

2nd Annual Fourth of July Jubilee planned for June 29



By Toni Miles

The public is invited to get a jump start on the Fourth of July holiday in Long Beach where Independence Day festivities will be celebrated throughout the day on Saturday, June 29, at the city's 2nd Annual Fourth of July Jubilee.

"Last year, we probably had more than five hundred people participate, so, this year, since we've been able to promote it sooner, we're anticipating over a thousand coming, especially for the fireworks, if everyone stays during the holidays," says Long Beach Community Affairs Director Courtney Cuevas.

It all starts at the Harper McCaughan Town Green, where a free festival will be held from 11 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. on June 29. A parade will take place in the downtown area at 6 p.m., followed by live music at 7 p.m.

The festivities will wrap up in true Independence Day style, with a fireworks show along the Long Beach shoreline near the harbor and Jeff Davis Avenue at 8:45 p.m. The fireworks will be set off right by the Jim Simpson pier, and organizers say that just about any spot

on the beach near the harbor or parking area should be ideal for viewing. Residents are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or something comfortable to sit on to watch the show.

"The parade will start at First United Methodist Church, go down Jeff Davis Avenue and end at the Harper McCaughan Town Green," Cuevas says. "The fireworks show will be at the end of Jeff Davis Avenue, so find a parking spot anywhere along the beach or on Jeff Davis Avenue."

"The parade and festival are completely free; however, you do have to fill out a City permit [to be a vendor at] the festival. If you go to the City of Long Beach's Facebook page, we [also] have a form that people can [use to sign up their golf cart, lawn mower, wagon to walk in the parade," Cuevas says.

"Vendors can also fill out a form online to set up at the festival to sell anything from hot dogs to artwork," she continued.

Cuevas says this celebration is a win-win for the city, residents, visitors and businesses.

"It's family-friendly, and businesses can also look forward to bringing new customers into our Long Beach businesses, further allowing their revenue to grow."

Fourth of July Jubilee Saturday, June 29

11 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Festival at Town Green
6 p.m.	Parade down Jeff Davis Avenue
7 p.m.	Live music at Town Green
8:45 p.m.	Fireworks at the harbor

ENTIRE COAST REVVING UP FOR JEEP IN THE COAST, MAY 29-JUNE 2

By Toni Miles

"Ready! Set! Roll!" is the official tagline for the ever-growing and popular annual Jeep in the Coast (JTC) event, and this year's JTC is just around the corner!

JTC is scheduled to start on Wednesday, May 29, and will wrap on Sunday, June 2. Over the years, Long Beach has served as the major hub for this annual gathering of Jeeps and Jeep enthusiasts, and this year is no exception. Some JTC events will be taking place in other cities, but Jeep Central will again be located at 506 Jeff Davis Avenue in Long Beach, where Jeeps will be on display, as well as JTC and Jeep-related merchandise for sale at the JTC Vendor Village.

On the first day, Wednesday, May 29, early bird arrivals can pick up their registration from 3 to 7 p.m. in Pass Christian at a Hawaiian-themed Luau Kick Off Party set to take place at the Pass Christian Harbor located at 115 South Market Street. Food, kids' games, music and more will all be part of the kick off festivities. There will also be a Hooters Hot Wing Eating Contest at 4:30 p.m. and live entertainment by Aaron Foret from 5 to 8 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to wear tropical shirts and bring their own chairs to the event.

On Thursday, May 30, day two of the event, registration pick-up continues at Jeep Central from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Long Beach. Other highlights include live music by Ryan Foret & Foret Tradition, as well as a Light and Sound Competition, will be held at a Thankful Thursday with Cos-

cont. on page 4



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Family events abound with adventure at summer reading program

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn, LBPL Youth and Technology Services

Let the Adventure Begin at Your Library!

Time is running out for those of you who haven't signed up for all the fun we will be having with this year's summer reading program. May 31 is the deadline for online registration, so don't miss it! We'll have a multitude of adventures all month!

