted it.

The 63-member Chorale choir includes several ensembles, which perform throughout the school year at civic events. The Madrigals, in their Renaissance-inspired costumes, perform especially around Christmas.

"The Madrigal group goes back almost as long as the Chorale,"

Walker commented. "They sing a mixture of sacred and secular selections. There are currently 22 members in the Madrigals, and within the main group there are male and female quartets and a female sextet."

Walker, along with associate director Brian Chancey and junior high director Anita Lynn, strives to educate the choir members about a wide range of music that spans several historical eras. His pride in the students under his care was evident in his assessment of them.

"The parents are supportive, and the students are committed, intelligent and talented. They are focused and dedicated to what we're doing."

He added that the choir attracts a variety of singers. "There's a space for everybody in the Chorale. We have kids from sports, robotics, the band, you name it. If a student can match pitch relatively well, that's all we need."

Prior to coming to Long Beach, Walker worked with the choir at Warren Central High School in Vicksburg, another school known for the excellence of its singers. "Even then, I knew of the Long Beach choir's reputation," he commented. "At contests, nobody wants to sing behind Long Beach. They're that good."

There's a no flush zone



Photos by Fred Weller

By Fred Weller

Now, what to do with the unused pills that are left behind? Throw them in the trash? Flush them down the toilet? Long Beach Detective Craig DeRoche says, "Take only household medicines, pills and patches to the drug drop box at the Long Beach Police Department." The box is under twenty-four-hour surveillance and is physically secure, but is accessible during working hours, Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The use of the box is for residents. Doctors' offices, pharmacies, urgent care facilities and veteri-

nary services are not permitted to use the box. They must dispose of their excess inventory with commercial disposal companies. A notice about this regulation is posted on the box.

The box is emptied daily, and the contents are weighed and securely stored. The Mississippi Department of Narcotics collects the inventory and disposes of it by incineration.

The drop box was installed as part of a grant from Sonya Miller of Biloxi in 2011 and is a service provided to the citizens of Long Beach by the Long Beach Police Department.

Three have perfect ACT



Photo by Traci Bonney

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Perfect ACT scores of 36 were achieved by three Long Beach High School students. The three represent less than 2,760 students or 0.136 per cent that took the nationwide test.

The three students from Long Beach who achieved this are Gracie Bush, Mac Dulaney and Alexis LaRosa. Bush, a junior, is the daughter of Dewayne and Marcie Bush. Dulaney, a senior, is the son of Tim and Sandi Dulaney. LaRosa, a junior, is the daughter of David and Susan LaRosa.

"We are extremely proud of Gracie Bush, Mac Dulaney and Alexis LaRosa on achieving a perfect score of 36 on the ACT," said Long Beach High School Principal Larry Ramsey.

"This is a testament to the awe-

some students they are, the quality of teaching at Long Beach High School and the excellent parents and families we have in the Long Beach community."

While the perfect scores are achievements in themselves, they are not the absolute guarantee of future success to acceptance to a college or university of one's choice. Neither does it mean that a lower score prevents a student from attaining the preferred choices in academia. The higher the score, the more options are available.

The average score of 21 and above will allow for acceptance to most schools. Lower scores with extracurricular activities are compensatory for most admission officials. While a perfect 36 is a remarkable feat, a "good" score depends on the applicant and the admissions office.

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The \$5 per person waffle breakfast starts the day and includes the Easter egg hunt, crafts and a selfie with the rabbit. Tickets for the carnival games and cupcake walk are two for \$1. All funds go to the Long Beach High School Band.

Children are always excited about seeing the furry rabbits, whether large or small. The hunt for eggs and loading overfilled baskets always brings smiles to the scrambling little ones as they proudly show their bounty retrieved from the obscurity of heather and lawn.

When crafts and games are added to the activity, it is enough to keep the most active ones fascinated. Who doesn't love the promise of winning a cupcake and a selfie with the giant rabbit.

CW2 Holland wins award from the U.S. Army Forces

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach native, Marty Holland II, Chief Warrant Officer in the U.S Army, is currently serving in Afghanistan. Recently, Holland was awarded the Army Achievement Medal with Combat Device Award. Holland is married to the former Amber Hornbeck of Long Beach, and they have

two daughters, Madison and Aubrey. Holland is the son of Marty and Magdalena Holland of Long Beach. To send him a word of encouragement from his hometown, mail to:

CW2 Holland, Marty
Charlie Company, 4-3 AHB
Task Force Marauder
APO AE 09355

cont. from front page

Location of Long Beach dog park is now chosen

The group is also finding other creative ways to increase awareness of the project. The Association had a float in the Long Beach Mardi Gras parade, and the float riders, "Krewe Ruff Crowd," dressed as long-eared pups.

