

Long Beach Coastal Cleanup set for September 16

By Toni Miles

It's not unusual to spot folks on the beach, even in September, but, come September 16, the Long Beach shoreline will be filled with volunteers all set on one mission – to pick up trash and debris along the Long Beach shoreline.

The Mississippi State University (MSU) Extension and Mississippi Coastal Cleanup have designated Long Beach as their September Monthly Cleanup location. Each month, the two organizations select various locations within the three coastal counties of Hancock, Harrison and Jackson for a cleanup to keep the community engaged in preserving the environment and to keep it healthy and beautiful.

"They will have the materials for

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Toni Miles

Long Beach has been selected as the site for September's Coastal Cleanup event, planned for September 16 and in need of volunteers.

New 25 mph speed limit on 8 roads



Toni Miles

By Toni Miles

The speed limit has been reduced from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour along several popular roadways in Long Beach. The reduced speed limit went into effect on Thursday, July 27, for East Old Pass Road, McCaughan Avenue, North and South Nicholson avenues, North Gates Avenue, Allen Road, South Cleveland Avenue and Alexander Road.

The Long Beach Board of Aldermen recently approved the speed limit reductions, and drivers are encouraged to ease up on the gas when traveling in these areas.

Long Beach gets ready for Cruisin'

By Toni Miles

It won't be long before the 27th Annual Cruisin' the Coast event, dubbed "America's Biggest Block Party," rolls out in South Mississippi. The weeklong classic car show is scheduled to take place from Sunday, October 1, to Sunday, October 8, this year.

Each year, the ever-growing Coast-wide car show attracts thousands of classic, vintage and antique vehicle owners from all over the nation, as well as thousands of visitors and locals, to the various Cruisin' venues throughout South Mississippi. This popular fall tourism event provides a major economic boost for businesses and



Toni Miles

The 27th Annual Cruisin' the Coast is set for October 1-8. Dubbed "America's Biggest Block Party," the annual classic car show is also family-friendly.

venues throughout the region.

"We are super excited to have Cruisin' the Coast again in Long Beach," says Courtney Cuevas, community affairs director for the City of Long Beach. "I have spoken to a number of business owners, and we are trying to get the town decorated as much as we can for the fall and for Cruisin' the Coast. A lot of the business owners are very grateful for the opportunity to stay open later and are looking forward to doing special decorations for the event."

One of the main Cruisin' attractions in Long Beach is the annual parade. This year's Cruisin' parade is scheduled for Monday, October

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Library heads into fall with activities and programs for all

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn, LBPL Youth and Technology Services

September is Library Card Sign Up Month. Did you know that your library card can be used for more than just checking out materials? You can also use it to:

- Sign in to use the computers,
- Access our eBook programs, like Axis360 and TumbleBooks,
- Access the many searchable databases offered through MLC or our library, and
- Log into your library account to control things like reserves, renewals, updates to your information, and so much more.

If you need to replace a lost card, there is a fee of \$2 to do so. Library cards issued to patrons for the first time are free of charge.

Books by Hispanic authors and illustrators will be on display during the month in honor of Hispanic Heritage month (September 15 – October 15).

Family Movie Day will be held again on Saturday, September 16, at 10 a.m.

The book sale will continue through September on Saturdays beginning at 9 a.m. Prices are ten cents each for magazines, twenty-five cents each for paperbacks, and fifty cents each for hardbacks, audiobooks and movies.

The library will be closed from Saturday, September 2, through Monday, September 4, for the Labor Day Holiday.

The Friends of the Long Beach Public Library will meet on the following Monday, September 11, at 1 p.m. in the children's wing for the first meeting of the year. This meeting is open to the public.

The Long Beach Library Board of Trustees will not meet in September.

Coming up in October, educators from the Infinity Science Center will present an aeronautics program geared towards kindergarten through twelfth grade entitled "NASA Is with You when You Fly." This hands-on-learning STEM program is about rocketry and flight and will be held on Saturday, October 7, from 10 a.m. until noon at the library. It is free to the public to attend.

For more information about any of our events or offerings, please give us a call at 228-863-0711.

Thank you for your patronage and, as always, stay safe!



cont. from front page

Long Beach Coastal Cleanup set for September 16

everyone to participate. You only have to bring a bucket to collect the trash in. Come ready to support and help. It's a day full of cleaning the Long Beach waters and beaches," says Courtney Cuevas, community affairs director for the City of Long Beach, who also plans to participate in the event.

Each monthly cleanup takes place on a Saturday from 8:30 to 10 a.m. and includes a Site Captain at the location to lead the event. Site Captains are responsible for getting volunteers signed in and geared up for the event.

The Long Beach event will begin at the Long Beach Harbor at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 16. Trash bags and gloves are among supplies the Mississippi Coastal Cleanup Program will provide at the event. Volunteers are asked to wear closed-toe shoes, to bring a refillable water bottle and a bucket to collect trash in, and to wear appropriate sun protection.

During the cleanup, volunteers will pick up trash and record what they are picking up onto a data card. As the cleanup wraps, participants will return the supplies, turn in their data card and have the option to enter their name into a running tally for a raffle prize later this year.

The more monthly cleanups a volunteer participates in, the higher the chances of winning a prize at the Annual Mississippi Coastal Cleanup event in October.

All cleanups have one backup day set for weather cancellations. If there's inclement weather on September 16, the cleanup date will be rescheduled to the following Saturday, September 23.

For more information or to sign up to help, visit www.CoastalCleanup.Extension.MSState.edu.



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Haley elected Harrison County Sheriff, other races to appear on November 7 ballot

By Toni Miles

It's official: Republican Matt Haley will serve as Harrison County's new Sheriff. Haley faced fellow Republican, and fellow longtime Harrison County law enforcement officer Louis Elias in the August 8 primary race for Sheriff. Haley secured fifty-three percent of the vote, with Elias getting forty-seven percent.

The race was very close, with only two hundred votes separating the two candidates at one point during election night. The two Republican candidates had no Democratic opponents, rendering Haley, the winner of the August 8 primary, Harrison County's new Sheriff. Ultimately, Haley won by 1,520 votes.