Our programs this year are geared towards the whole family, so registration is needed for all family members. The form can be completed online on the library's website at www.LongBeach.Lib.MS.US, and we need a completed form for each person who will be a participant. A confirmation email will be sent to you after registering each person for the summer reading programs.

A Summer Challenges chart and a Passport and Sticker Journal will be given out on the first program day as part of this year's summer theme. Children can track their reading progress in minutes and keep a log of favorite titles, characters, places, etc. in their journal. Don't forget to get your Passport and Sticker Journal stamped when you check out your books!

If you are interested in painting a ceiling tile for the children's wing as a family, we need you to register, but we also need you to sign the sheet located at the children's librarian's desk to reserve your ceiling tile. We'll paint tiles on June 10 and 12.

As part of summer reading, there will be two Family Movie Days. Saturday, June 1, at 10 a.m., we will be showing *Land Before Time*, and on Saturday, June 15, we will be showing *Finding Nemo*. Both programs will be held in the children's wing.

Local author and business owner Mary Kephart and daughter and co-author Skylar Kephart will be at the library on June 17 at 10:30

a.m. to read their book, *Rosey Radish*, to the families in attendance. The Long Beach Garden Club will be joining us for a nature walk/scavenger hunt followed by rock painting on Wednesday, June 19, at 10:30 a.m. The program will begin in the children's wing.

We would like to give a huge thank you to the local Scouting Groups! We currently have two projects that our local Scouting groups are providing.

First, we have Eagle Scout candidate Tobin Loftis, who is working with his troop leaders and members on sprucing up the library side-garden. They have completed weeding and transplanting shrubs and will be building a new seating area inside the fence. We can't wait to see the results!

We also have Girl Scout Troop 4167, led by Barbara Kimball, who will be fund-raising for and building us a new outdoor drive-up book return for handicap accessibility.

We are very grateful for these young people and the contribution they are providing to improve our library. If you know any of these wonderful people, give them huge thank you! We look forward to seeing what they can do!

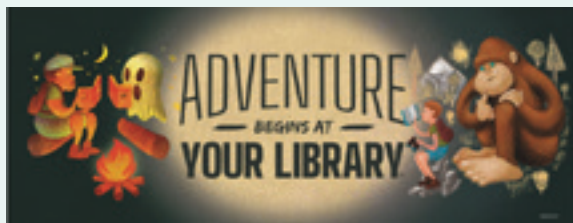
As a reminder to everyone, the library hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are open on Saturdays from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. On Saturdays, we hold our book sale in the main meeting room.

There are no holidays for the month of June, and there are no scheduled meetings for the Long Beach Board of Trustees for the month of June.

For more information about any of our events or offerings, please give us a call at 228-863-0711. The library is located at 209

Jeff Davis Avenue.

We would like to thank you all for your continued support. As always, thank you for your patronage, and stay safe!



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LONG BEACH LIBRARY SUMMER CALENDAR

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	SATURDAY
MAY 27	MAY 28	MAY 29	MAY 30	JUNE 1
	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. National Snail Day		Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Dinosaurs	10 a.m. Family Movie Day <i>The Land Before Time</i>
JUNE 3	JUNE 4	JUNE 5	JUNE 6	JUNE 8
Family D.I.Y. Day 10:30 a.m. Design It Yourself Day Create book covers, shelf markers or a special bookmark	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Fabric Marker T-shirts Bring an old white t-shirt and design a fresh new look	Family Program 10:30 a.m. Super-Sized Board Games Checkers, Jenga, Scrabble and Yahtzee, but BIGGER!	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Fabric Marker T-shirts Bring an old white t-shirt and design a fresh new look	Family Puzzle Challenge 10:30 a.m. How fast can your family complete a puzzle?
JUNE 10	JUNE 11	JUNE 12	JUNE 13	JUNE 15
Family Program 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Decorate a ceiling tile for the Children's Wing (Day 1). Families must preregister for this event.	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. World Ocean Day Theme	Family Program 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Decorate a ceiling tile for the Children's Wing (Day 2). Families must preregister for this event.	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Fathers Theme	10 a.m. Family Movie Day <i>Finding Nemo</i>
JUNE 17	JUNE 18	JUNE 19	JUNE 20	JUNE 22
Family D.I.Y. Day 10:30 a.m. Design It Yourself Day Create book covers, shelf markers or a special bookmark Reading of Rosey Radish by local authors Mary and Skylar Kephart	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Summer Theme	Family Program 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Nature Walk/Scavenger Hunt and Rock Painting with the Long Beach Garden Club	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Summer Theme	Family Camping Challenge 10:30 a.m. Smokey Bear Craft and Tent Challenge
JUNE 24	JUNE 25	JUNE 26	JUNE 27	JUNE 29
Family D.I.Y. Day 10:30 a.m. Design It Yourself Day - create book covers, shelf markers or a special bookmark	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Camping Theme	Family Program 10:30 a.m. Make an American Eagle with kits provided by Home Depot. Recommended for Grades 4+	Preschool Storytime 10:30 a.m. Chalk Art Day	Melted Crayon Art for the Family 10:30 a.m. Broken crayons make wonderful art projects. Recommended for Grades 4+

