



# LONG BEACH BREEZE

## YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

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

October 20, 2019 • Volume 3, Number 10 • “Good News You Can Use”

## Long Beach School District gets “A” rating – again

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

The Long Beach School District was again rated an “A” district in the Mississippi Department of Education’s 2019 Accountability Results.

“It is with tremendous excitement that I announce to all of you that the LBSD is rated an ‘A’ for the fourth consecutive year (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019)!” said Dr. Jay R. Smith, superintendent of Long Beach Public Schools.

The Mississippi Department of Education released letter grade ratings last month, with an A as the highest possible academic rating. LBSD’s overall score is 696, up 27 points over last year’s total of 669. The minimum score districts must reach

for A-status is 668.

Of all 144 Mississippi school districts, Long Beach’s score is the thirteenth highest state-wide.

“The LBSD is one of only nine districts in the state and one of only two on the Mississippi Gulf Coast to have earned the distinction of an ‘A’ rating four years in a row,” said Smith.

Students are scored on a five-point scale on state tests, with 3 considered a passing score. But schools don’t get growth points for students who score 3 one year and then score 3 the following year. Only students scoring 4 or 5 meet growth by maintaining their current levels.

Long Beach Middle School individually received an “A”



*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

rating, and the other schools in the district received “B” ratings.

“I thank each of you for your dedication, hard work, and professionalism in our collective effort to provide a world-class atmosphere of teaching and

learning,” said Smith.

“We will not rest on our accomplishments, but rather we will celebrate them together while striving to improve year after year,” Smith continued. “Congratulations, and, as always, Go Bearcats!”

## 10th annual Taste of LB planned for Oct. 24

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

The Long Beach Chamber of Commerce will host its 10th annual Taste of Long Beach event on Thursday, October 24, at the Long Beach Activity and Senior Center. Taste of Long Beach highlights local businesses to expose residents to what the City of Long Beach has to offer. The event will also include live music as well as a silent auction, where products and services from local businesses will be up for bid.

“Taste of Long Beach is a great

way to showcase the amazing food and beverage vendors of

Long Beach to the Coast community,” said Gabrielle Rose, Director of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce.

“I am thrilled that we are celebrating a decade of this wonderful

community event, and antici-

pate a record crowd this year.”

Many local restaurants have already confirmed their participation, including Harbor View Café, Bankhouse Coffee, Lil’ Ray’s, Long Beach Market and Deli, Winn Dixie, A Southern Bagel Company, Juan Tequi-



**NO TRICKS**  *just treats*

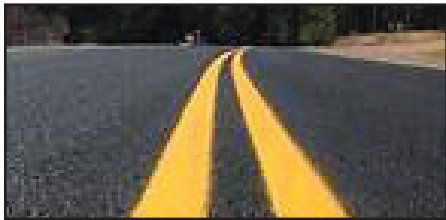


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# Street paving begins in LB



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Earlier this month, the City of Long Beach began the first phase of a street paving effort.

In the first phase, Hanover Drive, Elington Drive, Regency Drive, Windsor Place, Buckingham Place, Watts Lane, Wills Lane, Patton Road, Reeves Street and Saratoga Drive will be paved.

Patch repairs will also take place on Pineville Road and Commission Road.

Crews will be moving to other areas of Long Beach as each phase is completed.

Long Beach drivers are encouraged to slow down in paving areas and watch out for work crews.

# LBSD receives \$374,834 grant

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach School District recently received news that the district will be awarded a grant in the amount of \$374,834 in federal funds from the United States Department of Justice (DOJ). The money will be disbursed across a two-year period.

School officials say the grant money will be used to improve security at Long Beach schools and on school grounds through evidence-based school safety programs. The grant award is part of the DOJ 2019 COPS School Violence Prevention Program.

“This grant was awarded to only one hundred school districts across the country,” said Long Beach School Superintendent Dr. Jay Smith.

Only two of the grants were awarded in the state, and LBSD was the largest grant recipient in Mississippi.

# PLACES OF WORSHIP



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**SUNDAY P.M.**  
Life Group: 5:30

**TUESDAY P.M.**  
Men's Group: 6:30 - Various Locations

**WEDNESDAY P.M.**  
Meal: 5:30  
Bible Classes: 6:15

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# Backpack Buddies provides weekend meals for kids

By Sinclair Rishel

When the kids in the Long Beach School District board the buses this Friday, more than a hundred of them will be carrying parcels of food to make sure they don't go hungry over the weekend.

Backpack Buddies was launched in 2011 by Lori and John Cripple after they learned about a similar program in Pascagoula. The program provides meals for the weekend to children from underprivileged homes. This covers the gap when these children aren't receiving free breakfast and lunch from the school.

The program started with thirty kids after Lori met with school counselors and nutritionists to determine the need in Long Beach. But, in the last eight years, Backpack Buddies has grown.

