

Cities revvin' up for Cruisin' the Coast Oct. 1-8

By Toni Miles

It's the final countdown to what's become known as "America's Biggest Block Party."

The 27th Annual Cruisin' the Coast revs up on Sunday, October 1, as vintage and antique cars, trucks and ho-trods make the trek to South Mississippi for the coast-wide event, which will last until Sunday, October 8. Long Beach and Pass Christian are among the many cities hosting events and celebrations for the weeklong attraction.

The Long Beach Cruisin' the Coast Parade is a major draw each year in the Friendly City. This year's parade is set to roll out at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, October 2.

The first six hundred registered vehicles will begin lining up at 1 p.m. at Long Beach High School, where the parade is set to begin. The parade 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 Long Beach Harbor. Parade-goers are encouraged to stake out their spots on the parade route ear-



Toni Miles

Cruisin' the Coast attracts thousands to the Mississippi Gulf Coast each year and is a family-friendly event. The week-long event runs from October 1 through October 8.

ly for the best view and throws. Chris Jacobs will serve as this year's Grand Marshal of the parade.

Preceding the parade, USM Gulf Park's School of Leadership will hold a party on the Great Lawn. Research conducted by USM shows that Cruisin' the Coast represents the most economically impactful event



hosted by the Mississippi Gulf Coast, attracting car enthusiasts from around the state and across the United States. Current students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends are all invited to bring a cool car or just a chair to enjoy the afternoon and celebrate the start of the events in Long Beach.

Snacks and drinks will be provided.

A concert by the Tip Tops will be held afterward, from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Long Beach Harbor.

On Wednesday, October 4, the Gulf Coast Z Club, an organization of Datsun and Nissan Z car enthusiasts, will meet at Long Beach Harbor from 5 until 8 p.m.; and on Friday, October 6, the local National El Camino Owners Association (NECOA) will also meet at the Harbor from 3 until 5 p.m.

The annual Country Cruisin' Breakfast will be held at the Long Beach Yacht Club from 7 to 10 a.m. on Thursday, October 5; Friday, October 6; and Saturday, October 7.

This year, a new family-friendly event, Trucks 'N' Tacos, will be held at the Harper McCaughan Town Green in Long Beach on Thursday, October 5, and Friday, October 6, from 3 to 10 p.m. The two-day event will feature a free cruise-in open to all trucks, and will also include a C-10 meetup on Thursday, and an F-100 meetup on Friday. The Barstool Cowboys will provide live entertainment for Long Beach Live beginning at 7 p.m. on Friday.

cont. on page 12

Seats available for Oct. 10 Breakfast with the Mayor

By Toni Miles

Spots are available for this year's Breakfast with the Mayor meeting, hosted by the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce. The annual event will be held in the Hardy Ballroom at the University of Southern Mississippi's (USM) Gulf Park Campus in Long Beach on Tuesday, October 10. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and networking. The program is scheduled to run from 8 to 9 a.m.

Those in attendance will hear updates on the City of Long Beach from Mayor George Bass. The Long Beach Chamber of Commerce will also honor this year's First Responders of the Year, the Aline Doherty Citizen of the Year and Public



Toni Miles

Various awards, including the 2023 Aline Doherty Citizen of the Year Award will be presented at the October 10 event.

Works Employee of the Year.

Nominations have been received already for the Aline Doherty Citizen of the Year Award, which honors a resident or business owner in Long Beach who, through commitment to the community and through the spirit of volunteerism over a period of time, has improved the quality of life in Long Beach and brought credit to Long Beach and the Gulf Coast.

The cost to attend this year's Breakfast with the Mayor is \$25 for members of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce and \$35 for non-members. Reserved table sponsorships are also available.

For more information, contact Long Beach Chamber Director Matti Rae Seymour at 228-604-0014.

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Long Beach Bearcats making homecoming parade plans



Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach High School (LBHS) Bearcats will celebrate their 2023 homecoming with a parade on Thursday, October 19.

The parade will begin at 6 p.m., and LBHS class alumni are invited to come together to create a float and join the parade. Businesses are encouraged to decorate their yards and windows in maroon and white in support of the Bearcats.

Those interested in participating in the parade are asked to email Bayleigh.Babin@LBSDK12.com or Jonathan.Hart@LBSDK12.com.

The Bearcats will play Picayune at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 20.



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Spooky Trail, trunk-or-treats planned for Halloween



Special to Long Beach Breeze



Special to Long Beach Breeze

First Baptist Church of Long Beach will be holding their annual Trunk or Treat, family-friendly, free event at the Harper McCaughan Town Green on Sunday, October 29.

By Toni Miles

Fall is just around the corner - and so is Halloween. The City of Long Beach, along with local churches and organizations, are hosting several family-friendly, safe events for kids.

On Friday, October 27, the Spooky Halloween Trail will be open for kids and their families from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Long Beach Fitness Trail, located right across from the Long Beach Senior Center at 20257 Daugherty Road. It's a free community event that will be filled with tricks, treats and plenty of space for kids to gather and show off their Halloween costumes. Adults are also en-

couraged to dress up.

Also on October 27, the University of Southern Mississippi-Gulf Park will host a trunk-or-treat and a family movie showing. The free event, Cinema Under the Oaks, will begin with a trunk-or-treat, games and concessions at 6 p.m., and a viewing of the movie *Hocus Pocus* at dusk. The movie showing is free.

Residents are encouraged to wear their costumes and bring blankets and chairs. No alcohol or tobacco is allowed. Free light up bracelets will be given away. The event will be held on Lloyd Lawn by the Friendship Oak on USM's Gulf Park Campus at 730 East Beach Boulevard, and, in the event of

rain, the event will be relocated to the FEC Auditorium. All proceeds will benefit USM student organizations.

On Sunday, October 29, First Baptist Church of Long Beach will be hosting their annual Trunk or Treat event at the Harper McCaughan Town Green, located at 301 Jeff Davis Avenue in downtown Long Beach. The church invites all families to join in the free event, which this year has a theme of "Let Your Light Shine."

Festivities will begin at 5:30 p.m., and will include games, free food, fellowship and lots of candy.