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cont. from front page

Entire Coast revving up for Jeepin the Coast, May 29-June 2

tunes 4 A Cause, with a silent auction and raffle at Sully's in Gulfport. Live entertainment at 10 p.m. at Tripletails in Bay St. Louis will wrap up day.

The JTC Vendor Village will be open at Jeep Central, on Friday, May 31, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Saturday, June 1, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Also on Friday, Jeeps will be able to cruise the sandy beaches of Long Beach from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Beach Crawl. Show and Shine judging will take place from 2 to 4 p.m. A Friday night concert from 7 to 11 p.m. is planned at Jeep Central, with the 3C Band set to perform live music on the main stage, followed by a fireworks show. Another after party will start at 10 at Tripletails.

On day four, Saturday, June 1, Vendor Village will be open to the public from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Jeep Central, and another Long Beach Beach Crawl will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

A Block Party, complete with a parade and live music, will be held at Jeep Central on Saturday.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs and stake out a good spot for the Annual JTC Jeep Mardi Gras-Style Parade, which will take place at 6 p.m. on Jeff Davis Avenue.

Concert in the Streets will kick off at 7 p.m. at Jeep Central and will continue until 10 p.m. Those who plan to attend are asked to bring their chairs.

On the final day, Sunday, June 2, day five of JTC will wrap with an early morning church service from 9:30 until 10 a.m. at the Harper McCaughan Town Green. Participants are asked to bring their own chairs.

Only Jeeps will be allowed to drive on the beach, in the parade and in the JTC events.

Pre-registration has wrapped already, but on-site registration costs \$100 and is a one-time fee. Those wishing to take part in the parade will need to pay a separate parade participant fee. T-shirts for on-site registration will be available while supplies last.

For more information, visit JeepinTheCoast.com.



Toni Miles



Toni Miles

Thousands of Jeep owners and enthusiasts are expected to roll into South Mississippi for the annual Jeepin the Coast event, including Frank Dawson and his family, who will be riding in from Vicksburg in this Jeep.

Jeep Central and Vendor Village - 506 Jeff Davis Avenue, Long Beach

Jeepin' the Coast 2024 events* include:

Wednesday, May 29

3-7 p.m.

Registration pick-up and kick-off luau with music, food, contests and more
200 Davis Avenue, Pass Christian

5-8 p.m.

Live entertainment by Aaron Foret
200 Davis Avenue, Pass Christian

Thursday, May 30

8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Registration
Jeep Central, Long Beach

6-9 p.m.

Thankful Thursday, Light and Sound Competition, live music
Judging starts at 8 p.m.
Sully's, 1316 30th Avenue, Gulfport

10 p.m.

After party with live entertainment
Tripletails, 113 South Beach Boulevard, Bay St. Louis

Friday, May 31

8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Registration
Jeep Central, Long Beach

9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Jeepin the Coast Vendor Village
Jeep Central, Long Beach

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Beach Crawl, Long Beach

2-4 p.m.