"We are currently serving 125 students throughout the five Long Beach schools," says Lori. "The average annual cost to feed

one hundred kids is estimated at \$20,000. It shocks me every time I tell people that, because we have never once run out of money."

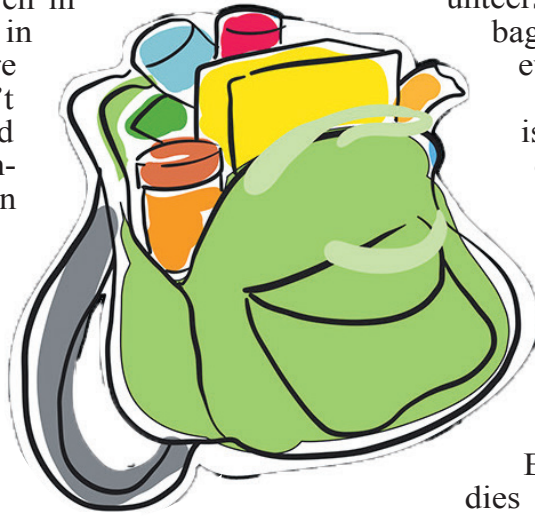
More than eleven million children in the U.S. live in homes where there isn't enough food to eat. Twenty-two million children rely on the free or reduced lunch program to get enough food, and many of those eat breakfast at school, too.

But, during the weekend and summertime, six in seven hungry children won't get the meals they need.

There are some programs that work to provide meals for kids during the summer months.

Backpack Buddies is bridging that gap on the weekends.

Every other week, a group of volunteers gets together to pack the bags that will go home with the kids. Another group of volunteers delivers the bags to the schools every week.



The program is kept as confidential as possible to avoid putting any of the kids in the program in an uncomfortable situation.

Backpack Buddies receives names of kids for the program from the school counselors, and that list is kept secret. The program does not receive any other information about the kids, and bags are delivered to them discreetly.

Although John and Lori are members of the First Unit-

ed Methodist Church in Long Beach, the program has spread to involve a number of churches and organizations around the community.

"Our team consists of people from First United Methodist Church, Christ United Methodist Church, St. Thomas Catholic Church, First Baptist Church and Grace Lutheran Church," says Lori. "We also have the support of local scouting groups and businesses."

Backpack Buddies continues to grow to meet the needs of the community. Lori says they want to continue serving students in Long Beach as long as the need exists.

"Our goal is to provide food for the kids over the weekend so they are ready to learn on Mondays," says Lori.

Backpack Buddies welcomes volunteers and donations. To get involved volunteering with or donating to Backpack Buddies, call the church office at First United Methodist Church in Long Beach at 228-863-9619.

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APPETIZERS	
Crab Cakes.....	12
Ms. Reenie's House Made Blue Crab Cakes with Remoulade	
Bacon Wrapped Scallops .....	12
Served with Drawn Butter	
Crab Fondue.....	12
Lump Crab Meat and House Cheese Blend baked golden, served with tortilla chips	
Butter Poached Royal Reds.....	14
Served with Drawn Butter	
Fried Green Tomatoes .....	12
Crispy Fried Tomatoes, Lump Crab Meat with Remoulade	
Hummus Du Jour .....	10
Crudit�, Kalamata Olives served with warm Pita Bread	
Shrimp and Crab Martini * .....	13
Jumbo Gulf Shrimp and Lump Crab Meat with Avocado tossed in a Lime Cilantro Vinaigrette	
Seasonal Tomato Salad .....	12
Sliced Locally Farmed Tomatoes over Succotash with Fried Goat Cheese, Honey Vinaigrette and Balsamic Gastrique	

Choice Sides	3
Collard Greens	
Sweet Potato Souffle	
Succotash	
Hand Cut Fries	
Jalapeno Cornbread	
Buttermilk Mash Potatoes	

Premium Sides	5
Local Vegetable Medley	
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Choice of Almondine, Andouille Crusted, Blackened or Grilled with Chef Seasoning, served with one Choice side	
Fried Seafood Platter .....	18
Shrimp, USA Catfish and Oysters golden fried served with Hand cut Fries, Cole Slaw and Corn Fritter	
Fried Shrimp Platter .....	15
Fried USA Catfish Platter .....	14
Fried Oyster Platter .....	16
Fried Scallop Platter .....	24
Pork Chop * .....	12
Center Cut 6oz Chop grilled or fried to order served with one Choice side	
Ally's Vegan Pasta .....	14
Vegetable Ribbons with Romesco Sauce garnished with Walnuts and Sunflower Seeds	
Mahi Mahi .....	25
Pan seared with Scallop and Gulf Shrimp over Succotash and Beurre Blanc Sauce	
Filet Mignon 6oz * .....	32
Certified Angus Beef grilled to order with Herbed Compound Butter, served with Baked Potato or one Choice Side	
Free Range Chicken .....	14
Half Chicken with House BBQ sauce served with one Choice side	
Wagyu Burger * .....	16
6oz Patty with Bacon Jam, Cheddar, Fried Tabasco Onion Strings on a Sourdough Bun served with Hand Cut Fries	
Half Pound Burger * .....	10
8oz Certified Angus Beef Patty with American Cheese served dressed on a Sourdough Bun served with Hand Cut Fries	
Additional: Blue Cheese Crumbles 1 Bacon 1.50 House BBQ Sauce .50 Grumpy Man pickled sweet jalapenos .75	

