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

January 24, 2019 • Volume 3, Number 1 • “Good News You Can Use”

Pepper named LBSD Teacher of the Year

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach School District recently announced that Daniel Pepper has been selected as the 2018-2019 District Teacher of the Year.

Pepper teaches U.S. History, U.S. History Honors, Personal Leadership, U.S. History Inclusion, AP U.S. History and Credit Recovery at Long Beach High School. His experience ranges from being an instructor in the United States Marine Corps, a religious education teacher at St. Thomas and social studies/history teacher at Long Beach Middle School and Long Beach High School.

“It is an honor and humbling being named the LBSD Teacher of the Year among the multitude of great teachers in our district,” Pepper said.

LBHS Principal Dr. Talia Lock said she is honored to have Mr. Pepper in her school.

“I have never seen a teacher with a bigger teachers’ heart. He was meant to teach. In his first career, he wanted to serve his country; and he is continuing to do that as a teacher. It doesn’t matter the circumstances - he is there for the students in every way possible. He consistently models a strong moral character for our students. He is the epitome of what a teacher should be.”

Other School-Level Teachers of the Year included Gabrielle Flowers of Long Beach Middle School, Rachel Mangum of McCaughan Elementary School, Leah Bloom of Quarles Elementary School and Melinda Perronne of Reeves Elementary School.

cont. on page 2



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Daniel Pepper (center) was named Long Beach High School Teacher of the Year, as well as the LBSD District Teacher of the Year. Pictured (l to r) are LBHS Assistant Principal Patrick Bennett, Director of Accountability Lori Price, LBHS and overall District LBSD Teacher of the Year Daniel Pepper, LBHS Principal Dr. Talia Lock and LBHS Assistant Principal Rebecca Ladner.

Long Beach annexation study continues

By Fred Weller

North is the only direction for Long Beach to expand, according to Long Beach Mayor George Bass.

“We have the Gulf to the south, Pass Christian to the west and Gulfport to the east. The only way to expand is north,” said Bass. “There are already some three hundred homes in various phases of construction, with more on the way.” City officials say the housing developments are definitely moving north towards Interstate 10.

A study in 2011 was the most recent

effort by the City of Long Beach to evaluate the benefits of annexation.

They say this year’s effort is to update the facts. The study recently presented by Mike Slaughter of Slaughter and Associates and Chad Mask from the law firm Carroll,

Warren and Parker served to quantify current and projected costs and revenues to the City.

The Board of Alderman approved starting the study in October, and, on January 3, with a unanimous vote, the Board extend-

ed the contract to determine a more precise understanding of the details of a possible annexation.

The study identified several aspects the City needs to consider relating to services, including fire department, police, public works, water, sewer, garbage, utilities and comprehensive planning and zoning.

The Mayor commented, “This is not quick and easy process, but first we must understand the long-term effects.” The next step will be a second presentation, most likely in March. A copy of the study is available at the City Clerk’s Office.



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cont. from front page

Long Beach Schools names Teacher of the Year



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Melinda Perronne was named Teacher of the Year at Thomas L. Reeves Elementary School. She is pictured with Reeves Principal Rhonda Powell.



Special to Long Beach Breeze
Gabrielle Flowers (left) was named Teacher of the Year at Long Beach Middle School. She is pictured with LBMS Principal Dr. Timothy Holland.



Special to Long Beach Breeze
Leah Bloom (left) was named Teacher of the Year at W.J. Quarles Elementary School. She is pictured with Quarles Principal Dr. Jan Hansen.



Special to Long Beach Breeze
Rachel Mangum (center) was named Teacher of the Year at Harper McCaughan Elementary School. She is pictured with McCaughan Assistant Principal Forrest Williams (left) and Principal Kathryn Standish (right).

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Did the Grinch steal the kayak in Long Beach?

By Fred Weller

The bright orange kayak was tethered to a post and nestled in the shifting Gulf of Mexico beach sand. Admirers included Alex North, a noted amateur coastal photographer, and Keith Clark, a colleague of North's from Long Beach and a self-proclaimed beach-walker.

After Clark expressed his admiration of North's photograph of the kayak, North allowed Clark to have a print made, which Clark displayed above the fireplace mantle in his home. Before the Clarks relocated to the coast during the Christmas season, the print served as a reminder of the happy days at the beach.

While Clark awaited the arrival of his family from Nebraska, a photograph

sent electronically served as reminder of the tranquil conditions on the Mississippi Gulf Coast despite the proximity of several storms and hurricanes. Clark feels "the photo is now legend in the Clark family in Iowa; it's become symbolic of the picturesque Gulf Coast."

When Nick Welch, the youngest daughter's boyfriend, admired the fireplace photo, he was presented a smaller version for his birthday. While doing Face-

book Live broadcasts so family and friends could observe the impending weather during hurricane season, Clark comment-

drove the coastal highway, and parked along the beach to take in the view. Little did they know where I had parked was just out of sight of the boat. Then, when they saw the lone boat, they sprinted towards it to take selfies and family photos."