Haley, a Saucier native, will take over the role as Sheriff in 2024, taking the place of current, two-term Sheriff Troy Peterson. Peterson decided not to seek a third term as Sheriff and will serve out the rest of his term until 2024, when Haley



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Matt Haley

is sworn into office.

Harrison County will have two new supervisors sworn in after the conclusion of the August 8 primaries. Republican Dan Cuevas edged out incumbent Beverly Martin for the position of District 1 Harrison County Supervisor. Cuevas won fifty-two percent of the vote, with

Martin taking forty-eight percent.

Biloxi Councilman Nathan Barrett won the county's District 5 seat with fifty-seven percent of the primary vote, compared to opponent Howard Walkinshaw's thirty-five percent. Barrett will be sworn in as District 5 Supervisor in 2024, replacing longtime Supervisor Connie Rockco, who is retiring.

Incumbent Republican Rebecca Powers won a second term as District 2 Supervisor with sixty-six percent of the vote. Opponent John Hoggatt secured thirty-four percent of the vote.

Incumbent and longtime District 3 Harrison County Supervisor Marlin Ladner had no opponents.

In District 4, incumbent Kent Jones finished with seventy-one percent of the vote, compared to opponent Chris Fisher's twenty percent and John Johnson's nine percent of the vote.

None of these local races has a contender in the November general election.

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Local businesses ready for 2nd Annual Fall Sidewalk Sale

By Toni Miles

Those looking for a bargain or hoping to get their Christmas shopping list wrapped a little early this year are encouraged to make plans to attend the 2nd Annual Fall Sidewalk Sale in Long Beach.

Downtown, uptown and city-wide, participating local businesses will be putting their best merchandise and discounts on display for the Fall Sidewalk Sale on September 23, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Long Beach Community Affairs Director and event organizer Courtney Cuevas says the special shopping day aims to benefit both customers and local business owners.

“Last year, I think we had more than twenty businesses that participated,” Cuevas says. “This year, we’re hoping to expand. It’s a great opportunity for everyone to come out and do a lot of pre-Christmas shopping, too.”



The 2nd Annual Fall Sidewalk Sale is scheduled to take place on September 23.

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Matt Haley elected Harrison County Sheriff, other races to appear on November 7 ballot

As far as statewide offices go, these are the results of the August primary and races that will appear on the November 7 General Election ballot:

- Incumbent **Tate Reeves** won his bid for the Republican renomination and will square off with Democratic nominee **Brandon Presley** for **Governor** in November.
- Incumbent **Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann** defeated State Senator Chris McDaniel in the primary. Hosemann will face Democrat **D. Ryan Grover**, who ran unopposed for the Democratic nomination, in the November general election.
- Republican incumbent **Attorney General Lynn Fitch** will face Democrat **Greta Kemp Martin** in the general election.
- Coast native and incumbent Republican **Secretary of State Michael Watson** will face Democratic opponent **Shuwaski Young** in the race for Secretary of State on the November ballot.
- Republican **David McRae** and Democrat challenger **Addie Green** will be vying for the office of Treasurer in November.
- Republican incumbent **Shad White** will face Democratic challenger **Larry Bradford** in the general election for **state auditor**.
- Incumbent Republican **Mike Chaney** will face Democrat **Mitch Young** in November's state race for **Insurance Commissioner**.

On November 7, voters will decide who will be elected in remaining statewide offices, such as Agriculture Commissioner.

For more information about candidates in statewide races, visit SOS.MS.gov, the Mississippi Secretary of State's website.

The registration deadline for the November 7 general election is Monday, October 9, for those who register in-person. Mail-in voter registration must be postmarked by Tuesday, October 10, 2023.

Absentee ballots must be returned by mail and postmarked by Tuesday, November 7, and received by Tuesday, November 14, 2023, for the general election.

For more information on the upcoming general election, as well as candidates running for office, visit ballotpedia.com.

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Brendan Meeker, Owner, 1 Canal Place, Long Beach, MS 39560. If any person wishes to request a hearing to object to the issuance of this permit a request for a hearing must be made in writing and received by the Department of Revenue within (15) fifteen days from the first date this notice was published.

Requests shall be sent to:

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Long Beach now home to a new adoption and foster support program



Toni Miles

Magdalena "Mag" Holland stands proudly by framed photographs of the biological and adopted children in her family.



Toni Miles

Caitlin Kelly (left) and Magdalena "Mag" Holland (right), organizers of the Foster Care/Adoption/Kinship Care 101 Program, discuss the program flier. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13 from 6 to 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Long Beach.



Toni Miles

Photos of Magdalena "Mag" Holland's children are proudly displayed at her workplace office.

By Toni Miles

Magdalena "Mag" Holland serves in many roles. On one end of the spectrum, she's responsible for organizing events, support and activities for the local community through her role as Senior Citizens Program Coordinator for the City of Gulfport's Department of Leisure Services.

On the other hand, Holland devotes her time, energy and heart to her nine children, five who are adopted and four biological.

"I've been a foster mother for about eighteen years," Holland says. "The need is so great. There are so many children. Child Protection Services needs good loving families."

There's a shortage of safe homes for children of all ages, from infants to teens, in Mississippi's foster care program. According to the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services (CPS), as of January 2023, there were 3,647 children in foster care in Mississippi, and CPS was providing services for another 3,622 children who were living with their own families.

"A lot of people thought of becoming foster parents," Holland says. "They've thought about it, but they are scared to take that step. I'm saying take that step. Try it. If you don't like it, you're not under contract, but at least try it. The blessings you get from caring for these children and watching them flourish is indescribable. You get a child in crisis, and within weeks, you see a difference. Children thrive in a healthy and stable environment. These kids need your help."

Holland, First Baptist Church of Long Beach and other organizers have launched a new program, Foster Care/Adoption/Kinship Care 101, to provide support, information and to answer questions for those in the local community who are interested in becoming foster or adoptive parents.

On Thursday, August 10, concerned citizens showed up for the first of the meetings, which are open to the public and are being held at First Baptist Church of Long Beach. The next meeting will be held September 13. If there is enough interest, the meetings will be held on a monthly basis.