"This is our sixth year we have been able to reach out to our community in such a fun way," said First Baptist Minister of Education Brenda Davis. "We enjoy visiting and meeting new people each year. The support that we have received for Trunk or Treat has been phenomenal, and the attendance has doubled over the past several years. We really enjoy the positive feedback from the community. It has been very rewarding and such a blessing to see so many families coming together in one place.

"Our goal is to share the hope and love of Jesus with the Long Beach community," continued Davis. "So, come and ...discover how connecting people with Jesus shines a bright light on our world. Come as you are, or wear your favorite costume to this free event.

The event will begin at 5:30 and conclude at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 228-864-2584.

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CES announces partnership to offer speech therapy for students

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Coast Episcopal School (CES) and Beyond Therapy for Kids, Gulfport, MS (BTK-G) recently announced a partnership that will enable BTK-G to offer speech therapy sessions on site at Coast Episcopal School for its students. Speech therapists will evaluate and treat the students based on medical necessity and coordinate billing with each family's insurance coverage, as well as offer a self-pay option for those families who prefer to pay out-of-pocket.

Sessions will begin once BTK-G has received a speech therapy evaluation referral from the student's doctor, a process for which the organization can provide support.

"The difference between good developmental progress and great progress is parental involvement and continuing education," said BTK-G Clinic Director/Partner Robin McCaffery. "Even a small investment will enhance a student's learning. To help, Beyond Therapy for Kids, Gulfport, MS will be constantly teaching the CES faculty, students and sharing information with CES' families to support early childhood development."

"We are so pleased to be offering Beyond Therapy for Kids, Gulfport, MS speech support and know the services they provide will enhance the already strong academic foundation Coast Episcopal School provides for each of our students," according to Winter, who continued, "This is the second academic support program CES has instituted this year; the first being the addition of Brittany Brewer as a learning strategist and dyslexic specialist. Brewer's position provides support for both teachers and students in enhancing reading proficiencies. The addition of speech therapy support is another way we will augment our students' academic journey."

MONTHLY EVENTS

October 7
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October 21
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GCIACS plans 10th annual Columbus Day dinner and dance

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Gulf Coast Italian American Cultural Society (GCIACS) will sponsor their 10th Annual Columbus Day Dinner and Dance on Saturday, October 7, starting at 6 p.m. The event, which will include live music and dancing, will be held at the Beau Rivage Casino and Resort's Azalea Terrace in Biloxi.

Dina Linn of Pensacola, Florida, the President of Primo Paradiso Lodge #0280, the newest chapter of the Italian Sons and Daughters of America (ISDA), will serve as the keynote speaker. Both a daughter and granddaughter of Italian immigrants, Linn is the supervisory museum curator for the National Naval Aviation Museum in Pensacola.

With "Mambo Italiano," as the theme, the evening will include the Sicily Swing Band and singer Cheri Salvetti entertaining with Italian and Italian-American standards.

The event will include an Italian-American buffet of carved smoked prime beef, shrimp and chicken skewers, pasta, vegetables and salad dishes, as well as assorted desserts. The cocktail hour will feature wine and spirits available for purchase.

Tickets are \$75 per person for GCIACS members and \$80 for non-members.

Tickets are by reservation only and will not be available at the door. To secure a ticket, send a check payable to "Gulf Coast Italian American Cultural Society" by no later than September 30 to 2600 Santa Rosa Cove, Biloxi, MS 39531. Payments can also be made in person by contacting Paul Sciortino, celebration chair, at 256-289-1369.

For more information, contact Joseph Ventura, GCIACS president, at 601-307-6470.



Night Out Against Crime planned for October 21



Toni Miles

Night Out Against Crime gives local law enforcement officers the opportunity to interact one-on-one with the local community.

By Toni Miles

On Saturday, October 21, from 5 to 7 p.m. at Long Beach's Harper McCaughan Town Green, it will be all about badges and building relationships at the Annual National Night Out Against Crime.

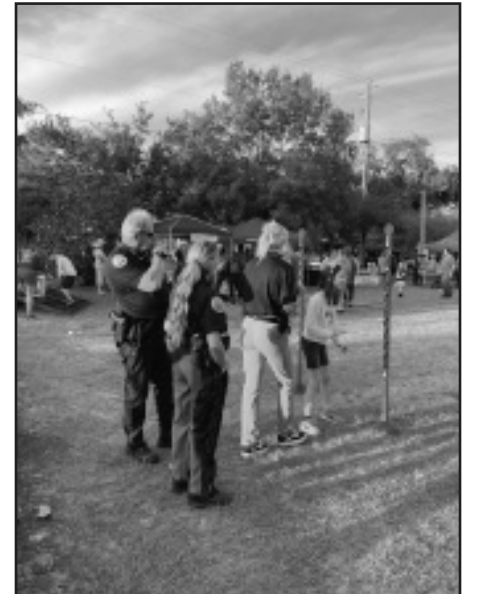
National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie throughout the nation. The aim is to make communities safer and more caring places to live and to build trust between residents and those who protect and serve.

Kids, parents and the entire community are all invited to come out and meet with members the Long Beach Police Department at the October 21 event. Organizers say there will be demonstrations and fun for the whole family to enjoy at the free event.

There will also be networking opportunities for those thinking about a career or working in the field of law enforcement. Currently, the Long Beach Police Department is looking to hire new policemen and women to join the force. The base salary is \$43,000, includes health insurance, paid holidays, a PERS retirement plan, educative incentive pay, use of a wellness clinic for employees, their spouses and children, and more.

Applications can be picked up at the Long Beach Police Department, located at 201 Alexander Road and at 201 Jeff Davis Avenue in Long Beach. Applicants must be at least 21 years old, have a valid Mississippi driver's license, be a U.S. citizen, have a high school diploma or GED, be in good health and have a background suitable for a career in law enforcement.

For more information, visit CityOfLongBeachMS.info.



Toni Miles

There will be plenty of games for youngsters to participate in at Long Beach's Night Out Against Crime on October 21.

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The name, title and address of the owner of the above named business are:

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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“Old Broads” offer advice, along with a few chuckles

By Marilou D. Horton

Bankhouse Coffee, a popular hangout in Long Beach, takes on a different vibe when four University of Southern Mississippi graduates sit down to dish out servings of both wisdom and laughter at a corner table.

All four ladies graduated from Long Beach High School, and each holds a degree in education. The seasoned and often hilarious quartet consists of Kathleen Hodgins, age 70; Cheryl Batey Nyberg, 70; Cindy Vogt Rogers, 69; and Sue Ritter Hatem, 70. Three attended the same kindergarten class, and all four remain close friends today.