**LOUNGE COCKTAILS**

Harbor Sunset 10  
Ketel One Peach Orange Blossom with Passion Fruit Puree, House Simple Syrup and Sparkling Wine

New School 12  
Eagle Rare Whiskey, El Guapo Spiced Tea Cocoa Bitters, House Made Simple Syrup, Ginger Beer and Garnished with Spiced Rum Soaked Cherries

Pineapple Cilantro Rita 10  
1800 Silver Tequila, Pineapple Juice, Muddled Cilantro Leaves, Cointreau, Agave Nectar and Fresh Lime

Parrish Paloma 10  
Monte Alban Mezcal, Grapefruit Juice, House Rosemary Simple Syrup and Sparkling Wine

Summer Day 10  
Don Q Rum, Strawberry Puree, El Guapo Summer Berries Bitters, House Basil Simple Syrup and Fresh Lemon Juice

Fleur Tini 12  
Bristow Gin, St. Germain Elderflower, El Guapo Cucumber Lavender Bitters, House Simple Syrup, and Fresh Lemon Juice

**LOUNGE MENU**

Crab Cake 12  
Ms. Reenie's House Made Blue Crab cake with Creole Cream Sauce

Scallop and Shrimp Skewer 12  
Diver Scallop and Gulf Shrimp Grilled with Citrus Beurre Blanc

Butter Poached Royal Reds 12  
Served with Drawn Garlic Butter

Sliders 10  
Choice of Crab cake, Fried Green Tomato BLT or Cheddar Burgers

Ceviche 12  
Shrimp, Scallops and Gulf Fish with Citrus, Cilantro and Avocado

Truffle & Parmesan Fries 8  
Hand cut Fries and a House Made Aioli

Chef's Select Hummus 10  
Crudit , Kalamata Olives served with warm Pita Bread

Fried Green Tomatoes 12  
Crispy Fried Tomatoes, Lump Crab Meat with Remoulade

Crab Au Gratin 12  
Lump Crab Meat and house cheese blend baked golden, served with New Orleans French Bread

Bacon Wrapped Scallops 12  
Served with Drawn Garlic Butter

Bruschetta 8  
Topped with Tomatoes, Red Onions and Fresh Basil

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# David Fayard named Long Beach Citizen of the Yr.



Above - Pictured (l to r) are Long Beach Mayor George Bass, Long Beach Chamber of Commerce 2019 Aline Doherty Citizen of the Year David Fayard, and Long Beach Chamber Chair Jennifer Glenn.



Above - Pictured (l to r) are Long Beach Chamber Chair Jennifer Glenn, Long Beach Mayor George Bass, Police Officer of the Year Eli Zacharias and Long Beach Police Chief Billy Seal.



Above - Pictured (l to r) are Long Beach Chamber Chair Jennifer Glenn, Mayor George Bass, Firefighter of the Year Lionel Viera and Fire Chief Griff Skellie.



Right - Pictured (l to r) are Long Beach Chamber Chair Jennifer Glenn; Long Beach Mayor George Bass; Public Works Employee of the Year, Utility Partners Equipment Operator JJ Sobaszek.



Above - Pictured (l to r) are Jessica Torres, NRP; Cara Harlan, EMT; and James Carver of American Medical Response. Torres and Harlan were named the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce American Medical Response Personal of the Year.

### Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach Chamber of Commerce recently held their annual Breakfast with the Mayor. A highlight of this event is the naming of the Aline Doherty Citizen of the Year Award, an honor presented annually to a resident

or business owner of Long Beach, who, through the commitment to the community and through the spirit of volunteerism, has improved the quality of life in Long Beach and the Gulf Coast. This year's recipient is David Fayard.

First Responder of the Year

Awards were also presented. Lionel Viera was named Firefighter of the Year, and Jessica Torres and Carla Harlan were named American Medical Respond Personnel of the Year.

Long Beach Police Department Detective Eli Zacharias was named Police Officer of the Year,

and JJ Sobaszek was honored as Public Works Employee of the Year.

The event also included an update on Long Beach events by Long Beach Mayor George Bass.