The Long Beach Dog Park Association is accepting members via its Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1324331281010649/>. The park also has a Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/fetchparklongbeachms>.



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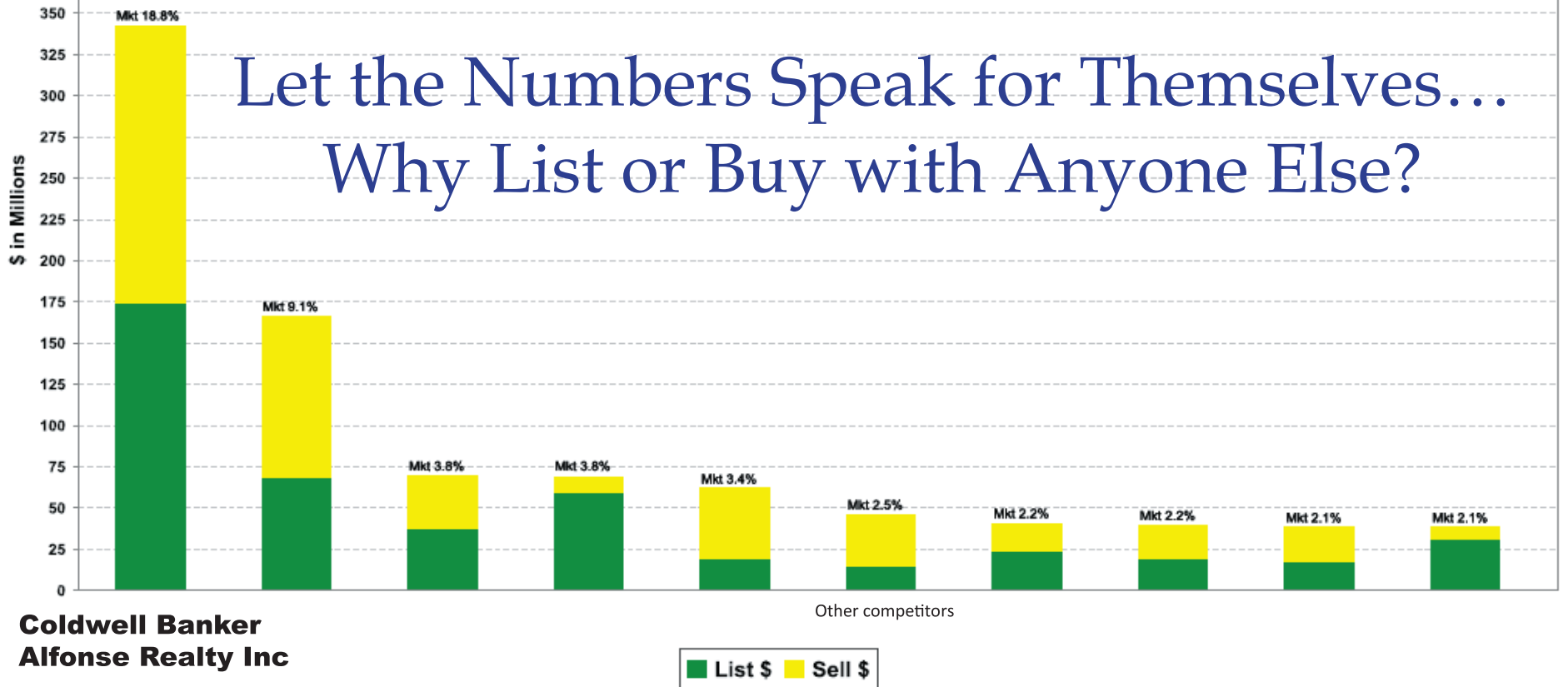
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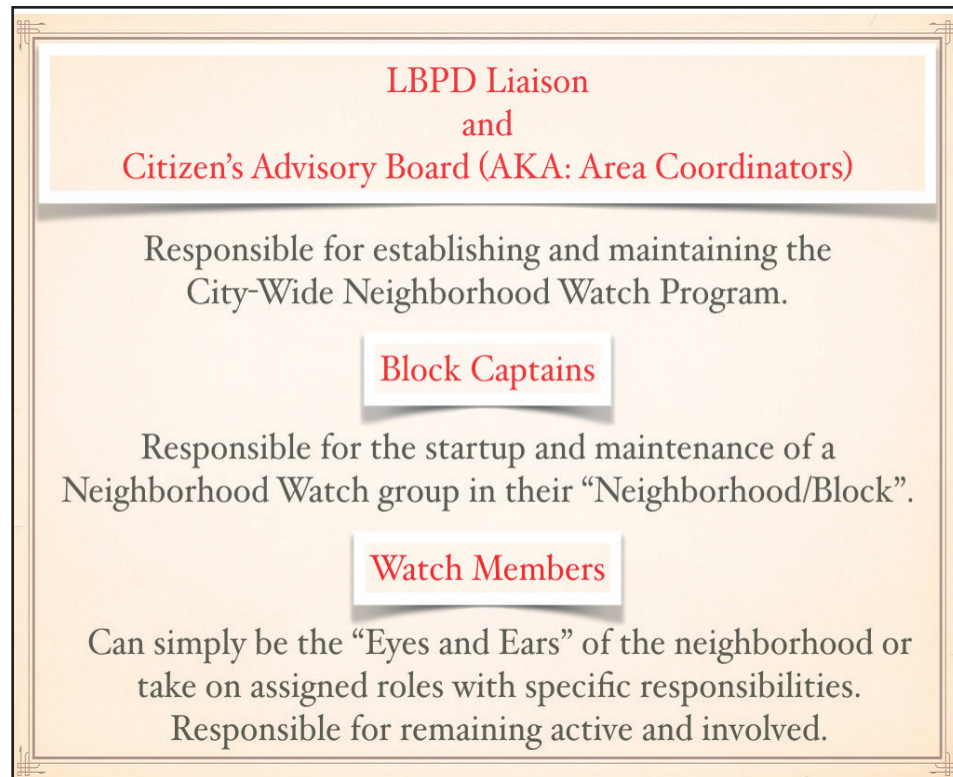
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Neighborhood Watch is being organized in Long Beach