“We all went to school together, we graduated in 1971, all had degrees in teaching, but we branched out into other fields,” explained Nyberg.

This lively group of Long Beach residents calls themselves the “Old Broads,” and their advice is advertised as “good and bad and always free.” They have t-shirts to prove it. Member Cheryl Nyberg was instrumental in getting the ladies together, designing the shirts and making a sign for the Old Broads; she is the artist in the group.

The ladies approached the owners of the coffee shop and were given permission to set up a table at Bankhouse, and the rest is history. Locals are offered advice ranging from silly antidotes to more serious topics, such as the importance of life-saving health screenings.

“However, we try to be more lighthearted,” noted former social worker Kathleen Hodgins. The only thing they won’t discuss, the group agreed, is politics.

“The wisdom that we’re sharing, if you want to call it that,” Hodgins said, “might be serious, but the point is to make people happy and provide giggles.”

The group, who present a different perspective on age, are funny, intelligent, wise and full of life. Hodgins, who admitted she had dreaded turning seventy, said the depression lifted when she finally reached the milestone.

“I never said I was sixty-nine years old. When asked how old I was, I would say, ‘I will be seventy next year.’ Now that I’m seventy, it’s not big of a deal,” admits Hodgins.

Behind the term “old broads” are four women who held their own in outstanding professional careers and have impacted the community.

Hodgins, who holds a degree in education, was a social worker and Special Education Case Manager for forty-two years. She played the trumpet in high school and currently plays in the Coast Big Band, a local Mississippi Coast big band orchestra. An avid animal lover, Hodgins has been instrumental in caring for (she has cat condos on her front porch) and rehoming cats in her neighborhood.

Nyberg has a degree in art education but found her career in marketing/real estate and as a financial analyst. She lived in Orlando for twenty years and returned home to Long Beach six months ago. The backbone of the Old Broads, Nyberg took up clogging two years ago and now teaches a class on the coast.

Sue Hatem is a former state president of the American Federation of Teachers, a lobbyist on the state and national levels, and a retired middle school teacher. Hatem was married for fifty years to the late Ed Hatem, a fellow classmate. She currently volunteers at a Gulfport hospital and cares for her slew of chickens. The group noted that Sue’s husband, Ed, was lovingly known as Long Beach’s “chicken guru.”

Rogers, a former fourth- and fifth-grade teacher, also instructed student teachers at USM. She lives in the county on seven acres with her dog, rescued kittens and chickens. Rogers teaches yoga, walks five miles daily on her treadmill and is the youngest of the group.

Even at seventy, or almost seventy, the Old Broads don’t have all the answers. They can, however, promise those who sit at their table a good time, a

few chuckles and maybe even a little advice. And they want everyone to remember: their life experiences, stories and words of wisdom are free.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach High School 1971 graduates (l to r) Cindy Vogt Rogers, Kathleen Hodgins, Sue Ritter Hatem and Cheryl Batey Nyberg bring early morning humor, advice and words of wisdom to customers at Bankhouse Coffee. The ladies, who have known each other since kindergarten, use their quick wit and humor to prove that age is just a number.

LaRosa receives McDonnell-Barksdale scholarship

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Jillian LaRosa of Long Beach, a freshman at the University of Mississippi, received the McDonnell-Barksdale Scholarship, which will provide \$8,000 annually toward her education at Ole Miss.

LaRosa is one of eighteen freshmen accepted into UM’s Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College who are the recipients of some of the most bountiful scholarships at the university.

“All of our students in the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College boast outstanding records of academic excellence, public service and leadership,” said Ethel Scurlock, dean of the Honors College. “To earn our scholarships, students must distinguish themselves among a highly competitive group of applicants.”

“Our committee was especially impressed with the credentials of this incoming class,” said Scurlock. “We expect our scholarship students to excel in their academic programs, meaningfully engage in our honors community, and ultimately become leaders in their professions and in the communities where they live.”

A chemical engineering major, LaRosa aims to become a cosmetic chemist “to create nontoxic, efficient and affordable skin-care products.”

LaRosa said she looks forward to the smaller class sizes offered by the Honors College and connecting with her professors and classmates.



County clinics to offer free screening services

Special to Long Beach Breeze

In a major step to combat chronic disease in the state, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) began offering free blood sugar and blood pressure checks at all clinics on September 1.

Any Mississippian can call their local clinic to be screened, or just drop in during business hours. Blood sugar numbers are done with a simple finger stick.

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in Mississippi, and the state’s rate of diabetes is one of the worst in the country.

“We hope that all Mississippians will take advantage of these new, free clinic services and find out what their blood sugar and blood pressure screening numbers are,” said State Health Officer Dr. Daniel Edney. “When you know these numbers, you can take action to reduce your chances of developing heart disease and diabetes, the major chronic illnesses that strike most Mississippians.”

“These quick tests can help connect Mississippians to free support services or self-management programs from MSDH, or refer them to a doctor, if needed,” said Victor Sutton, MSDH’s Chief of Community Health and Clinical Services.

The Harrison county health clinic is located at 1102 45th Avenue in Gulfport and is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Visit msdh.ms.gov/locations for clinic phone numbers, as well as additional clinic sites and hours of operation.

For more information on chronic diseases, visit MSDH at msdh.ms.gov/chronic.

Follow MSDH by email and social media at HealthyMS.com/connect.



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Go the Extra Smile 5K planned for Oct. 7

Long Beach Breeze

Local residents are invited to join the Mississippi Dental Hygienists' Association (MDHA) as they host their second annual Go the Extra Smile 5K.

The event, planned for Saturday, October 7, at 8 a.m. at the Harper McCaughan Town Green, is designed for not only those in the dental field, but for everyone. Kids, family and friends of all ages are encouraged to attend. There will be a timed event, and first, second and third place finishers will win prizes.

Registration cost is \$35. All early registrants will receive a t-shirt and a grab bag. A group registration rate is available for groups of more than five registrants.

All proceeds will go towards scholarship funding for students and will also fund a donation to a local charity to help raise awareness on oral health.

Those who wish to sign up in advance may visit MississippiADHA.org. The signup link is under the "Events" tab. Race-day registration will be available beginning at 7 a.m. on site. Late registrants are not guaranteed a t-shirt.