For more information about Long Beach Chamber of Commerce events, call 228-604-0014.

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**www.LongBeachBreeze.com**

# Royal Tea and Fashion Show booked

By Andy Kanengiser

Drift back in time to 1971. That was the year of the first Carnival Association of Long Beach (CALB) parade. The festive event decades ago attracted Gulf Coast people tossing doubloons crafted from wood.

Today, the CALB is still going strong. Their members are a diverse bunch of Coast folks who enjoy having fun and believe in supporting good causes. They are friends from different faiths and many professions who share a deep love for Long Beach.

That will be the case this fall, when leaders of the nonprofit organization in the Friendly City sponsor the Royal Tea and Fashion Show on November 16. The Long Beach Senior Citizen Activity Center is the place hosting this special occasion. The event runs from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. that Saturday. Vendors will be open from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Doors for the tea party open at 11 a.m., and the fashion show will be held at 2 p.m.

It doesn't hurt to wear trendy outfits or even show up with a crown on one's head. People should bring their best smiles, and relish the taste of royal tea.

The Long Beach Senior Cen-

ter typically hosts activities like ceramics, oil/water paint classes, quilting and Bingo. A wellness room with treadmills, bicycles and a walking track are part of the cozy venue, too, at 20257 Daugherty Road. The center is open Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m.

So, this November 16 event, hosted by Team Dew-Glenn of the CALB, is a departure from the normal schedule at this Coast facility.

Tickets for the event are \$12.50 per person, or \$100 per table of eight. Tables can be decorated, and there will be a fashion show, fancy hat contest, vendors and tea party food. Booths are available, as well.

All ages are welcome at the event. CALB leaders like Jennifer Glenn and Angie Johnson have other major events being planned this fall.

A Jazz Brunch will be held on Sunday, November 24, from 10:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. at the St. Thomas Community Center. There will be jazz music provided by college jazz musicians and food. For information on the event or to purchase a ticket, contact Beverly Malone at 228-547-1177.

The Association's work marches

on through the Royal Coronation Ball on February 14, 2020, with Mardi Gras in full swing.

"This year, CALB's King LX candidate Rik Dew and Queen Rosalie 2020 candidate Jennifer Glenn will work hard raising money through events and sponsorship requests," said Johnson.

"The Carnival Association of Long Beach is excited to raise money for local charities," said Johnson. "Last year, we were able to give back over \$58,000 to local charities, such as Gulf Coast Buddy Ball, Boys Scouts of America Troop 205, Pink Heart Funds, Memorial Hospital Cancer Fund, Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence, TEAAM, DREAM, Long Beach Fast Pitch Booster Club and St. Vincent de Paul School, to name a few. CALB is a 501(c)(3,) and, for the past sixty years, has expanded its charitable giving by donating over \$2 million to many local nonprofit organizations."

For more information about the Royal Tea and Fashion Show, call Diane Desporte at 228-363-4797. To reserve a booth at the event, call Glenn at 228-860-4000.

For more information about CALB, visit [www.LongBeachCarnival.com](http://www.LongBeachCarnival.com) or visit their Facebook page at "Team Dew-Glenn."

# Long Beach School Board Trustee sought

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The City of Long Beach is currently accepting applications for a position of Trustee for the Long Beach School District School Board.

Any person desiring to be considered an applicant for such office of trustee, or any person or civic organization desiring to submit the name of any person as an applicant, may do so by filing a curriculum vitae or resume with the Long Beach City Clerk

at City Hall, 201 Jeff Davis Avenue; by email to [CityClerk@CityOfLongBeachMS.com](mailto:CityClerk@CityOfLongBeachMS.com); or by mail to P.O. Box 929, Long Beach, MS 39560.

All applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 31.

Resumes must include the name, birthday and address of

the applicant, his/her work history and qualifications, and the name address, birthday and present employment of the applicant's spouse.

The new School Board Trustee is expected to be appointed during the first February meeting of the Board of Aldermen in 2020.

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# Johnson selected Sparklight “Going Places” winner

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Marine biology wasn't a natural career choice for Abigail Johnson. She didn't grow up near the ocean, and her initial dream was to become a veterinarian. But the more time she spent on the coast, the more she was drawn to it – and ultimately fell in love with the possibilities of a career helping restore marine life.

“By going into the marine biology workforce, I can help protect the coastline that has become so dear to my heart,” said Johnson, a senior at the University of Southern Mississippi. “I am very excited to put my knowledge to the test and protect the coastlines and marine organisms.”

Sparklight, formerly Cable ONE, shares Johnson's commitment to the Gulf Coast and selected Johnson as one of three winners of its “Going Places” social media campaign. Johnson will receive \$3,000 to help cover the cost of her fall 2019 tuition at University of Southern Mississippi Long Beach.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Pictured with recipient Abigail Johnson (center) are Sparklight personnel (l to r) Fred Witherspoon, field technical supervisor; Felicha Haley, call center manager; Jim Duck, general manager; Abigail Johnson; Jessica Robinson, administrative support; and Dustin Gullett, field technical supervisor.