Special to Long Beach Breeze

A Long Beach Neighborhood Watch (LBNW) program is being promoted by a group of citizens. LBNW is organized as a structured city-wide bridge to coordinate efforts with local law enforcement and community officials. Community outreach, beautification projects, and disaster recovery are also implemented. Neighborhood watches are organized in the city to connect with existing watches to cover the entire city.

Citizens are asked to contact LBNW, as advisors are needed. The advisors meet monthly, with two advisors in each ward. There are two advisors in Wards One, Two, Three and Five and an advisor at large. Advisor positions are needed as follows: Ward Four: there is one advisor. Ward Six: There are no advisors, and two are needed. Captains and Watch Members are needed everywhere in the



Special to Long Beach Breeze

city. Each neighborhood is different and reflects the watch group. Groups may meet monthly or quarterly. The group may be socially connected on line or they may decide on a traditional phone

tree. They may meet in a block party, or it may be decided to have traditional meetings. The area could contain a street or be several blocks. Each watch is unique, and the advisors will help the block captains set up which format is best. A ward map will soon be on line.

Police and city officials remind residents that, if there is an emergency, call the police, do not call the neighborhood watch. LBNW is not a law enforcer. LBNW is a liaison between the community and the police department.

A complete presentation is on the LBNW Facebook page and explains the details of the program at: <https://www.facebook.com/LongBeachNeighborhoodWatch/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION

LBNW can be reached at:

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LongBeachNeighborhoodWatch@gmail.com

For information on Ward Advisor and/or Block Captain

Call Camille Peno 228-596-3231

Call Tammy Devin 228-697-9590

cont. from front page

LBSD hires Pigott to head Bearcat football program

really enjoyed Coach Pigott teaching me how to play defense better and molding me into a young man” and “Big thanks to Coach Pigott. He’s taught me more than just football, and it’s been a great two years!”

“My wife and I are extremely excited for the opportunity to

lead such a great program,” Pigott said. “This is a great community, a great school and the foundation is set. I’m ready to get to work and take Long Beach to the next level.”

He is married to Jessica Pigott, and they have one daughter, Blythe.