The race will begin at 8 a.m., and participants can run, jog or walk. All ages and fitness levels are welcome.



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McElrath named to helm of Coast Chorale

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Following the retirement of Allen Henson from the helm of Coast Chorale, the organization's Board of Directors recently announced the appointment of Dan McElrath as their new artistic director.

McElrath and his wife, Christy, along with their family, moved from Alaska to the Mississippi Gulf Coast in October of 2022. He joined the Coast Chorale as a singer in January of 2023.

"I had no idea when I joined Coast Chorale in January that I would be your new conductor for the fall season, but I am



Dan McElrath

Special to Long Beach Breeze

honored to follow in the distinguished footsteps of Allen

Henson and hope to bring new energy and excitement as we move the group forward," said McElrath. "I am very excited about returning to my choral roots and working with the Coast Chorale family."

McElrath has a degree in secondary music education from the Furman University School of Music. He is a United States Air Force veteran and a forty-year business owner, including his current business as owner and concert piano technician at Macs Music Services. McElrath has conducted both church and high school choirs, as well as church orchestras and high

school bands and was musical director of his own band – the Dan Mac Band - in Alaska.

His conducting repertoire includes Bach cantatas, pieces by John Rutter, Vivaldi and excerpts from Handel's *Messiah*. In addition, he has directed musicals such as *Fame*, *Annie*, *Oliver*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, and *Gold Rush Girls*.

Coast Chorale is a community organization founded in 1992 that is made up of local singers, supported by local musicians and funded by local benefactors. For more information, McElrath can be reached at: macsmusicsvs@gmail.com.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

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SaintThomasLB.org



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8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship In-Person in the sanctuary
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11:00 a.m. Sanctuary Worship In-Person in the sanctuary

11:00 a.m. The Well service In-Person at the USM Flemming Auditorium
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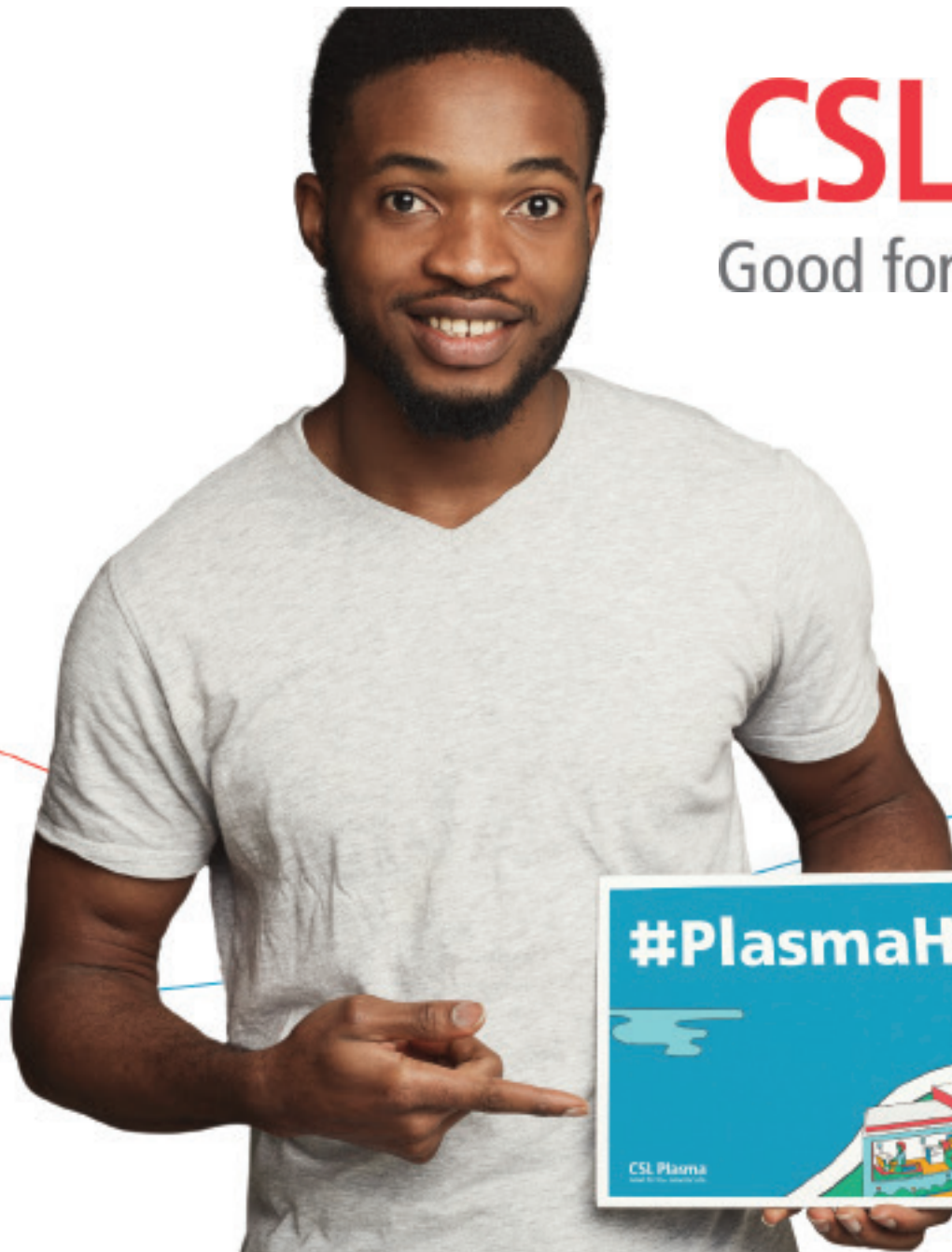
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STEM program set for Oct. 7, library hours remain the same

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn, LBPL Youth and Technology Services

For everyone who registered, don't forget Saturday, October 7, 2023!! It will be an exciting day at the Long Beach Library, when we welcome educators from the Infinity Science Center. They will present "NASA Is with You When You Fly," a hands-on-learning STEM program for kindergarten through twelfth grade. The program is about rocketry and flight and will be held from 10 a.m. until noon in the children's wing.

The book sale will continue to be on Saturdays in October beginning at 9 a.m. and ending at 12:30 p.m. Prices for the materials are ten cents each for magazines, twenty-five cents each for paperbacks, and fifty cents each for hardbacks, audiobooks and movies.