“Sparklight is committed to giving back to the communities we serve, and what better way to invest in the future of the Gulf Coast than by helping Abigail complete her marine biology degree,” said Jim Duck, Sparklight's Long Beach General Manager. “We applaud

Abigail's devotion to the health of the Gulf, an essential source of life and livelihood for communities along the coast and beyond.”

“My passion for the ocean and the life it sustains brought me to the University of Southern Mississippi to learn the best methods for

their conservation,” Johnson said. “The amazing opportunity provided by Sparklight's Going Places scholarship will allow me to complete my educational journey and pursue conservation efforts that will protect ocean life for generations to come.”



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# Veterans' Day parade is planned for Long Beach

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

On Sunday, November 3, the Carnival Association of Long Beach (CALB) will host the Veterans' Day Parade and Festival, which includes a parade down Jeff Davis Avenue and music presented by local choirs and others on the Town Green.

The parade will begin at 2 p.m. Veterans will be entertained with patriotic music and food donated by Bacchus on the Beach.

CALB leaders Jennifer Glenn and Angie Johnson have stayed busy taking orders for the group's Hometown Heroes Banner Program in October, which makes it possible for Coast families to show off their military heroes with banners hung in downtown Long Beach.

The banners are displayed on street lamps along Jeff Davis Avenue during military holidays to both celebrate and remind the community of the heroes' dedication to their country.

The project was designed to be a tribute for the community to recognize and honor Long Beach residents and/or their family members who are serving, are veterans who have served, or were veterans who gave their life for the country through service in the United States Armed Forces. Each banner includes the veteran's name, branch of service and years of service. If provided, the banner also includes a photo.

In between display dates, banners are stored as a courtesy of the Carnival Association of Long Beach and Storage Choice-Long Beach, or the family can choose to keep the banner. The banners will be displayed on a rotational basis.

The initial cost of a banner is \$150, which includes production, installation and removal of the banner.

For more information about the Veterans' Day Parade and Festival or the banner program, call Rik Dew at 615-995-6833.



**LONG BEACH BREEZE**  
YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

# NOW HIRING

## City Beat Reporter



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# November activities scheduled for Long Beach library

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn,  
LBPL Children's Librarian

We had a lot of fun at the sock puppet-making event along with the talented young students from Long Beach High School's Theatre Department on September 28.

The students have scheduled their next event for the library as Spontaneous Stories! It will be held on Saturday, October 26, 11 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. in the children's wing. For this program, the students have gathered random items and made a list of scenarios in which they, as well as audience

members, can participate in the performance. They have an event coming up in November, but a theme has not yet been decided.

The Friends of the Long Beach Public Library will hold their next meeting on Monday, November 4, at 1 p.m. in the main wing. Remember, it is only \$10 per year to join the Friends, and the money goes to support the library. Forms for joining can be found on the library's website or at the front desk.

The book that the Long Beach Library's Book Club has chosen for the month of November is *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. They



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach High School Theatre Department troupe members who assisted the children in making their own sock puppets included (l to r), front row: Chloe McGrew, Abby O'Rand and Summer Cunningham; and back row: Ally Hatten, Killian McCaleb, Emma Marreel and Malia Voigt.

will meet on Monday, November 18 at 1 p.m. in the meeting room of the main wing.

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

## NOVEMBER LIBRARY EVENTS

**Parent's Coffee Break**  
November 5, 10:30 a.m.

**LB Book Club Meeting**  
November 18, 1 - 2 p.m.

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

**Friends of the Long Beach Library Meeting**  
November 4, 1 p.m.

**Spontaneous Stories-**  
**LBHS Theatre Dept.**  
October 26, 12:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**LBHS Theatre Dept.**  
November 23, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

**Veterans Day**  
Closed November 9 - 11  
Reopens November 12, 9 a.m.

**Thanksgiving**  
Closed November 27, Noon - Dec. 1  
Reopens December 2, 9 a.m.

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# Rotary Club donates gift cards to Long Beach PD



*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

The Rotary Club of Long Beach recently held a drawing to give away two gift cards. Long Beach Police Chief Seal and Officer Cuevas were chosen as the winners. Pictured is Karen Livengood of the Rotary Club of Long Beach (left) and Chief Seal (right).

# Service of Renewal!

Grace Lutheran Church

The Reverend Dr. Michael Voigts, Evangelist

"Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?" - Psalm 85:6

Monday, November 11 – Wednesday, November 13

Light refreshments served at 6:00 PM.

Services begin at 7:00 PM.