Show and Shine
Jeep Central, Long Beach

5 p.m.

Show and Shine Awards
Jeep Central, Long Beach

7-11 p.m.

Live music by 3C Band, fireworks show
Jeep Central, Long Beach

10 p.m.

After party with live entertainment
Tripletails, 113 South Beach Boulevard, Bay St. Louis

Saturday, June 1

8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Registration
Jeep Central, Long Beach

9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Jeepin' the Coast Vendor Village
Jeep Central, Long Beach

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Beach Crawl, Long Beach

6 p.m.

Jeep-Parade, Mardi Gras Style
Downtown Long Beach, Jeff Davis Avenue

7 - 10 p.m.

Concert in the Streets and Block Party with live music by Kings of Neon
Jeep Central, Long Beach

Sunday, June 2

9:30 - 10 a.m.

Church Service
Long Beach Town Green

*** Event details are subject to change, and additional events may be planned that are not listed. Visit Jeepin' the Coast on Facebook for a full list of events and event updates.**



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Hillman named Ole Miss Who's Who

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Cameron Hillman of Long Beach who, at press time was expected to graduate in May 2024 with a B.S.B.E. in biomedical engineering, was recognized in the 2023-24 class of Who's Who Among Students at the University of Mississippi.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Hillman was among two hundred and one Ole Miss students who were honored with the distinction during a ceremony this spring at the Gertrude C. Ford Center for the Performing Arts. She is a member of the Haley Barbour Center for Manufacturing Excellence and the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College, along with numerous honor societies, volunteer programs and campus organizations.

Who's Who Among Students is a respected honor program recognizing seniors who excel academically and demonstrate leadership and community service on and off campus.

"Nearly all of these two hundred and one Who's Who awardees began their college careers during the fall 2020 semester in the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Brent Marsh, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs and dean of students.

"This was a trying time for everyone, yet these students persisted and prevailed. Undaunted by the challenges presented, they sought out leadership and service opportunities while succeeding academically, and I am most proud of them."

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Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:30 AM, 5:30 PM	Friday: 6:30 AM

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Worship: 10:00 AM

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Maundy Thursday services will be held at 7:00PM March 28 and Good Friday services are at 7:00PM March 29. Our Easter Service will be at 10:00 AM. All are welcome!

The services are also broadcasted live via Zoom.
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Meet Your Neighbor: ACO Quentin Denney

By Brittany L. Smith

Long Beach Animal Control Officer (ACO) Quentin Denney is no stranger to a busy schedule. Still relatively new to law enforcement, he celebrated his one-year anniversary with the Long Beach Police Department (LBPd) in January. While striving to reunite lost pets with their families and managing the animal care facility at the LBPd, he is also educating the public about wildlife and pet safety, while enforcing laws for animal welfare.

A life-long animal lover, Denney says he often hid various creatures in his room during childhood.

“I can’t remember a time I wasn’t sharing space with an animal - or five.” said Denney.

He moved to Long Beach with his parents in 1978, where he later graduated high school, before pursuing a higher education at New York University, where he studied zoology and biomed. He resided in New York and Washington, D.C. for approximately fifteen years combined, before returning home to settle on the Mississippi coast.

Although his concern for wildlife and animal welfare remained unwavering, Denney found himself working in an entirely different industry. After owning local businesses, including a yogurt shop, a tech gadget repair shop and a consulting agency, his career began to focus on technology within the legal field. When LBPd’s previous ACO Kerry Hall announced his retirement, Denney decided to prioritize his dedication to animals, focusing his career on the field he is most enthusiastic about.

From the high of reuniting a lost pet with its family, to the low of notifying someone of a pet that has passed away, ACO Denney says he faces no shortage of ups and downs in his field.

“A rewarding sense of service, education and protection for all animals in our city wraps each day up on a positive note. I love this community and I feel privileged to serve it.” said Denney.