Holland says there are a lot of people who are interested in becoming, or learning more about the process of becoming, a foster or adoptive parent, but have questions such as: "Can a single mom or father be a foster parent? Do you have to be rich to be a foster parent? Do you have to have a big home?"

Holland says sometimes people are concerned they won't qualify because of age. Holland, at age 64, says she is living proof that fostering and adoption is an option, as well as a blessing, for just about anyone.

One of the reasons Holland and others organized this program is to give people answers to these questions and equip potential foster and adoptive parents with resources they need to welcome foster children into their homes.

"There are a lot of abused and neglected children that need our help. We need to step up and be there for these children," Holland says. "When you hear of abused and neglected animals, there is a public outcry! Where is the outcry for the children? They need help now."

Holland says this is the perfect time to launch the new adoption and foster program.

"We feel like with the Safe Haven Baby Box here in Long Beach, the time for helping children is fresh on everyone's mind," Holland says. "My main goal, and the program's main goal, is to bring awareness to the unmet needs of the children in our area. Human trafficking is real, neglect and abuse is real, homelessness is real. Let's all rally together help these children."

Long Beach recently became the first city in Mississippi to install a Safe Haven Baby Box, an option for parents of newborns up to 45 days old to safely and anonymously surrender their infant when they feel they cannot care for the child. Caitlin Kelly, a Pass Christian resident, was the driving force behind the Safe Haven Baby Box program and its history-making installation at Central Fire Station in Long Beach, so it is little surprise that she, too, is one of the organizers of the new Foster Care/Adoption/Kinship 101 program that has launched in the Friendly City.

"I think this a great program that will provide awareness and educate our community about adoption and fostering," Kelly says. "There are other foster families that you can get bits and pieces of information from, but to actually have someone who has as many years such as Mag on hand to share one-on-one experience and information with through this program is going to be so helpful."

Kelly would know.

"We [Caitlin and her husband] have been foster parents for about five years," Kelly says. "We've adopted two children, and our latest adoption through the foster care service was completed in April of 2023. Before that, we fostered about eight other children, and all have been reunified with their parents. Foster care for us was a family event.

The whole family really needs to be on board for you to be successful. I believe Harrison County is hurting for foster families, just like every other county is."

While some children only live temporarily with foster parents, others are returned to their families or adopted. Holland says the time spent with these young people is invaluable. She glows as she talks about her extended family and can't help but share how proud she is of all her children and the success they have achieved, along with the opportunity it's given her to bring out her own inner child.

"I get to play all the time," Holland says. "I get to play with Barbies again. We have so much fun. You get to be a kid again, especially when the holidays roll around. We go lots of places. In fact, we just got back from Disney. We do so much. I pack as many memories as I can in the little time we have. Children grow so fast."

Financial assistance is provided for those who decide to foster children in need. "My children have done - and do - ballet, dance, band, cheerleading, all kinds of stuff," Holland says. "There is enough money to care for that child, if you budget. When I adopted through foster care, my children have Medicaid until they turn 18."

That is a huge help. The ultimate goal, however, is reunification, for the child to safely return home to his or her biological family.

"Reunification, when a child gets to go back to their [biological] parents, knowing they'll be safe, that's always the best-case scenario for me," Kelly says.

Reunification isn't always possible, but fostering and adopting children right here in the local community is.

"If you have it laid on your heart to foster, go ahead and explore that avenue," Kelly says. "Single, divorced, married, children, no children, anything of that nature, if you have a heart for it, I don't see any reason why you should not want to go down that path."

"Children just need somebody to love them, that's all," Holland says. "When you foster a child, and you provide a loving, caring and stable environment, their grades go up, they sleep through the night, and their overall health is so much better. The best sound to me is a child laughing. The first time I hear one of my new kids laughing is such a blessing."

"When one of my children was in high school, we were talking about something amazing she had done. I said, 'I am so proud of you. I cannot believe you did that.' She replied, 'You know, I knew I could, I just needed the chance.' That's all these children need is a chance. That's one of the biggest things - letting these children know someone cares enough to give them a chance."

"Break the cycle that got them in state custody. Let them know someone cares," said Kelly.

"As a foster parent, I try to help the biological family with resources to help them be successful in getting reunited. Sometimes children are taken away because the family is homeless, or just cannot provide for their family. Reunification is the number one goal, but, if it doesn't happen, then you have the chance to adopt them," Holland says.

As for the process of becoming a foster or adoptive parent, there are a few criteria that must be met.

"You will have to have a background check," Holland says. "You have to have a job or income coming in, and you have to have a home. You can find more info on the Mississippi Department of Child Protection Services website, MDCCPS.ms.gov."

The public is invited to learn more about becoming a foster parent, as well as how to get or give support for existing foster families, on Wednesday, September 13, at First Baptist Church of Long Beach, from 6 to 7 p.m. The church is located at 300 North Cleveland Avenue. Free childcare for those twelve years of age and under is available with an RSVP.

"Come prepared, ask questions," Kelly says. "Find out what the greatest need is around our community."

For more information about the Foster Care, Adoption and Kinship Care 101 Program, or to RSVP for childcare, contact Brenda Davis at 228-864-2584 or Mag Holland at 228-861-0007.

"The blessings you get from caring for these children and watching them flourish is indescribable. These kids need your help."

-Mag Holland-

Want to know more about becoming a foster parent?

**Foster Care/Adoption/
Kinship Care 101**

September 13

6 to 7 p.m.

**First Baptist Church of
Long Beach**

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"If you have it laid on your heart to foster, go ahead and explore that avenue. Single, divorced, married, children, no children, anything of that nature, if you have a heart for it, I don't see any reason why you should not want to go down that path."

-Caitlin Kelly-

LONG BEACH BEARCATS VARSITY FOOTBALL 2023 SCHEDULE



Aug. 25	Pass Christian	Away	7 p.m.
Sept. 1	Forrest County Agricultural	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 8	Bay	Home	7 p.m.
Sept. 15	Purvis	Away	7 p.m.
Sept. 22	Petal	Away	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	South Jones	Home	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	George County	Away	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	Pascagoula	Home	7 p.m.
Oct. 20	Picayune	Home	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	Hancock	Away	7 p.m.
Nov. 2	West Harrison	Home	7 p.m.