Location is 19221 Pineville Road, Long Beach, MS

This is an ecumenical community event! We will have special music provided by members of local churches as well as Grace. We hope to see you there!



**Dr. Michael C. Voigts**  
Associate Professor of Spiritual Formation

Dr. Voigts is the Associate Professor of Spiritual Formation at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky. Before joining the faculty at Asbury he served 24 years in pastoral ministry. He received a B.A. from Baylor University; an M.Div. and D.Min. from Asbury Theological Seminary; and a Ph.D. from Brunel University through London School of Theology.



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# Teacher receives \$5k grant

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

Reeves Elementary teacher Carol Paola was recently presented with a \$5,000 grant to help in her quest to preserve area history with her students. The grant was awarded by CSX, a leading supplier of rail-based freight transportation in North America.



*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

*Carol Paola, Long Beach teacher, is presented with a \$5,000 grant from CSX. Presenting the grant to her is Joel Yelverton (left).*

Paola's grant, "Preserving our Past with Patriotism, Service, and Pride in Place," outlines a mission to develop patriotism and pride in place by

providing educational, outreach and service experiences that honor and highlight the contributions of early residents of Long Beach and the impact of the railroad on Coast communities through transporta-

tion of goods and services. It also strives to highlight ways in which first responders and community governments have partnered make the communities safer, as well as the contributions of military families who have made Long Beach their homes. Further, it hopes to, through playground experiences, provide ways for military children to interact and form friendships.

"My vision for this project is that current and future generations will recognize and

appreciate the importance of local history, preservation of historic sites, and the impact of early residents and the railroad on Long Beach and the Mississippi Gulf Coast," Paola said.



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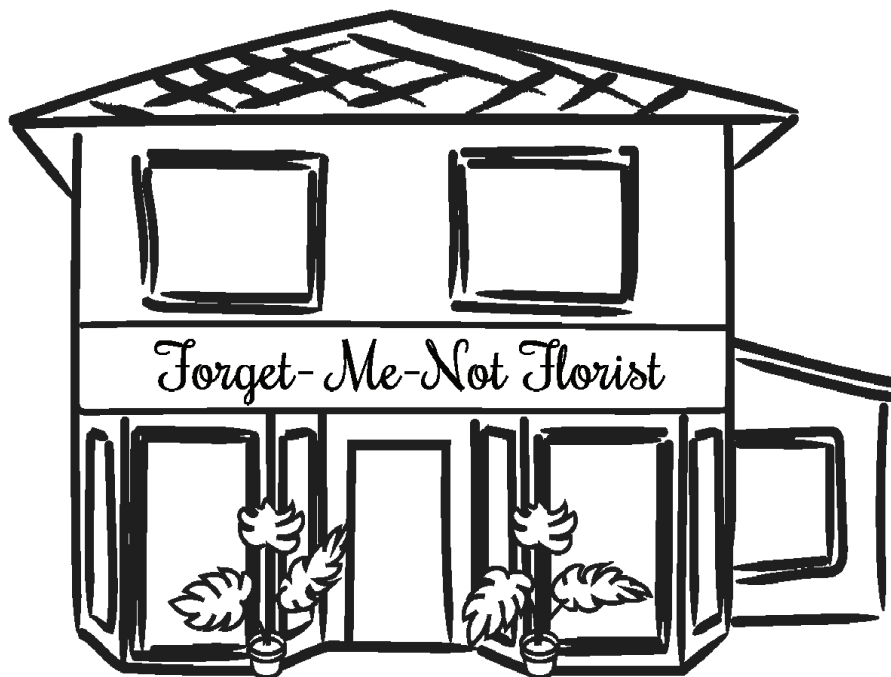


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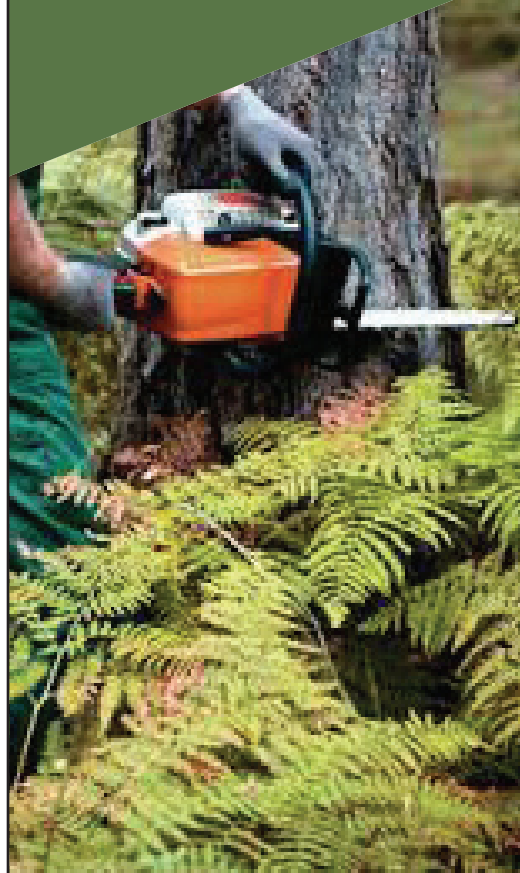
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# Energy Club celebrates thirty years in Long Beach

By Andy Kanengiser

Energy Club customers rave about the popular fitness facility in Long Beach promoting wellness year-round.