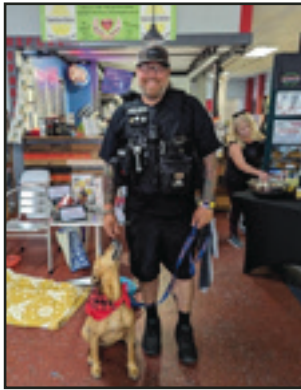
“I developed the ‘Three Es of Animal Coexistence: Engage, Educate, and Enforce,’” continues Denney. “My goals are to speak with anyone willing to listen about pet keeping, animal husbandry, dietary and wellness of pet keeping and coexistence planning with our wildlife. The LBPd animal facility is a huge step in making that whole chain of pet keeping complete. I can reunite, rehab and rehome animals in Long Beach that would otherwise go to the humane society or another shelter. Thanks to a massive support team of volunteers, we

make this happen daily.”

Denney also created the “Pet Map” project, with a goal of reuniting pets to their loved ones more quickly. Residents can have information about their pets, such as photos, descriptions and medical history, added to a text-searchable map of the city. The map uses a tagging system that allows residents to search for colors, breeds and addresses based on a Google map platform.

Denney is also developing a “Free Microchip” program for Long Beach residents, in hopes of a faster reunion of lost pets. By educating the public and working on animal welfare projects, Denney says he strives to make an impact on Long Beach residents and the animals that share the city.

Denney currently shares his home with four dogs: Molly, Luna, Hope and Rupert, while simultaneously working as a rehab specialist, caring for various wildlife species. He enjoys spending his free time fly-fishing, camping, hiking, exploring the wilderness and animal keeping.



Brittany L. Smith

Long Beach Animal Control Officer Quentin Denney

Q: What is your favorite animal?

A: That’s a tough choice between dogs, coyotes, sharks, bears or Komodo Dragons. These animals are intelligent, cunning, survivors, predators, and they fascinate me.

Q: If you could meet any public figure, dead or alive, who would you choose?

A: Dr. Jane Goodall. Her passion, compassion, and research into primates is astounding. She leveled up what research should look like and how it should be conducted.

Q: What advice would you give the community regarding wildlife and pet safety?

- 1) Do not use a collar for unsupervised animals or groups of active, playful pets. The risk of breaking a jaw, teeth or strangling is too great.
- 2) Stay current on vaccinations and health checks, and feed your pets a quality diet.
- 3) Have your pets microchipped, and keep your contact information current.
- 4) Spay and neuter your pets.
- 5) Do not feed wildlife you do not own or maintain regularly, and do not handle unknown animals or bring them into your home.
- 6) Keep injured animals away from your pets and children, and never assume that wildlife is sweet and cuddly just because they look to be.

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P.E.O. Chapter B-Long Beach attends state convention



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Members of P.E.O. Chapter B-Long Beach recently attended the 56th Annual Mississippi State Convention in Brandon. Pictured (l to r) are Betsy Bullard, LeeAnne Bryant, Susan Levens, Linda Reeves, Sheila Alexander, Kathy Cook, Grace Gingles and Carol Reeves.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Eight members of P.E.O. Chapter B-Long Beach recently attended the 56th Annual State Convention of the Mississippi State Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood in Brandon.

Chapter B is highly active in the Long Beach community and was recognized at the convention for their dedication to the Sisterhood's mission of promoting the education of women by motivating, educating and celebrating women. The group was recognized for their fundraising efforts to support the Sisterhood's philanthropy projects, including donations to the STAR Scholarship, Miriam Scarborough Scholarship, PCE (Program for Continuing Education), IPS (International Peace Scholarship Fund) and as a PSA (P.E.O. Scholar Awards) Laureate Chapter. Chapter B also was recognized for its 95th anniversary, for the initiation of eight new members this year, and for being a Legacy Chapter by meeting many challenges put in place for the 2023-24 year.

P.E.O. is a philanthropic educational organization interested in bringing women increased opportunities for higher education. At the annual conference, women representing twenty chapters throughout the state had the opportunity to meet with like-minded sisters from throughout the state. The keynote speaker was Kay Ebert, second vice president of International Chapter. Also addressing the attendees were outgoing State President Lisa Guice (Chapter E-Biloxi) and incoming State President Dawn Pizzalato (Chapter Y-Madison).