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Taste of Long Beach celebrates 14th consecutive year

By Marilou D. Horton

Preparation is in high gear for the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce's 14th Annual Taste of Long Beach, set for Thursday, September 28. Sponsored by businesses in the Long Beach community and others along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, funds from the event allows the Chamber to award teacher grants, small business grants, and scholarships for high school seniors.

Matti Seymour, director of both the Long Beach Chamber and the Pass Christian Chamber of Commerce, said attendees are invited to come hungry and bring a hearty appetite.

"Guests should expect to enjoy food and tasty beverages from some of their favorite restaurants in Long Beach, and maybe even try something new," said Seymour.

Early bird tickets are \$40, and tickets at the door the night of the event are \$50. Seymour said tickets are now available on the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce website or through any Long Beach Chamber Board member.

The director added that long-time Board Member Pam Sanders is heading up the highly anticipated event. However, every single Long Beach Chamber Board member contributes to the success of each Annual Taste of Long Beach.

"The Long Beach Chamber of Commerce's planning for Taste of Long Beach is ongoing. We are planning and thinking of new ideas year-round," Seymour added.

Additional fundraisers hosted by the Long Beach Chamber include Touch-A-Truck, Breakfast with the Mayor, and Update on Education.

For the September 28 event, set for 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Long Beach Senior and Activity Center located at 20257 Daugherty Road, participating restaurants will feature their favorite and most popular dishes.

"There will be gumbo, smoked meats, nachos, mini, and so much more," Seymour said. "Attire is casual, or whatever you feel most comfortable in."

The 14th Annual Taste of Long Beach is an event that brings great food, delicious drinks, mouthwatering treats, and good people together, explained Seymour.

"You can see the joy it brings to people's faces when you take a look around the room. Knowing that this event allows us to give back to the community of Long Beach is the icing on top!"

Anyone with questions about attending, sponsoring or participating in the Taste of Long Beach is asked to contact the Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce at Info@MSCoastChamber.com, or call 228-604-0014 for more information.



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11:00 a.m. The Well service In-Person at the USM Fleming Auditorium
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Fall into Christmas Ladies’ Luncheon planned

Special to Long Beach Breeze

P.E.O. Chapter B of Long Beach will host its second annual Fall into Christmas Ladies’ Luncheon and Silent Auction on Saturday, September 23.

Billed as a fun social event, the luncheon serves as Chapter B’s major fundraiser to help fund scholarships for women and to support their community projects.

P.E.O. is an international philanthropic educational organization that works to advance the educational opportunities of women through scholarships, grants and loans since 1869. Chapter B-Long Beach was chartered in March 1930.

The luncheon will be held at the CDC Center of the First United Methodist Church at 208 Pine Street in Long Beach. Doors will open at 11 a.m., beginning with hors d’oeuvres and the silent auction. A hot meal will be served at noon. Tickets are available and must be purchased in advance no later than September 8.

For more information, contact Ashley at 228-596-9855 or Jane at 228-806-1865.



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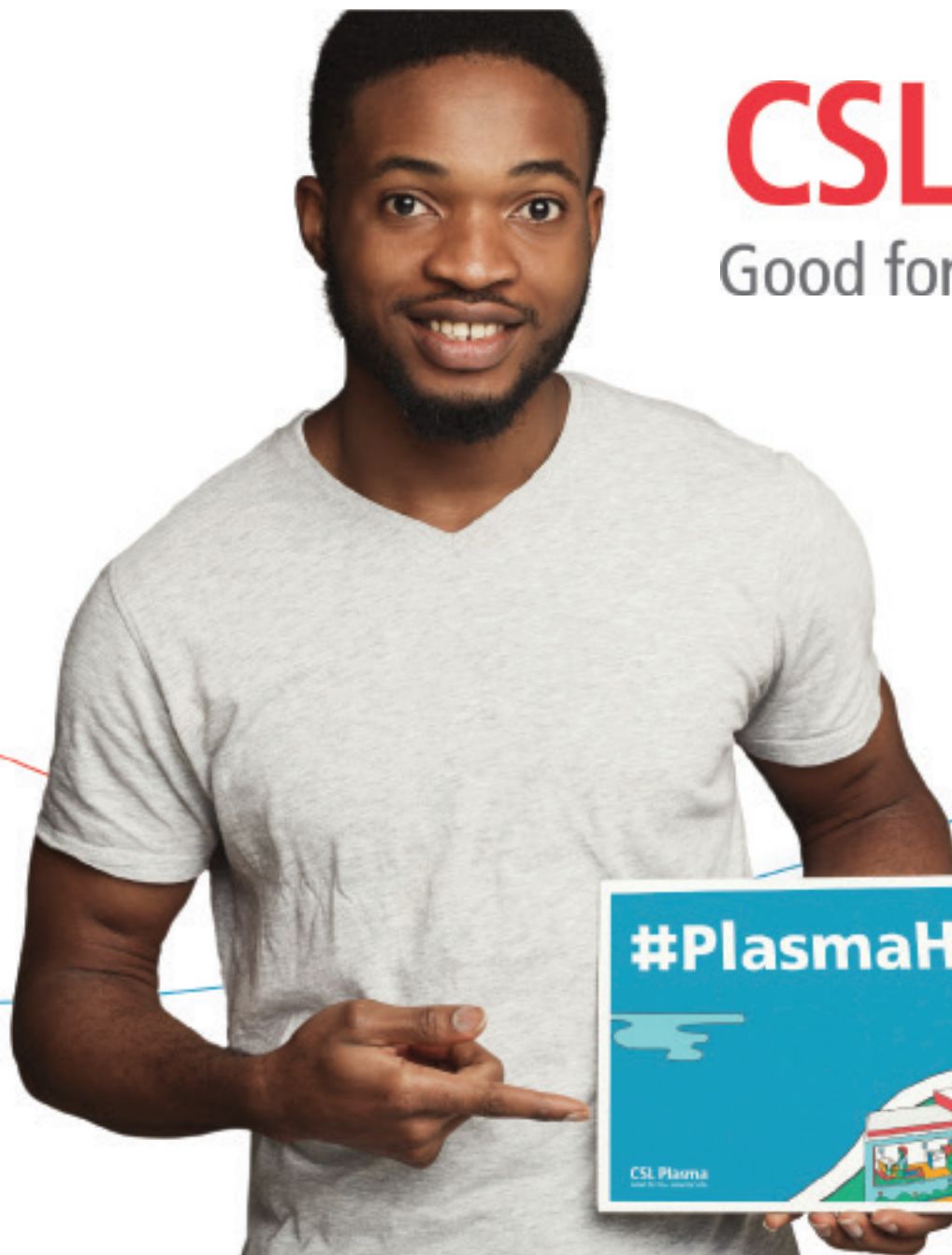
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LBSD heads into second year of Pre-K4 program