A locally owned business, the Energy Club family celebrates a thirty-year milestone with a blitz of special events open to the public on November 2.

From 8 a.m. until noon that Saturday, free activities range from twenty-minute classes for all fitness levels, racquetball games, a KidFit Open House, delicious smoothies, contests and giveaways.

Energy levels should rise for all guests attending the 30th birthday party at 2 Tower Plaza on Pineville Road. The facility in West Harrison County is located across from McCaughan Elementary School.

What began as the 12,000 square foot Flex Fit in 1989 expanded to become the Energy Club in 1994. In 1998, a heated indoor pool was added, and so was a weight room in 2000. A KidFit child-

care after-school came along, as well as summer camps in 2008. Today, the Energy Club consists of over 27,000 square feet.

The venue houses a marathon of activities – from a Kick Start Academy for young children to a barrage of exercise rooms for classes, including Spin, Zumba, Yoga, and Aqua Arthritis.

Energy Club owners believe strongly in giving back to the community, supporting charities, service groups and area schools. Over the thirty years, that amounts to more than \$150,000 in sponsorships and financial support. Energy Club exercise instructors often help Long Beach Bearcats athletic programs.

LBHS girls soccer, softball, cheerleaders and dance teams all

work out with the club's Alissa Cuevas.

Testimonials are pouring in as the thirty-year anniversary nears.

"Alissa would come train not only the soccer players, but, once a week we would do a team workout with softball, cheerleading and dance," says Haley Hammons, the Long Beach High Lady

Bearcats soccer coach.

The Pink Health Zumbathon in the Energy Club's parking lot and the display

supporting national Mental Health Awareness Month are a couple of the many activities that company leaders sign up for. So is supporting the Long Beach High Band. On November 7, Energy Club leaders will conduct a benefit to assist the Long Beach Police Department Toy Drive.

Reaching out to his community is part of the DNA for Energy Club owner Frank Olaivar, a 1979 Long Beach High graduate.

"I have always believed the most important thing a business can do is to support the community in which it operates."

He served with local organizations, such as the Gulf Coast Chamber Board of Directors, the Long Beach Chamber, Leadership Gulf Coast and the Carnival Association of Long Beach. Serving over fifteen years, Olaivar chairs the Long Beach Planning and Development Commission.

Frank and Sheryl Olaivar faced major hurdles along the way with their business in Long Beach. That list includes dealing with Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the country's financial crisis in 2008 and the BP oil spill in Gulf Coast waters.

Despite challenges, the Energy Club keeps growing, with a dedicated team of staffers caring for the wellness of their members. They also show a big heart for the Long Beach community.



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# NEW REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP FOR THE COAST

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# Harvest fun opportunities

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

Long Beach families have lots of options for harvest fun in the upcoming days.

The Lady Bearcats softball team is hosting a Haunted House Fright through October 26.

The event is being held at the Long Beach High School softball field from 7:30 until 10:30 p.m. every Thursday through Saturday.

Entry is \$5, and concessions will be sold.

The First United Methodist Church of Long Beach will host dinner, games, and trunk or treat for the community on Sunday, October 27.

Families are invited to come in costumes and eat together, play games, and then collect candy from decorated cars and trucks and motorcycles.

Beginning at 5 p.m., a dinner of hot dogs, chips, and macaroni and cheese will be served until 6 p.m. Games will be held from 5:15 until 6:15 p.m., and trunk or treat will take place

between 6 and 6:30 p.m. The event is free, and the public is invited.

The church is located at 208 Pine Street. For more information, call 228-863-9619.

Grace Lutheran Church will host a community Trunk or Treat event on October 31.

Set for 5 p.m. in the church's parking lot, the family event is free. All children are welcome.

The church is located at 19221 Pineville Road. For more information, call 228-864-4248.

Area families are also invited to the Harper McCaughan Town Green on Thursday, October 31, from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. for a Trunk or Treat.

Sponsored by First Baptist Church Long Beach, the event is free and will feature dozens of car trunks with candy, music, food, refreshments and games.

Attendees are encouraged to dress in costumes, but no scary or non-family-friendly costumes. Food and drinks will be available as long as supplies last.