There are no holiday closings during the month of October.

The Long Beach Library Board of Trustees will meet on Tuesday, October 10, at 3:15 p.m. in the children's wing. This meeting is open to the public.

After much discussion, it was decided that the library's operating hours will remain the same. We welcome patrons during the following times each week:

Monday – Friday	9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
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cont. from front page

Cities revvin' up for Cruisin' the Coast Oct. 1-8

In Pass Christian, Burn 'Em Up in the Pass, where classic cars will show up to burn some serious rubber, will be held at a new location on Fleitas Avenue in Pass Christian on Thursday, October 5, from 5 p.m. to dusk. Live entertainment will be provided by Heather & The Monkey King.

On Friday, October 6, Pass in the Night is scheduled for 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Live entertainment will be provided by Sons of uh Beech.

Other area venues will have special live entertainment, as well.

Due to the events of Cruisin' the Coast, the Long Beach Boat Launch will be closed on Monday, October 2. All vehicles must be removed on Sunday, October 1.

LONG BEACH:	
Monday, October 2:	
3-5 p.m.	USM Gulf Park Cruisin' lawn party
5:30 p.m.	Cruisin' the Coast Parade
6-9 p.m.	The Tip Tops
Wednesday, October 4:	
5-8 p.m.	Gulf Coast Z Club meetup
Thursday, October 5:	
3-10 p.m.	Trucks 'N' Tacos, C-10 meetup
Friday, October 6:	
2-4 p.m.	El Camino meetup
3-10 p.m.	Trucks 'N' Tacos, F-100 meetup
7 p.m.	Long Beach Live, featuring The Barstool Cowboys
PASS CHRISTIAN:	
Thursday, October 5:	
10 a.m.-Noon	Courtney Hansen appearance
11 a.m.-Noon	Jezebel
1-2 p.m.	Cool Rayz
3-4:30 p.m.	Unfazed
5 p.m.-dusk	Burn 'Em Up in the Pass Live music by Heather & The Monkey King
Friday, October 6:	
11 a.m.-Noon	Black Velvet
1-2:30 p.m.	Tommy Morse Band
3:30-5 p.m.	Lazerus
6:30-9:30 p.m.	Pass in the Night Live music by Sons of uh Beech
Saturday, October 7:	
11 a.m.-Noon	No Dice
1-2 p.m.	Garry "Elvis" Weasley
3-4:30 p.m.	Vince Vance & The Valiants

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Holiday Boutique returns on November 10 and 11

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Pass Christian Yacht Club's Ladies Auxiliary is planning to hold their annual two-day Holiday Boutique on Friday, November 10, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday, November 11, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., at the West Harrison Civic Center (Espy Center), located at 4670 Espy Avenue in Long Beach. Now in its twenty-seventh year, the boutique will feature more than thirty different shops and artisans from around the region, offering hundreds of unique gift ideas, one-of-a-kind art pieces and even tasty lunches for hungry shoppers.



"What has always distinguished the Annual Holiday Boutique is the focus we place on promoting coastal and regional artists," said event chairwoman Jo Ann Francingues. "The boutique is our way of showcasing the abundance of talent and shops in this area and encouraging folks to buy local. Shoppers don't have to worry about the weather, because the event takes place inside the Espy Center, where there

is free parking. We are also ignoring inflation and keeping the ticket price the same as in previous years: \$5."

The vendors at the Holiday Boutique will include Becky's Creations, Cabi on the Coast, Café BoneJour Pet Boutique and Bakery, Carla Biasi for Chico's, White House Black Market and Soma, Chateaux Soleil, Creations of the Heart, Curly Magnolia Boutique, Dawn's Pecans, Designs by Linda, Dos Artistes, Hightide Coastal Creations, Holiday Blooms, Julie Boudreaux Handcrafted Jewelry, Kathy Graham Art, Kitsie's Kitchen, LambShop Studio, Lotus Beauty and Wellness, Louisiana's Lost Resource, Luxuries of Life, Magic Box Toys, Midtown Pharmacy and Gifts, Mockingbird Lane, NOLA in Stitches, Pass Christian Books, Patti's Crafts, Peace by Piece Quilts, Robin's Nest, Sister Swank Boutique, Southern Designs by M&R, The Cotton Patch, Ursula Elaine Handcrafted Jewelry, Walton's Turnings and Wire by Sue.

For more information, call 210-930-6461.

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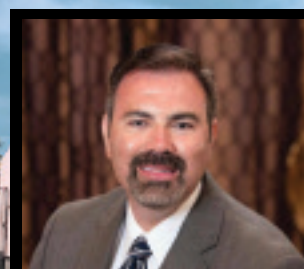
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Rare event unfolds as sea turtle hatchlings emerge

By Toni Miles

On September 5, some lucky residents and visitors witnessed a rare event on the Pass Christian beach, as workers and researchers with the Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (IMMS) invited the public to observe newly-hatched sea turtles make their way from their nest to the waters of the Mississippi Sound.

“There was a total of ninety-nine eggs within the nest, and eighty-two hatched successfully,” says IMMS Stranding Coordinator Theresa Madrigal. “IMMS was also very excited to find twelve live hatchlings still in the nest. It was a great opportunity for us to educate and engage the public in an event like this.”

The IMMS invited the public to attend and observe an excavation, where all of the contents of the nest were removed and counted to determine its success.

“Nesting is so rare on the mainland in Mississippi, so, for some in the crowd, this was a once-in-a-lifetime event,” Madrigal says. “The hatchlings were allowed to crawl into the water [of the Mississippi Sound] as IMMS staff and the crowd looked on. It was truly an amazing experience for both the staff and the public, and we hope we were able to inspire some future biologists.”

IMMS researchers determined the loggerhead sea turtle nest was laid on the beach in Pass Christian on July 13, after tracks were located by Harrison County Sand Beach workers and reported to IMMS that same day.

“IMMS responded and was able to confirm the nest location and marked off the site for protection and monitoring,” Madrigal says. “A typical nest has one hundred to one hundred fifty eggs, and the eggs incubate for an average of fifty to sixty days.”

“On August 27 [Day 45], IMMS staff began monitoring the site closely,” said Madrigal. “There were some indications that the turtles started hatching, noted the following morning.”