By Toni Miles

Thousands of students filed into schools throughout the Long Beach School District (LBSD) for the first day of the 2023-2024 school year, and, for the first year ever, some kindergarteners returned with a whole year of experience behind them, thanks to the district's Pre-K4 Early Learning Collaborative, which launched last year.

LBSD Assistant Superintendent Kelleigh Reynolds Broussard says the district's inaugural Pre-K4 program, funded by a \$750,000 grant from the Mississippi Department of Education (MDE), was a success.

"Realizing the significance of providing an early childhood education to students, and how that sets them up for later success in life, this was a very important goal for us to pursue here in our community," Reynolds Broussard says.

"Belonging to a grant-funded Early Learning Collaborative, we are audited, monitored and assessed each year by the MDE; so, our first year in, we're pleased, extremely proud of the success that we generated," Reynolds Broussard says. "Our rate of readiness is phenomenal for the students who participated in the Pre-K 4 program for the first year. The data that shows their growth from the beginning of the year to the end of the year for kindergarten readiness is outstanding."

Many students enrolled in the Pre-K4 program are four years old. All students in the program must turn four by September 1 to be eligible.

"For us, the goal is to see at least a ninety-five-point increase for each student [at the end of Pre-K4], and we are thrilled to see that our children are entering kindergarten as emerging and transitional readers, so they're definitely prepared to be successful in kindergarten," says Reynolds Broussard.

The Pre-K4 program also is already growing.

"Last year, with it being our first year, we did not maximize the seats that we had to fill. This year, however, is a different story," Reynolds Broussard says. "This year, so far, we have reached our capacity; however, we still encourage people to take advantage of registering online, because, in the event that any seats become vacant, we will look at those who have registered, and on a first-come, first-serve basis. According to the date of registration, we'll pull that applicant to fill that seat (should one become vacant), so that we're constantly keeping all seats filled. It's important for us to provide that opportunity to our children."

She says that research has shown children who participate in Pre-K4 programs go into kindergarten, and life itself, with several advantages.



Photos by Toni Miles

Quarles Elementary Librarian Brandy White (left) and Principal Sarah Sanzin (right) were as excited as the new Pre-K4 students on July 27, the first day of the LBSD 2023-2024 school year.



"There's a very high correlation between the Pre-K4 program and third-grade reading proficiency that later correlates with a much greater success in school and life with decreased rates of drop out, decreased issues with attendance and decreased disciplinary issues, so the earlier that we can get children involved in school and provide them with a solid foundation for learning, those are benefits that they'll glean for the rest of their lives," Reynolds Broussard says.

To be eligible for the Pre-K4 program, students must live in the Long Beach School District, be part of a military family in the district or be the dependent of a school district employee.

"As of now, we are charging a nominal fee of \$90 weekly to supplement the difference needed to cover the cost of administering the program from our grant reimbursement money received," Reynolds Broussard says. "This could be alleviated by way of businesses and the community taking advantage of the Early Learning Collaborative Tax Credit, wherein state tax liability can be diverted to stay here locally in order to benefit the children of Long Beach. It's a 1:1 tax credit. This year, the grant afforded us the opportunity to fill up to one hundred seats."

To obtain the tax credit form, or more information, email Reynolds Broussard at KelleighReynolds-Broussard@lbsdk12.com, or call the LBSD Central Office at 228-864-1146.

"It's very, very, very simple to do," Reynolds Broussard says. "It's a tax credit, and the money can be used to help kids right here in this district. State taxes are inevitable and have to be paid, so, if you're able to have a voice where those tax dollars go and where those tax dollars are spent, why would we not take advantage of that on behalf of our children?"

2nd Annual Cookout for First Responders held

The heat index was above one hundred degrees on Sunday, August 6, but that didn't stop organizers of the 2nd Annual Cookout for First Responders from serving a free meal to dozens of Long Beach policemen and firefighters.

The event was put on by Southern Jeep Outfitters LLC at the beach in Long Beach to show appreciation for all the hard work put in by the city's firefighters, police and first responders. Ray Bell at Smoke & Geaux BBQ provided barbeque for the cookout.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Two members of the Long Beach Police Department get a barbeque meal at the 2nd Annual Cookout for First Responders put on by Southern Jeep Outfitters LLC.



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A Long Beach firefighter makes a meal to go at the August 6 Cookout for First Responders.

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Carnival Association announces 2024 King- and Queen-elect



Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Carnival Association of Long Beach recently named Junior Husband as King(-elect) Scott LXIV and Lisa Frazer as Queen(-elect) Rosalie 2024.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Carnival Association of Long Beach (CALB) is getting ready for the 2024 Carnival season with the naming of Junior Husband as King(-elect) Scott LXIV and Lisa Frazer as Queen(-elect) Rosalie 2024.

Frazer is a lifelong resident of Long Beach and a third-generation member of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and CALB. She and her husband, Donald, share three children, Matt, Erin and Marley, who were fourth-generation students at St. Thomas/St. Vincent de Paul Schools.

The Frazers are supporters of Long Beach schools and athletics, the Long Beach Live concert series, St. Thomas' Life Teen program, and other local groups. Lisa previously served as the Knights of Columbus Ladies Auxiliary Treasurer on the local and state levels. She is a vice president at Hancock Whitney Bank, where she has worked for over thirty-five years.