Even though Clark says, "I have never known who owns the boat as it sits padlocked to a lone wooden post, and it never seemed disturbed, or moved as sand blows and drifts onto it over time. We've suspected

Photo courtesy of Alex North

A long-admired and shared photo taken by Alex North of an orange kayak in Long Beach has a local family wondering what happened to the boat.

ed, "I would make it a point to drive along the Long Beach and surrounding beach areas and snap a photo of the orange boat, just sitting there."

When the family made their first visit, coming from the airport, Clark stated, "First I

it was someone living along the coast somewhere, we just don't know. We've wondered if they knew their orange boat was made famous by Alex's photo."

"I went the other day to take a Christmas season photo of the boat, and discovered it's gone. The mystery continues...have they moved, or will we ever know?"



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Pictured (l to r) are members of the Clark family: Stacey Clark, Lisa Clark and Nick Welch.

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LB resident wins World Food Championship

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Long Beach resident Jackie Seavey, executive sous chef at the Island View Casino Resort in Gulfport, took first place in the World Open Chili Championship after competing in The World Food Championships November 7-11 in Orange Beach, Alabama.

Seavey was one of two of the chefs at Island View Casino to place at the competition. David Crabtree, executive chef, placed third in the World Seafood Championship. Both Seavey and Crabtree have earned a qualifying place in the 2019 World Food Championships in their divisions.

The 7th Annual World Food Championship celebrated the cooks, chefs and competitive teams that compete throughout the year around the globe in Food Sport. The competition brings chefs from all over the world to compete for the number one spot in each category. The champions from each category earned more than \$10,000 in cash and prizes while earning their world titles and will compete this spring at WFC's Final Table, where the grand prize is \$100,000.

Chef Seavey recently won a spot in the World Open Chili Championship by winning the "golden ticket" at last October's Chefs of the Coast event sponsored by

the Gulf Coast Restaurant Association. Seavey competed the last two years as Chef Crabtree's sous chef and had already been practicing for the Seafood Competition when she won a spot in the Chili Category. She chose Deborah Thomas, Island View Casino's assistant buffet room chef, as her sous chef for the event.

"When Jackie won the entry into the World Chili Championship, it really threw me off," said Crabtree. "That only gave Calvin and me a few weeks to prepare. I told

her she wasn't supposed to win! I am very proud of Chef Seavey and the hard work of all of our chefs who competed in this world class event."

There were thirty-four teams from all over the United States and abroad in the opening round of the World Chili Championship. Seavey and Thomas had to use Idaho potatoes and Hormel chili in their structured build. A structured build puts all teams on a level playing field, with all contestants using the same products to come up with a desired recipe. They scored very

high in that portion of the competition. Immediately after the first round came the signature dish; the chef's choice - and the dish that is practiced and perfected long before the WFC event. Chef Seavey chose to make a white bean chicken chili, which was Chef Thomas' recipe.

"I chose Deborah as my sous chef for the WFC competition because she scored so high in the Chefs of the Coast Chili cook-off," said Seavey. "The average score of these two dishes got us fourth place in the Top Ten."

For the Top Ten category competition, Seavey and Thomas had ninety minutes to cook and present the final dish. The mandatory ingredients were Hormel chili and Great Value scorching hot thin tortilla chips; both Hormel and Wal-Mart were WFC sponsors. For this event, Seavey made a ribeye and cactus chili served with a chili flavored white corn grit and a cheddar cake that was coated in the ground tortilla chips, then fried in lard. The final dish was topped with a fresh roasted corn and avocado relish and chili flavored fried tumbleweed onions.

"This dish put us over the top to win the chili championship at the WFC," said Seavey. "Deborah and I are already preparing for the spring competition for the Final Table."



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Pictured are Jackie Seavey (left), executive sous chef, and Deborah Thomas (right), assistant buffet room chef at Island View Casino Resort, as the two were getting ready for competition at the World Chili Championships at the World Food Championships in Orange Beach, Alabama.

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Bearcats enjoying basketball success

By Andy Kanengiser

Months after Long Beach voters approved a \$20 million bond issue in August to construct a newly renovated high school, positive benefits continue to be talked up.

A newly renovated Long Beach High, modern gym and other improvements point to a 2021 completion date. Educators, coaches, students, parents and fans say they are excited about what's coming at the 300 East Old Pass Road campus.

"With the addition of the new school and gymnasium, I think the future looks bright for the Lady Bearcats," says girls head basketball coach Jed Kanengiser.

"This should build excitement, help retain players, and create a nice atmosphere for the players and fans in the Long Beach community," Kanengiser said.

While the future shines bright, so does the current state of the girls and boys basketball programs.

Games keep coming for Long Beach Bearcats basketball players. As late January contests spill over to February, it's proven to be a successful season for first-year boys coach Brandon Cobb.

A year ago, Long Beach boys posted a 10-21 record. The Bearcats 2017-18 season ended against Hattiesburg in the second round of the playoffs with a 67-54 loss.

The 2018-19 season looks much different under Coach Cobb. A former St. Stanislaus High hoops player, Cobb previously coached in Louisiana before taking the Long Beach job. After home wins over Poplarville (77 to 56) on January 5 and a conference triumph January 8 over Gautier (76-53), the team's record stood at 13-4. That already surpasses last year's win total.