“Hatchlings will typically wait until after dark to emerge from the nest and look for the reflection of the moon off the water as an indicator of where to crawl,” she continued. “Around 9 p.m. on August 29, IMMS staff witnessed a large portion of the hatchlings emerge from the nest and ensured their safe passage to the water. After that initial emergence, there is always a chance that more hatchlings will emerge at a later time. IMMS left the site barriers in place until September 5 to allow as many hatchlings as possible to emerge naturally.”

Dozens of people took up the invitation to join the IMMS on the beach on September 5 as they conducted research, and the last hatchlings worked their way through the sand to the water.

The hatchlings greatly exceeded the expectations of IMMS workers - and defied statistics. About one in hundred hatchlings will make it to be an adult, and it's usually between fifteen to twenty years, sometimes even thirty years, before sea



Special to Long Beach Breeze

The group of loggerhead hatchlings heads to the Mississippi Sound.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

IMMS Stranding Technicians Kelsi Busboom, Abbi Smith, Callie Austin and Kathryn Thompson conduct an excavation of the nest in Pass Christian.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

One of twelve loggerhead hatchlings found still alive inside the nest on the Pass Christian beach.

turtles even start laying eggs. Even then, the likelihood of making it out of the nest and into the water to live, grow and mature is low, as sadly evidenced by another sea turtle nest laid on the same beach last year, in which not even one baby sea turtle emerged from the clutch.

Also on September 5, the hatchlings were joined by four rare Kemp's Ridley sea turtles that had been rehabbed at the IMMS after suffering freeze shock in New England. The four turtles were fitted with satellite transmitters that will provide important data for IMMS researchers before being released into the Mississippi Sound.

Besides the celebration of rehabilitation and new life, the day's events provided a wealth of information for IMMS researchers that will benefit science, marine life and the community as a whole for years to come.



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USM's Johnson earns elite credential

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Kelly Johnson, business coordinator at The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) Gulf Park Physical Plant, recently earned APPA'S (formerly the Association of Physical Plant Administrators) Certified Educational Facilities Professional (CEFP) certification, the second such credential earned by a staff member at the university.

The APPA'S CEFP credential is a higher level of certification that displays a mastery of professional expertise and superior understanding of the core competencies for education facilities professionals. The credential demonstrates outstanding proficiency, strength and dedication in educational facilities.

Johnson undertook the online Pathways to Professionalism course and passed the exam on the first try. The recognition is respected among peers and other AP-PA-certified professionals.

"This showcases the educational side of facilities management and the professionalism in your field," said Johnson.

Lucas Applewhite, director of facili-

ties planning and management of USM Coastal Operations, is happy to spread the news on Johnson's new credential.

"I am incredibly proud of Kelly for obtaining the CEFP credential; her commitment to professional development helps bring an extra level of professionalism to the USM Physical Plant Department," said Applewhite.

"The dedication also helps our department on its path to creating an enriching campus physical environment for our faculty, staff, and especially our students."

Johnson has been at USM for four years and started her career at the Physical Plant. She oversaw incoming work orders, assigning each work order to a technician for completion. She later made a career change to academic advising, then rejoined the Physical Plant as business coordinator.

"I've always been looking for opportunities to grow, and I wanted to stay here at Southern Miss," said Johnson.

Applewhite told Johnson about the APPA and encouraged her to become familiar with facilities management in order to take the exam.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Kelly Johnson

LBSD recognized for top rankings in subject area scores

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Long Beach School District is one of only three districts in the state of Mississippi to have finished Overall Top 10 in all four subject areas: math, ELA, science, and U.S. history. The State Board of Education announced the district recognition at its August meeting.

Long Beach Superintendent Dr. Talia Lock says she is proud of this repeat distinction for the district.

"Our students, teachers and administrators work hard day in and day out to reach the highest levels of learning and achievement. They define what it is to be a System of Excellence and to have their work recognized is so deserving," Lock said.

"Our district's high standards for academic performance are evident in the results they achieve," continued Lock. "Everyone in the Long Beach School District and our community plays a vital role in what we do in our schools for our students. I'm just grateful to be a part of this team that is so persistent in the pursuit of excellence."



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USM's Gulf Park food pantry in need of donations



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Local residents are asked to donate to the USM Gulf Park Pantry to help students and staff in need.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The University of Southern Mississippi's (USM) Gulf Park Pantry is running low on donations and is asking the coastal community to help USM students and staff in need.

Kristen Seymour, graduate assistant in the Office of Student Engagement at Gulf Park, says the pantry is available to all USM students.

"In the last year, we have seen an increase in the usage of our pantry, bringing in students from our other Coastal USM campuses, as well. We have been so grateful in the past for our community donations, and our students are always thankful for the variety that they are able to get with the items that you provide," said Seymour.

Items that are needed include pantry, household and basic hygiene items:

- Canned chicken, soups, beans
- Peanut butter, jams, nuts
- Granola bars, fruit cups, oatmeal
- Gluten free items
- Feminine products
- Hand soap, toilet paper, toothbrushes, soap

Donations can be dropped off at Hardy Hall 242 or delivered to the Gulf Park Campus with attention to Gulf Park Pantry, Jessica Langston.

Langston, director of student engagement and strategic initiatives at Gulf Park, said cash donations are also accepted.

The Gulf Park Pantry is a free resource used by many students and staff throughout Coastal USM. An individual needing items can shop during hours of operation at the pantry or request a pre-packaged bag of food and hygiene items. Those needing assistance may also request special items needed due to allergies or household size. The pantry has seen an average of twenty-five to thirty bookings per semester, with an average of two to three bookings per week.

For more information about the Gulf Park Pantry, email gulfparkpantry@usm.edu.

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Revived cemetery tours breathe life into the past

By Marilou D. Horton

After a brief hiatus, historical Pass Christian figures will come to life during the town's Live Oak Cemetery Tour, set for Friday and Saturday, November 3-4. With the aid of the Pass Christian Historical Society and the Live Oak Cemetery Committee, visitors will hear stories of the past, presented by talented local high school students and adults, as they follow scripted guides through the cemetery. The first tour each evening begins at 5 p.m.

According to Lori Fisher, director and creator of the Live Oak Cemetery Tours, the walk through history began in 2011 and was hosted by gifted students of Pass Christian Middle School.