Frazer's CALB ties run deep: her parents, Charles and Ann Mink, were honored with the CALB Lifetime Membership award; her father and her husband have served as King Scott; her aunt and a cousin served as Queen Rosalie; and her three children served as Royal Pages. Lisa has also served on previous CALB courts and teams.

Husband is a lifelong resident of Long Beach and parishioner of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. He and his wife Kali come from families deeply rooted in the Coastal community, and they have two daughters, Lilly and Rosie, who are currently attending St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School.

As a local business owner of Husband Contracting, LLC, Husband gives back to the community through his sponsorship of organizations such as CALB, St. Paul Carnival Association, Long Beach High School baseball and band, Pass Christian High School baseball, the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce, Long Beach Live concert series, and numerous local travel sports teams and charities.

He formerly served as a commissioner on the City of Long Beach Planning and Development Commission, Vice President of the Long Beach Harbor Commission, and the St. Vincent de Paul School representative on the St. Thomas Church Parish Council.

For more information about the CALB, visit www.LongBeachCarnival.com.

cont. from front page

Long Beach gets ready for Cruisin'



Toni Miles

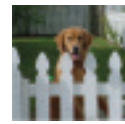
The Mississippi Gulf Coast will be welcoming Cruisers from across the nation as "America's Biggest Block Party" classic car show rolls out Sunday, October 1.

2. Line up for parade vehicles is set to begin at 1 p.m. at Long Beach High School. The parade is set to roll throughout the downtown area at 5:30 p.m. The route will roll down Cleveland Avenue, turn west on Railroad Street, take a left down Jeff Davis Avenue and will then proceed east on Highway 90, wrapping up at the east end of the harbor, where the Tip Tops will provide live entertainment at a concert from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Long Beach Harbor.

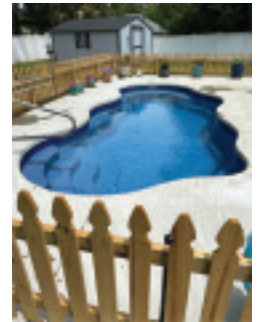


The Friendly City will also take on a new role this year by hosting Trucks 'N' Tacos on Thursday, October 5, and Friday, October 6, from 3 to 10 p.m. at the Harper McCaughan Town Green. The two-day event features a free cruise-in and is open to all trucks. A live band will also be providing entertainment at Friday's event.

For more information about this year's Cruisin' the Coast, visit www.CruisinTheCoast.com.



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Meet Your Neighbor: Passion drives the creations behind local transplant

By Marilou D. Horton

Long Beach resident Annette Moore is a staple at many community farmers' markets along the Mississippi Gulf Coast, as she sells freshly-baked biscotti adhering to her grandmother's recipe. However, one of Moore's other original creations, spotted next to the pastries, is a children's book entitled "*Bella Mae, You Are Not Alone*."

Originally from Chicago, Moore and her husband moved from California to Long Beach to be closer to the Gospel Revolution Church in Slidell, Louisiana, which they had been attending online.

"We started watching them and getting to know them [its members] from Facebook," she says.

The duo visited with the congregation in south Louisiana many times and "fell in love with everybody and felt God saying this is where we were going to go." However, they discovered they liked Slidell less than the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

The pair discovered that the coast, particularly Long Beach, had a much stronger pull on them. According to Moore, she is less than an hour away from Slidell and only minutes from sand and surf.

"We love our friends and family [in Louisiana], and we are there four times a week, back and forth, and it's a bit of a ride, but it's worth it for us."

Her love for God led Moore to write her current children's book about a young bird looking for her father. On the back cover of her book, the Chicago native explains what moved her to pen *Bella Mae*.

"I sat down with my laptop before me, because I felt God would reveal something. Within twenty minutes, my fingers were trying to keep up with what God was pouring out, and this beautiful story of the little bird Bella Mae was born."

The book, Moore added, is her way of telling about the love God has for everyone. Bella Mae, a young bluebird, falls out of her nest and breaks her wing. She loses her way, and Bella becomes very independent on her journey home. The bird rejects assistance from others and tries to weather struggles on her own. When reuniting with her father, Bella realizes she is wrong. It was her father's love that she needed all along.

Bella Mae, You Are Not Alone was Moore's first attempt at writing, and she says the story, or message, came free and easy. The publishing process, however, was more complicated.

Moore said she had so many questions: "Where do I go from here? How do I do this? Do I publish it on my own on Amazon? Do I want to deal with that? I need an illustrator."

Moore eventually went with a publishing company.

"I paid a lot of money for them to do it, and I didn't get much in return," she says.

She worked with an illustrator from Kentucky for a couple of years and was pleased with the results.

"It took about a year and a half to complete it," she said. "It was the passion of my heart really for kids of all ages, young and old, whoever was reading the book to their child or their grandchild."

The book, Moore noted, is a story, but also a parable.

"You have the story of Bella Mae and her daddy bird, but the story is of God. I want them to know that He [God] is there for them and can help them whenever they need them."

The reaction to her book has been highly positive, she reports.

"It's amazing the people who come and pick it up [at the farmers markets]; it's usually someone from the church. Little girls may come by, and I ask them if they want to read it." So, Moore happily gives another book away.



Marion Horton

Annette Moore of Long Beach is well known for the biscotti she sells at farmers' markets. The passionate baker also has a passion for sharing her faith, which moved her to author a children's book.

"I give away almost all my books," she said, laughing, adding that she had not expected to make much money from *Bella Mae*. She was sharing the gospel with others. The book, released in 2021, is also available on Amazon and is listed at \$12.99.

"I had it at \$18.99, but I lowered it to make it more acceptable for families to afford."

In addition to the story of the lost bird, the writer/baker's biscotti sold in Long Beach, Gulfport, and Ocean Springs has been a hit at local markets. Moore has been making biscotti for almost forty years using her grandmother's anise recipe.

"It's a traditional biscotti flavor, that and almond," said Moore. "Normally, your biscotti is very hard and crunchy, and you dip it in your coffee to eat it. My grandma's were not; she put in a lot of eggs and a lot of butter. She's more on the softer side."