CALB MARDI GRAS 2018



All photos by Fred Weller

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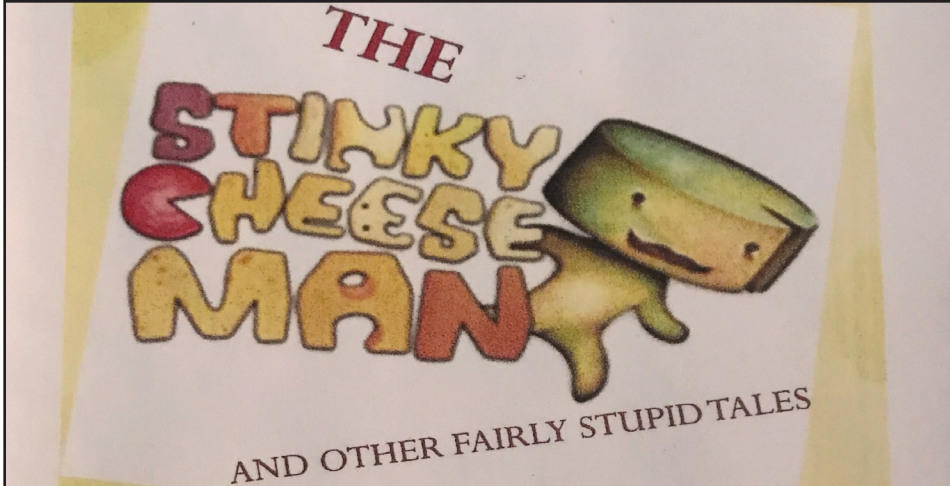
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Bearcat Players unveil a fun night at the theater



Special to Long Beach Breeze

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How about a night at the theater or even a Saturday matinee? Yes, right here in Long Beach. No long trip, no high prices, no black tie, just non-electronic entertainment. Real people...all high school students depicting a situation that is thought provoking.

In "Stinky Cheese Man," Long Beach High School students will

retell children's fairy tales with a twist designed to humor both adults and children.

- February 23 house opens at 6:30 p.m., show at 7 p.m.
- February 24 house opens at 1:30 p.m., show at 2 p.m.
- February 24 house opens at 6:30 p.m., show at 7 p.m.
- Tickets: \$5 for students, military, first responders and seniors, \$8 for general admission

Touch-A-Truck rolls into Long Beach this March



Special to Long Beach Breeze

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The big trucks are in town again. On March 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Long Beach Boat Harbor parking lot, there will be a collection of large scale vehicles for kids and adults to see up close. Children can climb into the driver's seat, pull the levers and grab the steering wheel all while the machine is not running. Live action is not permitted for safety

reasons.

Kids will have an opportunity to meet the "heroes"-actual operators, policemen, firemen and drivers to ask questions about what the vehicle does. Safety operations are emphasized.

This will be the third year. The event is sponsored by the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce. Admission is \$5, and kids under one are free.

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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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A special day to remember



Margaret with Donnie's photos

Photos By Susan Weller

By Fred Weller

Ask Margaret Levens why her birthday, February 17, is always a special day. Her son Donnie received his second pair of wings in a fatal helicopter crash in Djibuti during Operation Enduring Freedom on that day. Donnie is remembered by his classmates and teachers as a kind and inclusive student always willing to stand up for the underdog. While in high school, Donnie made several trips to Saltillo, Mexico, doing volunteer work. He volunteered at the Kailua elementary school while stationed in Hawaii.

Donnie was determined since he was eight years old to fly in airplanes. Upon graduation from high school, Donnie joined the Marines and followed his dream. The Marines took him to Hawaii and Iraq before Djibuti.

The new Saint Vincent de Paul school was nearing completion when Elizabeth Fortenberry and others felt they wanted to do something to commemorate Donnie and the Levens family's

contributions to the community over the years. In the school's library in a far corner was a reading nook, a quiet and serene place for students to read and contemplate, a perfect spot to dedicate a memorial to a deserving family and son. The thought took shape as Elizabeth, a former art teacher, convinced a family friend, Sandy Salvage, that Sandy's artistic talents could be put to good use by painting a wall mural dedicated to Donnie and the Levens family.

It was decided the most fitting symbol of Donnie's life was his love of flying in helicopters. The Marines provided photographs for a model.

The dimensions of a CH 53 helicopter presented its challenges, as the wall was too small to accommodate the proportions of the helicopter. Sandy took it in stride and designed a rendering that incorporates the 90-degree wall angle. After two weeks of labor, Sandy had it finished. She included several unique ciphers to make the painting special to those that knew and loved Donnie.

Enjoy the library this March

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn

If you are looking for something to do on Saturday, March 3, come downtown and stop by the Long Beach Public Library, where we will be celebrating Seussie Saturday! This event starts at 10:30 a.m., and do not be late. It's a family-oriented, trivia-based scavenger hunt with a Seuss theme at participating shops along Jeff Davis Avenue. Parents, think of a good name for your family's team, one adult per team will need to be present. Show your Seuss Spirit by dressing up like your favorite Dr. Seuss character, too! At noon, everyone will gather at the library, and refreshments will be served. Teams who finish their scavenger hunt with the correct answers will enter a drawing for prizes.

The Friends of the Long Beach Library hold their next meeting on Monday, March 5, at 1 p.m. in the meeting room of the main wing of the library.