"That first tour had six historical stops involving thirty-six students," said Fisher. "Over the years, the tours have grown, and their coastal outreach has been very successful."

Fisher added that, in 2019, the event featured a slew of talented tour guides and one hundred twenty middle and high school students, leading visitors



through twelve highly informative stops.

"As our community project, we raised enough money to rebuild the carriage arch that graced the cemetery entrance," she said.

The Pass Christian school teacher then retired, and the tours took a brief rest. However, the performances will once again be in full swing during the first weekend of November.

"This year, I am excited to bring them [the tours] back as a strong community outreach involving a host of both high school students, as well as talented adults portraying historic

Pass Christian personalities, such as the Hiern family, Robert Montgomery of the esteemed Pass Christian Hotel, and Michael Cuddy of the ill-fated duel."

Additional re-enactments include that of several critical military members, John Henderson and Frances Parke Lewis Butler. There will be twelve dramatizations each evening.

Through reviving the tour this year, Fisher said she hopes to involve students (starting at the age of fifteen), as well as adults "to bring the colorful past of the 'Jewel of the Coast' to life through compelling stories and meaningful dramatizations, while adding a creative entertaining flavor."

The Live Oak Cemetery is across from Trinity Episcopal Church on Church Street in Pass Christian.

In the past, fall cemetery tours on the Gulf Coast included the Long Beach Cemetery on Klondyke Drive. According to Beth Hansen, the Long Beach Historical Society has canceled the event due to unforeseen circumstances. Hansen said she expects the cemetery's yearly journey into the past to return in 2024.

Inaugural Veterans Day Parade set for Nov. 11

The Pass Post

The Gulf Coast Veterans Association is making plans for the inaugural Pass Christian Veterans Day Parade, set for Saturday, November 11, at 11 a.m.

Parade entries are open to active duty service and reserve personnel, veterans and veteran organizations across the Gulf Coast, marching



bands, motorcycle clubs and other organizations such as sports teams, civic clubs, businesses, school groups and choirs. There is no cost for eligible parade participants to be a part of the parade.

There will be a vendor fair/market held in conjunction with the parade. Vendors will be assigned one 10' x 10' space per registration, and the vendor must provide all necessary booth materials and equipment, including tents, tables, chairs and the like. Vendors will be assigned spaces, with priority given to veteran-owned businesses/organizations first, followed by priority assigned based on time of registration. There is no exclusivity for any type of vendor or kind of merchandise.

Vendors may begin setting up at 8 a.m. on November 11 and should be in place and ready for customers by 11 a.m. Vendors must remain in place until the event ends at 4 p.m. Setup and tear down are the sole responsibility of the vendor. The registration fee for non-veteran-owned businesses is \$25.

The parade will be held in downtown Pass Christian.

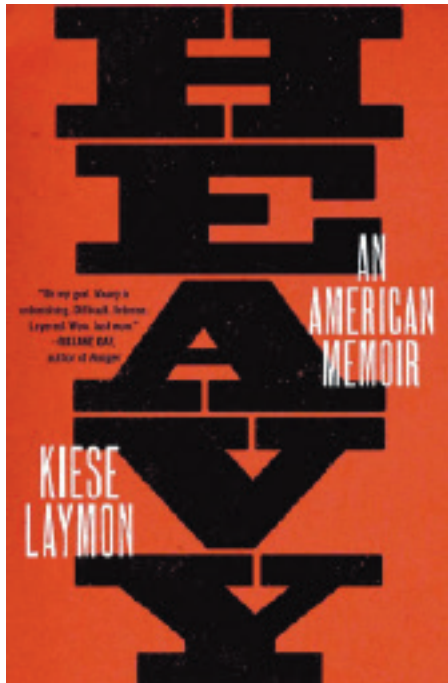
To register as a parade participant or a vendor, or to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, visit the Gulf Coast Veterans Association on Facebook, or call 228-256-2685. Registration will close on November 1.

One Book, One Pass author event set for Nov. 2

Special to The Pass Post

The One Book, One Pass community read project will hold a special event with the author of this year's community read, *Heavy: An American Memoir*. Kiese Laymon, the book's author, will visit the Randolph Center on Thursday, November 2, to give an author presentation to the community. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. The Randolph Center is located at 315 Clark Avenue.

The idea behind the community read project is for everyone in Pass Christian to read the same book, then join together to engage in book discussions, panel discussion and other programs to



Special to The Pass Post

Kiese Laymon

talk about it.

Laymon is a Southern writer from Jackson, Mississippi. He is the Libbie Shearn Moody Professor of English and Creative Writing at Rice University.

cont. on page 19



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Pass Christian third graders toast sweet science lesson



Special to The Pass Post

PCES third-grade science students shared a toast and a sweet treat while learning about the three stages of matter.

By Toni Miles

Pass Christian third-grade teacher Mrs. Jacobs used a sweet treat as part of her lesson plans to teach her science students. Mrs. Jacobs' students spent the early part of their year learning about the three stages of matter. After spending time on the topic, they had a sweet treat to top off their lesson – root beer floats.

With the savory floats, the students could see first-hand how gas forms when a liquid, in this case, root beer, and a solid (ice cream) mix.

The students said, "Cheers," as they wrapped up the sweet learning experience on a hot day.



Special to The Pass Post

Chilly's LLC donated the tasty root beer floats to add a sweet flavor to Mrs. Jacobs' third-grade science lesson plans.

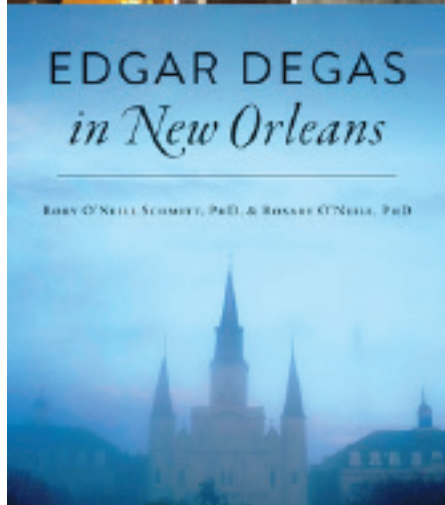
The Pass Christian Historical Society luncheon set for Oct. 30

Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Historical Society, located at 201 East Scenic Drive, will hold its monthly luncheon on Monday, October 30, at noon. Rory O'Neill Schmitt and Rosary Hartel O'Neill, authors of *Edgar Degas in New Orleans*, will be the speakers. Their book discusses how the grit and grandeur of New Orleans helped give rise to an icon of French Impressionism.