Cobb guides a talented, young squad along with four solid seniors.

"We have great senior leadership in Calvin Johnson, Ramirez Cooley, Orlasko Barnes and Danache Parker," he said. The coach will join parents and fans saluting the four players during Senior Night with visiting Pass Christian on February 5. Playoffs come next.

Cobb's bunch thrives under pressure, including two-point wins over Pascagoula and Vanclave in late December and an overtime victory over Picayune.

What began with workouts over



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Coach Brandon Cobb instructs players during a timeout. Players include Vincent Armstrong (15), Davion Henry (10) and Ramirez Cooley.

the summer led to the Long Beach boys enjoying a great start on the hardwood.

"Our underclassmen are also very talented. That includes sophomores Khaleb Marks, Anthony Robinson and Davion Henry, as well as our season leading scorer,

freshman Malik Henry," Cobb said. "The future is bright for



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Long Beach Lady Bearcats player Americus Knight practices her free throws prior to an early January 2019 home game with Poplarville.



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Long Beach basketball, but our guys are motivated to win now."

Other remaining home games for the Bearcats (boys and girls) include January 22 vs Bay, and February 1 vs Stone County. Away contests include: January 25 vs West Harrison, January 29 vs Gautier, and February 8 vs Bay Saint Louis.

For the Lady Bearcats, Kanengiser sees progress for his squad led by one senior, three-year starter Amiya Moore. Most of her teammates are sophomores and freshmen.

A signature road win for the Lady Bearcats over Picayune 36-32 on

December 14 and a seven-point lead with four minutes left against perennial Coast powerhouse Hancock were noteworthy signs.

"They are learning it takes consistent effort and positive attitudes to build a winning culture," added Coach K. "The next step is to start believing in themselves and competing for all thirty-two minutes."

On January 10, the girls' hoops record was 6-9. Other highlights included a 53-30 win against Spanish Fort (Alabama) in the Biloxi Christmas tournament on

December 29 and a 39-28 victory the previous day over Raleigh.

The Lady Bearcats are

fielding their first junior varsity hoops team in three years and stood undefeated at 3-0 in early January, including a 32 to 6 win over Gautier. Long Beach seeks to launch a ninth grade girls team next year.

Long Beach High Lady Bearcats are getting a boost from new assistant coach Christopher Glenn. Said Coach Kanengiser: "He's been a great addition and fit to the program."

Each game poses challenges for Long Beach coaches and players. "Some of the best basketball in the state is on the Gulf Coast," Cobb said. "Every night is a battle."

Bowling team excels at Long Beach High School

By Andy Kanengiser

Practice makes perfect. That's the case for star quarterback Drew Brees of the NFL's New Orleans Saints, as well as for celebrated concert pianists performing at famed Carnegie Hall in New York City.

The case can be made, too, for the boys and girls on the Long Beach High bowling team. A girls team from Illinois and a boys squad from Wisconsin emerged as winners at the 2018 U.S. High School Bowling National Championship in Fairview Heights, Illinois, last June.

But Long Beach High coach Melanie Hymel has much to be proud of when it comes to her talented team on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The squad of Bearcats all work hard, especially seniors Leah Banks, Megan Allen, Chelsey Reed and Nathan Blythe, the coach says.

Why are they so successful? "To be honest, it is practice," Hymel said recently. The four se-



Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach High School bowling teams include (l to r), front row: Joshua Norra, Chelsey Reed, Megan Allen, Emma Fisher and Paige Myers; middle row: Leah Banks-Whitmore, Ayden Mulvaney, Christopher Whitmore, Abby Dubuisson and Alyssa Tinsley (manager); and back row: Matthew Norra, Amin Whitmore, Dakota Gardner, Matthew Mulvaney, Nathan Blythe, Katelyn Schroeder and Laurel "Toot" Ladner.

niors are especially sharp when it comes to racking up spares and strikes at bowling alleys in competition.

"They have been with me the longest and have grown so much since that first season. The longer they bowl, the better they are getting.

It also helps that they know what to expect from different teams we compete against."

The Long Beach students know what the regionals look like. And the Lady Bearcats know what it takes to get to the state tournament, Hymel added. "The more

they bowl, the more seriously they realize so many other athletes take the sport."

Whether it is a practice or a state tournament, the Long Beach student-athletes are "super competitive," Hymel said. "They are such a great group."

This year's Long Beach team is off to its best start since bowling began at the school in the scenic Coast community in 2016-17.

"We have placed first in a couple of matches and second in quite a few," Hymel said.

Regionals begin in late January for high school bowling teams across the Magnolia State. "I am looking for my girls to return to the state tournament and my boys to qualify for the first time."

Bowling is getting to be pretty popular at high schools across the U.S. Teams from states like Kentucky, Tennessee, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and Ohio also completed at last year's national championships. The United States Bowling Congress has a goal of seeing that every state in the U.S. fields a high school bowling team.