Moore was so accustomed to her grandmother's recipe that when she purchased biscotti at a popular coffee shop, she was surprised; the pastry was hard. The Long Beach baker took them home and complained that they were stale.

After perfecting her grandmother's recipe, Moore began experimenting with flavors. Her biscotti offerings now include chocolate chip, turtle (chocolate and pecans), pistachio, carrot cake, red velvet, espresso, and more.

"My turtle biscotti are probably the most popular." She has also made birthday cakes, wedding cakes, and just about everything under the sun. Moore says she never attended culinary school but has enjoyed baking, and writing soothes her soul.

Neither, however, come close to her passion for sharing the love of Jesus, she says.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Butterflies in the Pass set for September 30



Special to The Pass Post

Activities to learn about and celebrate the Monarch butterfly will abound at the annual Butterflies in the Pass event on September 30.

The Pass Post

On Saturday, September 30, the Butterflies in the Pass Monarch Festival will be back to educate the community about Monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

The event, set for 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at War Memorial Park, is free and open to the public. It will take place near the gazebo and the Billy Bourdin Butterfly Garden and Monarch Way Station inside the park, which is located at the intersection of Highway 90 and Fleitas Avenue in Pass Christian.

The festival will feature speakers, educational exhibits, hands on activities for all ages and a walking parade for anyone in butterfly regalia - including pets. Attendees can learn about the benefits of Monarch butterflies and other pollinators, their life cycles and what humans can do to help them thrive.

In addition, this year, beloved Mexican artist Carmen Parra will be the "Godmother of the Festival." Known for her paintings of butterflies, Parra also represents Mexico, where the Monarchs migrate for the winter.

Exhibitors will include the Mississippi State Extension, Crosby Arboretum, the Pass Christian Garden Club, naturalists, Master Gardeners, the Mississippi Forestry Commission, Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, conservation districts, the Beach Beekeepers Association, the Hattiesburg Zoo, entomology and other specialists, and the Pass Christian Library.

The Welcome and Butterfly Walking Parade is set to begin at 10 a.m., followed by several events and featured speakers, with exhibits scheduled to close at 1 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, and butterfly-themed costumes are encouraged.

In the event of inclement weather, the event will be moved to the Pass Christian Library at 111 Hiern Avenue.

The Market in the Park will also take place during the festival and will have butterfly-themed items for sale.

For more information about the event, call the library at 228-452-4596 or follow the library and Butterflies in the Pass on social media.

BUTTERFLIES IN THE PASS SCHEDULE OF EVENTS Saturday, September 30 War Memorial Park

10 a.m.	Butterfly Walking Parade
10:30 a.m.	"Butterflies and Their Host Plants"
11: 30 a.m.	"Monarch Butterflies on MS Barrier Islands"
1 p.m.	Exhibits close

Library announces robust offerings for September

Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Library has something for everyone in their September programming.

Beginning on **Tuesday, September 5**, the library will begin a new **Yoga with Donna Series**. The six-week series will continue each Tuesday through October 10. The class will incorporate physical postures, breath work and meditation, and postures will be adapted to individual ability. The one-hour sessions will begin promptly at **6 p.m.** each week in the conference room of the library. There is no cost for the classes, but donations will be accepted for instructional costs. Attendees are asked to wear comfortable clothes and bring an exercise mat.



Special to The Pass Post

On **Thursday, September 7**, the Pass Christian Public Library and the Pass Christian Garden Club are partnering to host a **free garden program** with lifelong birder and Master Naturalist John Lipscomb. Lipscomb will present a program on the fall migration of the **ruby throated hummingbird**, which is the predominant hummingbird seen passing through to Mexico and Central America in the late summer and early fall. The presentation, which begins at **1 p.m.** and is open to the public, will cover basics on identification, migration and how to attract them.

On **Saturday, September 9**, the library will offer the opportunity to learn about how suicide can be prevented. The Mississippi Chapter of American Foundation for Suicide

Prevention will present "Talk Saves Lives: A Brief Introduction to Suicide Prevention" at **10 a.m.** The presentation will cover what is known about this leading cause of death, the most up-to-date research on prevention, and what can be done to fight suicide. Participants will learn the common risk factors for suicide, how to spot the warning signs in others, and how to keep themselves, their loved ones and those in their community safe. The presentation is free, with advance registration available, but not required, at <https://TSLPassChristian09092023.AttendEase.com/>. For more information about the program, email Clara Caruth at Mississippi@afsp.org.

On **Tuesday, September 26**, the library will partner with the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) of the University of Southern Mississippi to host a program by Dr. Gregory Waselkov on "Indian Ditch of Gulf Shores, Alabama." Set for **10 a.m.** in the conference room of the Pass Christian Public Library, the presentation will include Waselkov's findings on the 1,400-year-old Native American Canal in Southern Alabama. He will discuss how the "nearly mile-long structure allowed inhabitants to paddle to rich fishing grounds and access trade routes." Dr. Waselkov has a MA and a PhD in anthropology from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and is head of the archaeology department at the University of South Alabama. Admission to the program is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be available.

Visit www.harrison.lib.ms.us for a full calendar of events offered by the library. Information can also be found on the library's Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/PassChristianLibrary, or by calling 228-452-4596. The library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue.



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Pass Christian schools start year with new devices



All photos Special to The Pass Post

Pictured are students at Pass Christian Elementary School (PCES) when they received their new iPads for use during the school year. Students received an Apple iPad with a keyboard/trackpad combo case, and each teacher received an Apple iPad, MacBook Air, and an Apple TV.

Special to The Pass Post

Beginning this academic year, the Pass Christian Public School District has officially transitioned to being an “Apple” school district, and Pass Christian students recently received iPads for the 2023-24 school year. The change has been a long-awaited one, as students previously used older laptops in years prior.

The transition to Apple products will allow all members of the PCES community to “Think Differently” and cultivate learning experiences beyond the classroom. iPads offer increased opportunities for collaboration between teachers and students and can provide a versatile and interactive learning experience. Using the iPad’s features and education applications, students and teachers will have more opportunities to take virtual field trips, access digital textbooks, take notes, create multimedia projects, practice coding skills and more.