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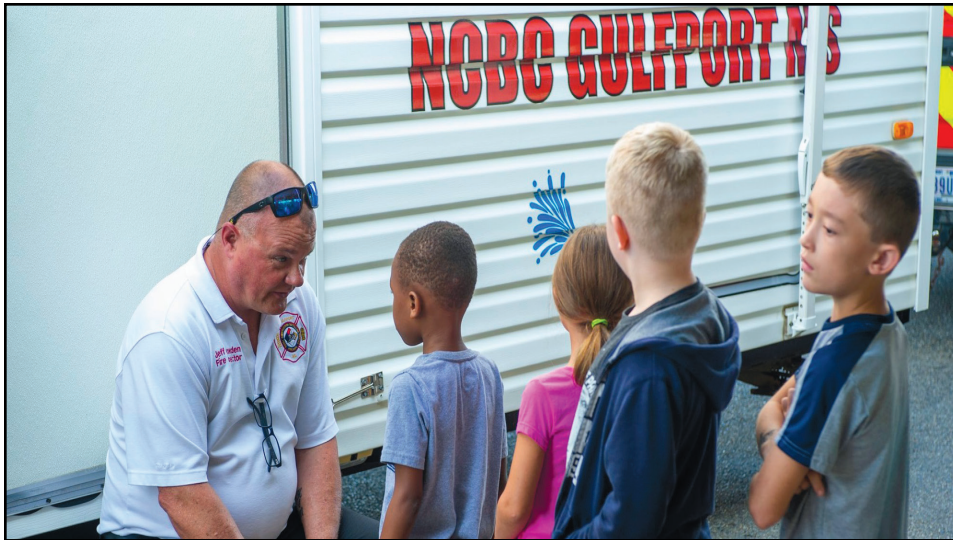
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# NCBC emphasizes fire prevention to students



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Naval Construction Battalion Center (NCBC) Fire inspector Jeff "Scooter" Snowden instructs children on the proper way to exit a smoke filled room during a visit to W.J. Quarles Elementary School as part of National Fire Prevention Month.



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NCBC Fire inspector Jack Healy and Sparky the Fire Dog teach children at Thomas L. Reeves Elementary School the importance of fire safety during National Fire Prevention Month.

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# Registration opens for See Santa Sail-A-Bration

*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

Registration is now open for the 6th annual Sea Santa Sail-A-Bration, set for Saturday, December 7.

The event, which kicks off the Long Beach holiday season, is sponsored by the Long Beach Community Development Association. The highlight of the event is the annual "waterless" boat parade, a unique event that draws boat owners not only from the local area, but also from other states. Boats, decorated with holiday themes, will be pulled through the city in a Mardi Gras-style type parade.

Santa typically brings up the rear and concludes the parade at the Harper McCaughan Town Green.

The parade will begin at 5:45 p.m. from the Long Beach High School stadium. Registered units will receive a time to check in and a position in the parade.

Advance registration is required to participate in the parade. The deadline for applications, along with the \$25 registration fee,

is November 26. Applications received after this date will be accepted at the sole discretion of the parade committee and will have a \$50 registration fee.

Props must be covered or removed during the parade for safety reasons. Boats are allowed (and encouraged) to play Christmas music, but on-board music must be adjusted in volume so as not to overpower the music of other parade participants.

The maximum height, including riders, for a boat in the parade is fourteen feet, and the maximum length (including the tow vehicle) is sixty-five feet. Any second level riders must have adequate railings around them to protect against falling.

Beads may be thrown, but the City has requested that candy not be tossed from floats.

Family activities at the Town Green will include a human snow globe, live music, a game trailer, snow and more. The annual lighting of the Christmas tree will also be held at the Town Green. Awards will be given to boat own-



*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

The 2019 Sail-A-Bration will begin at the Long Beach High School stadium and end at the Town Green. It is set for Saturday, December 7.

ers at the Town Green during the merriment.

The holiday event has become a family tradition for children

and adults of all ages. For more information or to register for the parade, visit [www.LongBeachCDA.com](http://www.LongBeachCDA.com) or call 228-380-6851.

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# Local schools plan special Veterans' Day programs



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*Special to Long Beach Breeze*

Students at Harper McCaughan Elementary are planning a patriotic program to honor veterans on November 6.

Veterans and parents who are active duty service members are invited. The program will begin at 9 a.m. in the Harper McCaughan Elementary School gym.

Those wishing to attend are required to RSVP at <http://bit.ly/35iF12u>. Only students with

invited guests who have returned an RSVP will attend the program. Refreshments will be served after the program.

For more information, contact [Jamie.Flowers@lbsdk12.com](mailto:Jamie.Flowers@lbsdk12.com).

Long Beach Middle School will also host a Veterans' Day program. Their program is set for November 7 at 9 a.m. The school invites all current and former military to come and celebrate with the students. The program will be held in the Long Beach Middle School gym.



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