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Girl Scouts collect socks



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Troop 4579 is a new Girl Scout troop in Long Beach. With troop leader Sara McCraw's help, the girls and their parents organized a sock drive for the Gulf Coast Rescue Mission in Gulfport, their first community give-back as a troop. They helped the homeless in the winter by donating all different types of socks. Pictured (l to r) are: Layla McDaniel, Anna Layce McCraw, Lexus Loftin, Always Robinson, Emily Thomas, Aubrey Pingul and Sophia Carroll.





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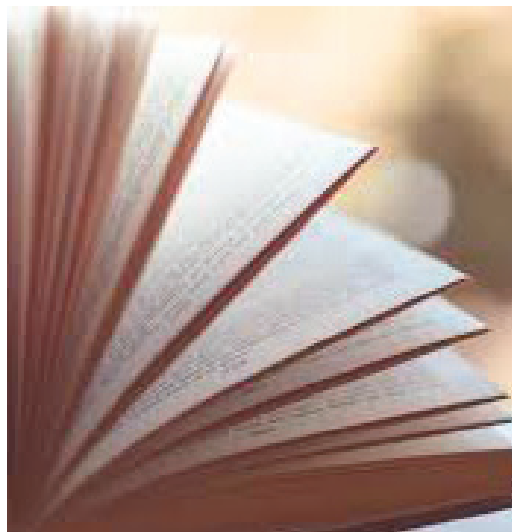
By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn,
LBPL Children's Librarian

For the past few months, we have been promoting the library's new database and all its new features.

This month, I thought I would write about one feature in particular that might be of interest to our readers. It's called Reserve Express, and it makes putting books by your favorite authors on reserve so easy.

By following a few simple steps (see steps accompanying this article), you can put your name on the reserve list for new books by selected authors.

There are many more features to our new database. If you have any questions please, call us. We are



always happy to help.

By the way, for all you Dr. Seuss fans...keep Saturday, March 2, open for Seussie Saturday! Family fun will begin at 11 a.m. here at the Long Beach Library. More

info will be posted as it reaches planning completion.

The Long Beach Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, February 12, at 2 p.m. in the meeting room of the main wing.

The Long Beach Public Library Book

Club will meet on Monday, February 25, at 1 p.m. at the Long Beach Public Library. Due to the holiday, their meeting will be on the fourth Monday this month. This month's novel is *The Great Alone* by Kristin Hannah.

FEBRUARY LIBRARY EVENTS

Parent's Coffee Break
February 5, 10-11:30 a.m.

Long Beach Public Library Meeting
February 12, 2 p.m.

Preschool Story Time
Every Tuesday and Thursday 10:30-11:30 a.m.

Long Beach Public Library Book Club Meeting
February 25, 1 p.m.

HOLIDAYS:
President's Day
Closed from February 16-18
Reopen February 19 at 9 a.m.

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Military career chosen by several LB youths

By Andy Kanengiser

For generations, it's been a tradition for thousands of high school seniors across the U.S. to begin their careers with the military.

Recruiters from the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, National Guard and Coast Guard sign up the best and brightest American teens every year. Long Beach High students seeking to broaden their horizons, get an education, travel, earn a paycheck and serve with America's armed forces are in demand once again.

Among them are Long Beach High senior Wesley Phillips, who leaves his hometown this month to join the U.S. Marine Corps. Classmate Drake Hogue will depart in August to join the U.S. Navy. Caprice Tillman, 17, is military bound, too. She will join the Army National Guard. She wants to finish boot camp, return to the Magnolia State and enroll at Mississippi State University in Spring 2020. Tillman aspires to also be an orthodontist.

There are several others headed

soon to join the nation's military. And Long Beach School District leaders say they are proud of each student on that path.

Wesley Adam Phillips, Jr., 17, joined the U.S. Marine Corps "because it takes people with heart to defend our nation. I want to be the best and earn the title of the few and the proud."

Phillips seeks to serve four years in the infantry and pursue a career with the Mississippi Highway Patrol (MHP). He would follow in the footsteps of his grandpa, Earl Wesley Phillips, Jr., an MHP officer. Hunting and fishing are his favorite hobbies.

Drake Hogue, 17, chose to join the Navy, because he loves the water and swimming. He wants to become a pilot after a stint as an officer. Math and science are favorite subjects at Long Beach High. Away from the classroom, Hogue plays first base and pitches for the Long Beach baseball team. Hogue said his Bearcats baseball coach Shane Rutledge "motivated me to always do my best with everything I do."



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Marine Sgt. Dakota Perry and Long Beach High School senior Wesley Phillips.