The Long Beach Public Library Board will hold their next meeting on Tuesday, March 13, at 2 p.m. in the meeting room of the main wing of the library.

The Long Beach Library Book Club will hold their next meeting on Monday, March 19, at 1 p.m. in the meeting room of the main wing of the library. Their book for March is *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead.

Our next Parent's Coffee will be on Tuesday, March 6, at 10 a.m. just before story time. Come enjoy some much needed "me time" with the other parents and grandparents here at story time. We have an extended preschool story time that morning (from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.), so bring the little ones with you! This event is sponsored by Beau Vie Fitness in Long Beach.

As always, don't forget that preschool story time is always held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and is geared towards preschool-aged children. A complete list and description of upcoming story time events and other library events can be found on our webpage at <http://www.longbeach.lib.ms.us>.

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

March Library Events

Seussie Saturday

Saturday, March 3 | 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Preschool Story Time

Tuesday, March 6 | 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

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

Friends of the Library

Monday, March 5 | 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Parents Coffee Break

Tuesday, March 6 | 10 a.m. 11:30 a.m.

Long Beach Library Board Meeting

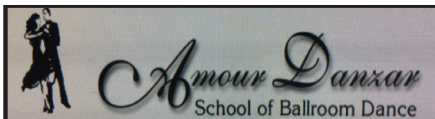
Tuesday, March 13 | 2 p.m. - 3 p.m.

Long Beach Book Club Meeting

Monday, March 19 | 1 p.m. – 2 p.m.



Elvis Gates, Agent
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 Starting March 5th
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The typical “Store Bought Filter” only removes less than 1% of airborne particles, while other equipment solutions eliminate 99.7% of the harmful airborne particles. Many of our customers have no idea that there are solutions to help them breath easier, reduce the infectious agents inside their home air, and increase equipment lifespan.

A lot of good A/C & Heating parts go bad from pounds of dust, mold and other particles accumulating on otherwise good equipment. The mold and dust also accumulates inside the big duct boxes and duct vents.

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LIMITED TIME OFFER FOR LONG BEACH RESIDENTS

In an effort to keep your existing Air Conditioning & Heating equipment running as clean and energy efficient as possible. We have a special offer for the Month of February and March.

80 point Tune-Up, and Efficiency Report for only \$59.97

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Long Beach Mayor's Youth Council convenes

By Traci Bonney

Involving a community's younger members in local government is often a challenge. Long Beach High School is working together to meet that challenge with the inauguration of the Mayor's Youth City Council.

"The purpose of the Youth City Council is to create a relationship between the city of Long Beach and the youth who live here. The Youth City Council will participate in service projects and will attend town hall meetings to work to better the city itself and to learn more about our local government," said Jenny Levens, the City's Community Affairs Director. Levens is the City's liaison to the Youth Council, which is being advised by Long Beach High School teacher Jonathan Hart.

The Youth City Council was represented at a recent Board of Aldermen meeting by Alexis Larosa. She said each member will be required to attend at least one City Council meet-



Photo: By Jenny Levens

Pictured (l to r) are the Mayor's Youth Council members: ninth-graders Emma Hughey, Samuel Shirk and Samantha Gundlach; middle row: tenth-graders Alyssa Pepper, Katie Huey and Paige Myers; and back row: Mayor Bass and eleventh-graders Hannah Craig, Alexis LaRosa and Madison Bowell. Not pictured are Mason Mullins, Emma Mauffray and Lauren Bennett.

ing during the school year. The City Council agreed to give the youth council a line item list-

ing on the City's first monthly meeting.

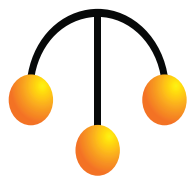
The Council consists of 12

members, three from each grade in grades 9 through 12. An application process determines which candidates are presented to the City Council for approval. The application form asks what ward the applicant lives in and assesses the grade point average, school leadership experience, school and service activities of each candidate. In addition to a completed application, the student must submit two letters of recommendation from teachers.

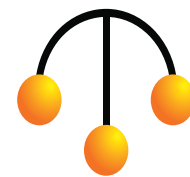
The members of the first council are seniors Mason Mullins, Emma Mauffray and Lauren Bennett; juniors Hannah Craig, Alexis LaRosa and Madison Bowell; sophomores Alyssa Pepper, Katie Huey and Paige Myers; and freshmen Emma Hughey, Samuel Shirk and Samantha Gundlach.

In her presentation to the Council, LaRosa summed up the Youth City Council's purpose this way: "We think it's important for the City and its youth to have a good relationship. After all, we are the future of Long Beach."

HIGH = CALIBER



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