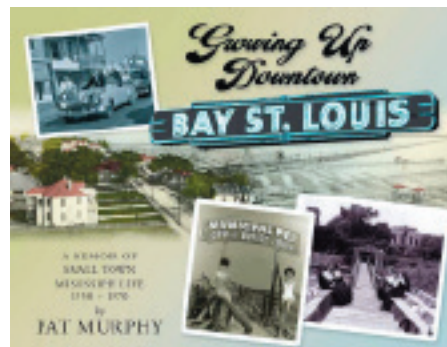
Murphy to present at Historical Society luncheon

Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Historical Society will hold its monthly luncheon on Monday, September 25, at noon. The speaker will be Pat Murphy, who will give a first-person snapshot of growing up in a small Mississippi Gulf Coast town. Murphy is the author of the recently-released book, *Growing Up Downtown Bay St. Louis: A Memoir of Small Town Mississippi Life 1950 – 1970*.

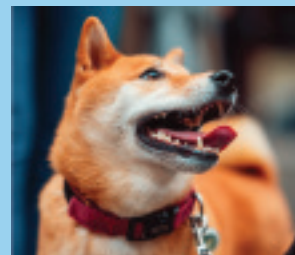
Lunch will begin at noon, and the cost is \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. Those who plan to attend are asked to make lunch reservations by 5 p.m. on Friday, September 22. Reservations and more information are available by calling 228-452-7254 or emailing Reservations@PassHistory.org.

The Historical Society is located at 201 East Scenic Drive in Pass Christian.



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Rare sea turtle nest monitored, rehabbed turtles released into the Gulf



Special to The Pass Post

Pictured is one of five rare sea turtles released back into the Gulf of Mexico along the Pass Christian beachfront on August 1. The turtles were released after receiving care at the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies.

By Toni Miles

Another rare sea turtle nest has been discovered on the Pass Christian Beach. Harrison County Sand Beach Authority workers discovered what the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (IMMS) later determined to be a nest buried in the sand near the Walmart in Pass Christian on July 13. Although the clutch of eggs is nestled underneath the sand, IMMS staff were able to locate the nest by following the sea turtles’ tracks from the waterline to the buried nest’s location.

“We would like to thank the diligent workers from Harrison County Sand Beach for spotting the tracks and reporting it to us,” says Theresa Madrigal, stranding coordinator for the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (IMMS). “You may see this marked off area as you are driving or walking by. We kindly request that the public do not walk into the marked off area and to please keep pets away. Sea turtles and their nests are federally protected by the Endangered Species Act.”

Also on the Pass Christian Beach in early August, the IMMS released five enabled sea turtles back into the Gulf of Mexico.

PASS CHRISTIAN PIRATES VARSITY FOOTBALL 2023 SCHEDULE



Aug. 25	Long Beach	Home	7 p.m.
Sept. 1	Purvis	Home	7:30 p.m.
Sept. 8	Pearl River Central	Away	7 p.m.
Sept. 15	St. Stanislaus	Away	7 p.m.
Sept. 22	Northeast Jones (Homecoming)	Home	7 p.m.
Sept. 29	Greene County	Home	7 p.m.
Oct. 6	George County	Home	7 p.m.
Oct. 13	Poplarville	Home	7 p.m.
Oct. 26	Moss Point	Home	7 p.m.
Oct. 27	Bay	Away	7 p.m.



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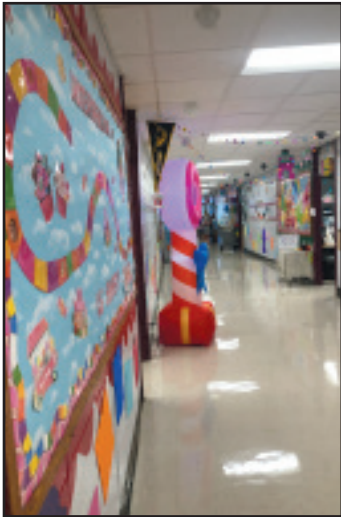
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Quarles Elementary first day deemed a sweet success



All photos by Toni Miles

LBSD Assistant Superintendent Kelleigh Reynolds Broussard, Ed.S. and Quarles Elementary School Principal Sarah Sanzin



By Toni Miles

It only happens once every (school) year, but there's one thing that remains the same – the first day of school is exciting and action-packed, as students, teachers and faculty pour into classrooms throughout the Long Beach School District (LBSD).

July 27, opening day for the LBSD's 2023-2024 school year, was no exception, and was deemed a sweet success – literally - as students at Quarles Elementary filed into the school's halls, which are decked out with candy, cupcakes and other sweet decorations, to not only welcome students, but to also celebrate the new school year's theme: Candyland.

"Each year, we do a different theme," says Sarah Sanzin, who is heading into her second year as principal of Quarles Elementary School, where she also started her teaching career fourteen years ago. "This year, the kids are walking into the building with Candyland exploded everywhere. All the hallways are decked out with candy, to go along with our theme that we use throughout the year. We integrate it through everything that we do, literacy nights and other events and activities."

Even though the sweet sight was new to students, teachers worked for weeks before-

hand decorating and using their creativity to make the Candyland theme, collectively decided on together, come to life.

"Every spring, we send out a survey asking teachers to give suggestions on the theme for the next school year," Sanzin said. "Then, we take a vote with those suggestions, so the staff chooses the theme."

It's a theme that school and LBSD leaders have already granted a five-star review, a recipe for the sweet success anticipated for this new school year. Although the bar has been raised high, considering the Long Beach School District was named the state's top district for 2022 by the Board of Education, local school leaders like Sanzin, know all too well that success is achieved one student, one teacher and one day at a time.

"What I want our community and the parents to know more than anything is that when their children walk through these halls for the first time, and for the next 180 days, is that their kids are safe and that we love them, and that we're going to do everything we can to help them be successful throughout the school year," Sanzin says.

"The first day of school has been absolutely incredible," Sanzin says. "The kids are excited to be here. The teachers are pumped to meet their new students. It's fun. Each year, we kind of improve it a little bit more."

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