Andrew Woodall, 18, chose the U.S. Marines. The Long Beach High senior comes from a military family. His dad's side of the family is connected to the Army. His mom's side is anchored to

the U.S. Navy, which means his dad, Roger "Wayne" Woodall, and his mom, Jeannie Davis Woodall, may cheer for different teams when the Army-Navy foot-

cont. on page 12



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LBH cheerleaders are community champions

By Andy Kanengiser

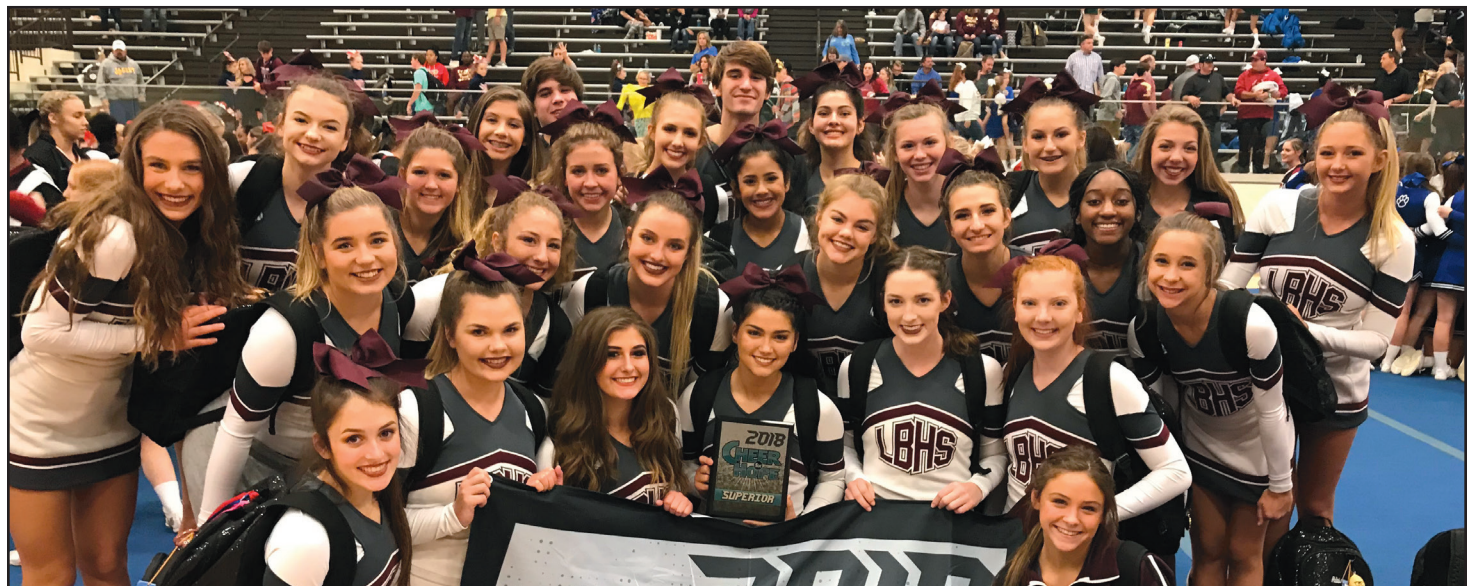
Nearly 163,000 girls take part in high school cheerleading competitions across the United States each year.

In terms of energy levels, extraordinary routines, and their ability to fire up Long Beach High sports fans, the Lady Bearcats cheerleaders rise to the occasion under the Friday night lights when the Bearcats football team is playing. The cheerleaders do much more year-round.

The Long Beach girls serve their community, too. The Lady Bearcats took part in the November 30 "Evening of Fun & Silent Auction" at the Long Beach Yacht Club. The event helped support the cheerleaders and the R.O.C.K. Foundation, or the Resilience of Coastal Kids.

Girls flying through the air with imaginative stunts is what they practice all the time, while music plays. But the Lady Bearcats have big hearts, too.

This fall, the cheerleaders and parents ran the entire event in



Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Bearcats cheerleaders placed first in the game day division and second in performance at the Cheer for Hope competition in November.

er with breast cancer.

In addition, the cheerleaders squad recently contributed two bikes for the Long Beach Mayor's Youth Council Bike Drive.

Zink loves praising the girls for their stellar accomplishments on and off the field. Last year, the LBHS Bearcat cheerleaders

were awarded the Herkie team award for the first time. The honor goes to a team showing spirit and kindness.

During the current season, the Bearcats placed first in the game day division and second in performance at the Cheer for Hope competition in November. The squad of Long Beach High student-athletes placed fourth in performance and sixth in game day at the Dixie Cheer Championship on December 2 in Jackson.

The Long Beach cheerleaders received a bid to Nationals, but are not going this time.

School officials say that Zink and coaching colleague Brandi Clay deserve a round of applause for their hard work, from the start of the season after spring break until it wraps up in December. The "Killer Bs" coached the team the past four years. In addition, Zink and Clay coached Long Beach rec cheer teams from 2003 until 2010. They are both big advocates of the benefits of a Long Beach High education.

A 2000 Long Beach High grad,

Zink teaches at her alma mater. Clay, a 2004 Long Beach High alumna, works at the Beau Rivage hotel on the Gulf Coast.

Coaching is part of Zink's DNA. Zink says about coaching the girls: "They keep me young." Clay says her motto will always be "teamwork makes the dream work."

People across the Mississippi Gulf Coast often catch the Lady Bearcats cheerleaders in action. The Long Beach bunch performed at the South Mississippi Regional Center pink parade, hosted a blood drive for the American Red Cross, took part in the St. Thomas Fall Festival and worked car lines during game days at local schools.