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, October 27, 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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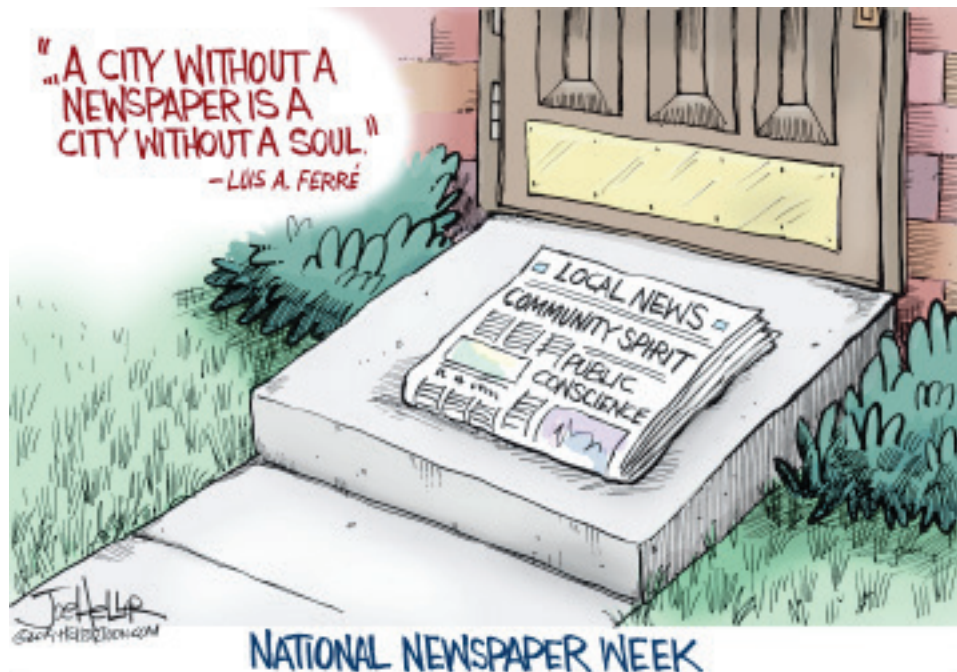
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Sit, Stay, Read! offered for fall



Special to The Pass Post

Special to The Pass Post

Three sessions remain in the Pass Christian Library's fall season of their popular Sit, Stay, Read! children's reading program.

Set for the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. until noon, the upcoming programs – October 21, November 18 and December 16 - are hosted by the Visiting Pet Teams of South Mississippi and provide a fun way for children to improve their communication and reading skills while visiting with a four-legged friend. The dog-friendly atmosphere provides motivation for the children to practice their reading, and reading sessions usually last for thirty minutes.

Children are rewarded with bookmarks, stickers, or pencils for participating in the free program. Children must not be afraid of or be allergic to animals in order to participate, and pre-registration is not required. For more information, call 228-452-4596, or email PassChristianLibrary@gmail.com. The library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue.

cont. from page 17

One Book, One Pass author event set for November 2

Laymon is the author of *Long Division*, which won the 2022 NAACP Image Award for fiction, and the essay collection, *How to Slowly Kill Yourself and Others in America*, named a notable book of 2021 by *The New York Times*' critics.

The 2023 One Book One Pass selection is the author's bestselling memoir, which won the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Non-fiction, the Christopher Isherwood Prize for Autobiographical Prose, the Barnes and Noble Discovery Award, the Austen Riggs Erikson Prize for Excellence in Mental Health Media, and was named one of the 50 Best Memoirs of the Past 50 Years by *The New York Times*. The audiobook, read by the author, was named the Audible 2018 Audiobook of the Year.

Laymon is the recipient of 2020-2021 Radcliffe Fellowship at Harvard. He is the founder of "The Catherine Coleman Literary Arts and Justice Initiative," a program based out of the Margaret Walker Center at Jackson State University, aimed at aiding young people in Jackson get more comfortable reading, writing, revising and sharing on their own terms and in their own communities. He was awarded a MacArthur Fellowship in 2022.

Copies of *Heavy: An American Memoir* are available for check out at the Pass Christian Library or for purchase at Pass Christian Books.

The event is free and open to the public. The Randolph Center is located at 315 Clark Avenue. For more information, call the library at 228-452-4596. The One Book One Pass Program is also on Facebook.

One Book, One Pass cooking demonstration planned

Special to The Pass Post

As part of the One Book, One Pass community read project, Jenna Quave, community wellness planner for Mississippi State University Extension, will present a cooking demonstration and showcase the free website Happy Healthy. One of the issues presented in the 2023 One Book, One Pass book selection, *Heavy: An American Memoir*, is how eating habits affect health, and the program will discuss ways to improve those habits.

The cooking demonstration will include a quick, easy and affordable Happy Healthy recipe, which participants will be able to taste. Nutrition education literature and reinforcement items will be given to participants, who will be asked to complete a written survey of feedback regarding the sampled recipe.

The event, planned for Thursday, October 12, at 1 p.m., is designed to be an interactive event for adults in the Pass Christian Library conference room.

The class is presented in partnership with MSU Extension, the One Book One Pass Community Read Project and the Pass Christian Public Library. Class size is limited, so advance registration is needed. To sign up, call the Pass Christian Library at 228-452-4596 or email PassChristianLibrary@gmail.com.





Long Beach Breeze

Students ages kindergarten through sixth grade who are looking for something to do during fall break – and parents or caregivers who would like a place for students to have fun and be looked after – are encouraged to consider the Fall Break Open Gym program, which is planned for October 2 through October 6 at the Long Beach Senior Center.

The daily “open gym” will run from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. daily.

The cost for the program is \$15 per day or \$60 for the entire week. Aftercare from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. is available for an additional \$40 for the week. Aftercare is available for the week only, not day-to-day.

Children must bring their lunch daily, and an afternoon snack will be provided each day.

The Long Beach Recreation Center is located on 20257 Daugherty Road. For more information, contact Amanada Yarbrough at AmYarbrough02@gmail.com.

Advance registration is not required.



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