"The team works hard, but so do their sponsors," Zink said. "The Long Beach community and business owners are always so generous and support the team in all fundraising efforts. The Long Beach Cheer Booster Club and the cheer parents spend hours working on behalf of the team." Beach Cheer Booster Club and the cheer parents spend hours working on behalf of the team."



Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach High School cheerleaders recently collected donations for the Resilience Of Coast Kids (R.O.C.K.) Foundation. The R.O.C.K. Foundation mission is to make sure that all children who come into the local Youth Court Shelter and into DHS custody have the resources they need. Senior cheerleaders Ashton Herodes and Delaney Rishel present R.O.C.K. Foundation President Mag Holland with a \$1,000 donation from the cheer team.

Long Beach, with their goal to give the R.O.C.K Foundation of the Gulf Coast at least \$500.

"But we were able to give them \$1,000 just in time for the holidays," said Brandy Zink, the cheerleaders coach.

Senior cheerleaders Ashton Herodes and Delaney Rishel presented the check to Mag Holland of the foundation in December.

Lady Bearcats cheerleaders also took part in a pink out shirts event in October. The squad donated \$350 to a Long Beach High teach-

placed third at the Mississippi High School Activities Association state cheer competition in Jackson. The Long Beach team went on to compete at the National High School Cheer Competition in Orlando, Florida, for the first time.

This season, besides the blitz of football games, pep rallies and community service duties, Long Beach cheerleaders racked up major successes. They attended National Cheerleaders Association performance camp in July and

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Juried student art show now accepting entries

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Gail Keenan Art Center at Coast Episcopal School is planning a juried art exhibition for South Mississippi high school art students. The exhibition will be held at the Gail Keenan Art Center (GKAC) from February 1 to March 1. Students, teachers, and families are invited to an opening reception on Friday, February 1, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

The exhibition is open to public, private, parochial and home-schooled high school students in ninth through twelfth grades who live in Hancock, Harrison and Jackson Counties.

Students can be nominated by a classroom teacher or adult representative, such as a homeschool parent or after-school art instructor. Each teacher may nominate no more than three students, and GKAC reserves the right to jury the exhibition; all entries are not guaranteed inclusion in the show.

Submissions of artwork should be emailed to Curator Amy Harris at aharris@myces.org. Emailed

submissions should include the entry form and a high-resolution jpeg of artwork. GKAC reserves the right to reproduce and use submitted student artwork for promotional purposes. The subject matter of all submitted artwork must be appropriate for younger viewers.

Both two-dimensional and three-dimensional media are eligible. Accepted two-dimensional media include painting, printmaking, drawing, photography, digital media, and mixed media artwork. Two-dimensional work must not exceed 40 inches wide by 40 inches high. All work must be framed to professional standards and ready to hang with appropriate hardware.

Accepted three-dimensional media include: sculpture, ceramics, metal and jewelry arts, and mixed media artwork. Three-dimensional work must not exceed 40 inches high by 20 inches wide and 20 inches deep.

If students have exceptional work of other dimensions, they are encouraged to contact GKAC. Af-

ter all entries have been received, larger pieces may be considered based upon space.

A guest juror will select awards for first place (\$150), second place (\$100) and third place (\$100), as well as honorable mentions. Guest at the Opening Reception will vote on the "People's Choice Award."

Students may choose to sell artwork. Pricing and sales will be conducted by the student artist. A 10% commission will be retained by GKAC for all sold work. Submissions should include the price

on the artwork or a "NFS" (Not for Sale) designation.

All work must be delivered to The Gail Keenan Art Center, Coast Episcopal School, 5065 Espy Avenue, Long Beach, on or before January 25. Delivery times should be coordinated with Harris. All unsold or NFS artwork must be picked up by March 13. All artwork that is not picked up by March 13 becomes the property of GKAC.

For more information, call Harris 228-452-9442.

EXHIBITION INFORMATION

**Opening reception
Friday, February 1
5:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

The exhibition will be held at the Gail Keenan Art Center (GKAC) from February 1 to March 1. GKAC is located at 5065 Espy Avenue.

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Parade set for February 23, applications accepted

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Carnival Association of Long Beach is accepting applications for their 2019 parade, which will be held on Saturday, February 23.

Applications are now available on the organization's website.



Applications are due on February 8, but are encouraged as soon as possible, as the group anticipates this will be their biggest parade to date.

There will be a mandatory Captain's meeting on February 20 at the Long Beach High School stadium.

For questions, contact Eddie Seal at 228-326-7207.

LBFD recieves grants

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach Fire Department recently received a grant from the Department of Homeland Security Hazmat Grant Program. The Long Beach Fire Department will use the \$8,000 non-matching grant to purchase a thermal imager with a truck

charger. The Long Beach Fire Department will use the thermal imager as a heat-seeking camera.

For questions concerning the Department of Homeland Security Grant, contact Chief Mike Brown, Assistant Chief Griff Skellie or Division Chief Joseph Stapleton at 228-863-7292.

cont. from page 9

Military career chosen by several LB youths

ball game rolls around each year. For the record, this fall, nationally-ranked Army defeated Navy in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by a score of 17 to 10, as millions of fans watched the spirited rivalry on TV.

But Woodall's parents are on the same page, and both believe their son has a bright future with the Marines. Andrew Woodall is excited about his military choice, too.

"I chose the Marines because I want a challenge," Woodall said. "The Marines will give me that challenge."

In the immediate Woodall family, only one person (from his dad's side and mom's side) is a Marine. "I want to be the second - and will be the second," Woodall said. He's planning to make this a long-term commitment and retire from the Marines decades down the road.

Following his retirement, he en-

visions running a charter fishing boat and/or living on a farm.

As a new year begins, Woodall thanks Long Beach High teachers and staff for getting him prepared for this next big step in life.

"They taught me responsibility, to be responsible for my actions and to be responsible for what I can control," he said. "They also taught me attitude. What you put in, you will get out."

Away from Long Beach High on the scenic Mississippi Gulf Coast, the young man pursues hobbies such as fishing, boating, hunting and construction. As he prepares to join the military, Woodall adds his thanks to the many men and women who served before him and continue to serve their nation.

A fifth student entering the military, Ariel Bankston, was an early Long Beach High graduate and couldn't be reached.

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One Coast nominations accepted until Jan. 31

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce, Inc., Hancock Chamber of Commerce, Ocean Springs Chamber of Commerce, and Jackson County Chamber of Commerce are currently accepting nominations for the 2019 One Coast Awards.

Nominations will be accepted until noon on January 31 and should be emailed to one-coast@mscoastchamber.com.

The 2019 breakfast event will be held on April 23, at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino.

The One Coast Awards were created to continue the ideal that



One Coast is a regional belief that the common interests of the area far outweigh any difference; an awareness that what benefits one, ultimately benefits all; a celebration of the unique Coast communities and an attitude of no boundaries. The One Coast Awards include the Top 10 Business Leaders under 40 Awards and the Outstanding Community Leader Awards, which were developed to recognize community lead-

ers and strong, up-and-coming young business leaders. Applications are available at www.mscoastchamber.com/deadlines/applications.

LB High School continues with improvement plans



Special to Long Beach Breeze

This rendering shows the planned new front main entrance of Long Beach High School facing Cleveland Avenue. This building will house administration, new media center/library and several classrooms.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

This rendering shows the planned Long Beach High new competition gymnasium and fine arts auditorium entrance on East Old Pass Road.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Since the community passed the bond issue in August, things have been progressing toward the beginning of construction for the new combination build/remodel for Long Beach High School. The School Board put out a Request for Proposal and heard presentations from several architectural firms. Machado Patano (M|P) was selected from those to

build the new school. The architects have held several meetings with school and district administration, students and teachers to fine tune the renderings and plans. District administration is finalizing plans and procedures for classes during the construction to minimize interruptions for students and staff.

Construction is scheduled to begin in June 2019, with a projected completion date in 2021.

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Former Navy pilot brings cheer to Seabee base

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Sometimes it's the smallest gestures – a hearty “good morning,” a vibrant conversation, or even just a friendly smile – that can help brighten a person's day. That's something that Doug Clark, a cashier at the Mini Mart onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) in Gulfport, and a Long Beach resident, strives for whenever he interacts with customers going through his line during the day.

It might not be obvious just by looking at him, but the white-haired, gregarious, 77-years-young man was – and is – more than just a cashier. Back during the Vietnam War, Clark was a U.S. Navy fighter pilot, screaming his F-8 Crusader jet fighter off the deck of the Essex-Class aircraft carrier USS Hancock (CV 19) and flying sorties over the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of Vietnam between 1966 and 1968.

His time in the Navy is something he remembers fondly, judging by the glint in his eyes when he speaks of his former fighter pilot days and by the energy in his voice as he flips through faded photos from his time in the military.

“Boy, those were some fun times, let me tell you,” he said, shaking his head wistfully.

Clark grew up in Seattle, Washington, with his mother and younger brother. His father, a musician who had his own music show on a local radio station, died of encephalitis when Clark was only four years old. Growing up, Clark often remembered seeing U.S. Navy planes flying overhead, since he lived near what used to be Sand Point Naval Air Station, and that helped spark his interest in aviation.

He initially served in the naval reserves after graduating from high school in 1960, while attending college for aeronautics and astronautics engineering at the University of Washington in Seattle. Just after receiving his bachelor's degree, one of

the recruiters on base suggested he pursue becoming an officer so that he could apply for flight training. A year after he finished his bachelor's, he completed his master's degree in the same field, went right into officer boot camp in December 1965 and completed all of his training to become a fighter pilot by March 1966. It wasn't long after that before Clark had his first of two tours in Vietnam.

“I'll never forget the first time we were in the Gulf of Tonkin – we had just got there – and the first day of flight operations (ops), I got in my cockpit on the flight deck and turned my radio on to hear

Clark's squadron flew what he called “barrier cap” missions, flying patrols in between the aircraft carrier and land to provide protection for strike groups flying out to perform bombing raids and rocket strikes on enemy facilities. Sometimes, they also escorted the

727 aircraft.

When he finished his airline career in 2004, Clark and his wife Roberta moved down to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, since his wife was originally from Bay St. Louis. His wife had three daughters from a previous marriage, and Clark and Roberta adopted a fourth girl to raise together.

After the girls had grown up, Clark decided he wanted to get back into the workforce to have something to help fill his daily schedule. He worked a few odd jobs before deciding to check out what part-time jobs were available at NCBC in Gulfport, where he eventually got hired on as a cashier at the Mini Mart in 2015.

One of the things he enjoys most about working at the Mini Mart is getting to interact with the customers he sees each day, especially the military members. Having been in the Navy, one of the things he enjoyed most was the bonds he formed with his squadron members during his interactions with them.

“I think the great camaraderie we had with the guys in the squadron, those are some of the fondest memories I have of being in the Navy,” said Clark.

It's this sense of camaraderie he tries to instill in the service members he interacts with on a regular basis while working at the Mini Mart, hoping to get their day off to a bright start with a smile and an encouraging word.

“I want to give them my best shot, every time a person comes in there, because I want to make them feel really good about their experience,” said Clark. “I try to treat them the way I'd want to be treated – and that's a good feeling.”

EDITOR'S NOTE: This article was written by Ryan Labadens of NCBC Gulfport Public Affairs.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Doug Clark of Long Beach poses for a photo at the Mini Mart onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center Gulfport. Clark served as an F-8 Crusader fighter pilot for the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War, and now he enjoys spreading the camaraderie he felt during his military career to the people he interacts with regularly while working at the Mini Mart.

Special to Long Beach Breeze
 Doug Clark cheers in the cockpit of a U.S. Navy F-8 Crusader fighter jet as he is greeted by fellow crew members after returning from a mission over the Gulf of Tonkin off the coast of Vietnam. Clark, a retired U.S. Navy commander, served two tours as a fighter pilot onboard the Essex-Class aircraft carrier USS Hancock (CV 19) between 1966 and 1968 during the Vietnam War.

strike ops, and I could hear them give the code word of the day to let us know that bandits, the MiGs (fighter jets), were airborne and were heading south (toward South Vietnam). And I thought, after all those months of training, this was finally the real thing. I'm going into combat,” said Clark, his eyes wide with excitement.

“So we vectored toward them and tried to intercept and engage them, but then right before they got into range they hooked around and flew back north of the border again. They knew we weren't allowed to follow them across the DMZ (demilitarized zone),” he said, throwing up his hands in remembered frustration.

strike groups or photo-reconnaissance aircraft all the way to their targets to provide protection from enemy fighters. While he would often have to dodge surface-to-air missiles and small-arms fire, Clark never got the chance to actually engage with enemy fighters, even though he was scrambled to intercept them on numerous occasions.

After his tours in Vietnam, Clark continued to work in various assignments for the active duty Navy and Naval Air Reserves, eventually retiring at the rank of commander in 1987 after having served twenty-two years in the military. He then landed jobs working for civilian airline companies, flying cargo in Boeing



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Science Café on Coast

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Science Café on the Coast flies into its spring series with “Hurricane Hunters” on Monday, January 28, at 6 p.m. at Margaret S. Sherry Memorial Library in Biloxi.

Major Jonathon W. Brady, aerial reconnaissance weather officer with the United States Air Force’s 403rd wing of the Hurricane Hunters, will discuss details of being a hurricane hunter, including information about the aircraft, its weather monitoring equipment, and the role of hurricane hunters as they fly into storms.

Brady is an airborne meteorologist with more than 1,475 flight hours. He has logged 44 hurricane penetrations and 284 flying sorties, to include flying through



hurricanes Irene, Nate, Carlotta, Rafael, Sandy, Ingrid, Gonzalo, Danny, Madeline, and Lester.

The U.S. Air Force Hurricane Hunters are based in Biloxi at Keesler Air Force Base, and is the only unit in the world flying weather reconnaissance on a routine basis.

Science Café offers those with minimal background in science the chance to meet and discuss issues in a relaxed social setting, and is a collaboration between The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Libraries, Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, Harrison County Library System, Long Beach Public Library and Hancock County Library System.

For more information, call 228-388-1633.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Seabees volunteering



Photo courtesy Seabee Memorial Chapel

Thirty-five Seabee volunteers from the Naval Construction Battalion Center spent time sorting and wrapping Angel Tree presents last month, positively impacting the lives of over sixty-five children for the holidays. Angel Tree is an initiative put out by military chapels across military branches to provide Christmas presents for the children of families for enlisted members of ranks E-6 and below. Parents from twenty-four families came up with a wish list for each of their children, and the Seabee Memorial Chapel staff created ornaments with the specific requests of each child. A tree with the ornaments was placed in the Navy Exchange at NCBC Gulfport, where members across the base took an ornament and purchased presents for the children. Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Constructionman Shayla Paoletti; and back row: Constructionmen D’Metrie Jones, Angelo Lipuma, Cynthia Martinez, Brandon Adames, Payton Aquiningoc, Rebecca Cook, Dillan Sasser and Luis Avalos. All are U.S. Navy service members, students who are going through their A-school (technical training school) training at the Naval Construction Training Center (NCTC) onboard Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Gulfport.

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