Through membership, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has brought together more than a half a million women in the United States and Canada who are passionate about helping women advance through education, while supporting and motivating them.

For more information about P.E.O., visit PEOInternational.org and/or PEOMississippi.org.

Open Gym available for area youth this summer

Long Beach Breeze

Combating summer boredom will be made easier again this year by the City of Long Beach. Beginning June 3 and continuing on weekdays through July 19, the City will host an "Open Gym" for children ages kindergarten through sixth grade. The program will run from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. daily, with aftercare available.

The cost for the program is \$20 per day or \$75 per week.

Previous summer activities have included basketball, volleyball, hockey, wall ball, baseball and softball, dodgeball and much more. Attendees should bring their own lunch each day. An afternoon snack will be provided daily, and snacks will be available for purchase for \$1.

Aftercare will be available from 3 until 5 p.m. for \$40 a week.

For more information or to sign up, contact Amanada Yarbrough at amyarbrough@gmail.com.

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Summer splash days planned



Toni Miles

The City of Long Beach's Annual Summer Splash Day has been extended to two days this year and will take place on Saturday, June 15, and also on Saturday, July 20, from noon until 1 p.m. The event is free and provides an opportunity for youth to meet with local firefighters.

By Toni Miles

Instead of just one day of fun in the sun – and water – with local firefighters, this year's Summer Splash Day has been expanded to two days.

"Last year...it was only one day, and we had a huge turnout," says Courtney Cuevas, community affairs director for the City of Long Beach. "So, this year, we are hosting this event on two days, [which] will allow more community members to come out for the event."

On Saturday, June 15, and also on Saturday, July 20, from noon until 1 p.m., local youth and their families are encouraged to soak up some summer fun at the splash pad at the Long Beach Harper McCaughan Town Green to have a good time while also getting to know those who are on call 24/7 to protect them and their property from fires and other dangerous situations.

"Kids are more than welcome to come in their bathing suits, to hang out at the splash pad," Cuevas says. "The fire department will have their hoses hooked up, to allow more water onto the splash pad. Kids can also tour the fire engines. They'll have stickers and fire department hats that the kids can wear."

The event is free and for all ages. Waivers will need to be signed upon arrival at the Summer Splash Day events. The splash pad will be open to those not participating in the event, as well.

Those who would like to participate are reminded to bring closed-toed shoes, sunscreen, a towel and water. The splash pad is open daily from 8 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Hundreds gather to celebrate LBHS Class of 2024

By Toni Miles

Hundreds of people gathered in the Long Beach High School (LBHS) gym to celebrate the achievements of graduating seniors during LBHS's Senior Day on Tuesday, May 7. This year's Class of 2024 boasts one-hundred-ninety-seven graduating seniors who have earned millions of dollars in scholarships to further help them to follow their dreams and chosen career paths.

Parents, relatives and friends of graduating seniors packed the gym to standing-room-only capacity at this year's Senior Day, where the names and achievements of seniors were announced before they came forward for a certificate presentation and to pick up a copy of the LBHS Yearbook.

Riley Madison McDonnell, the daughter of Melissa and David McDonnell, has been named valedictorian. McDonnell plans to attend Mississippi State University and study mechanical engineering.

Vicki Ha Vy Tran, the daughter of Ha and Hung Tran, is the salutatorian. She plans to attend Rice University to major in chemical engineering.



Toni Miles

To see all of our incredible photos of this event, check out page 13 of our online version at

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Local students win math competitions



Special to The Pass Post

Two Pass Christian Middle School eighth graders recently competed in the Mississippi Council of Teachers of Mathematics Middle School District Math Tournament and brought home awards. Tucker Hoffman (left) won second place, and Skylar Balch (right) won first place. Balch went on to bring home fourth place from the state-level competition. The two students, along with only twenty-two others, were selected based on their scores on a math test administered earlier this year to 1,250 students at participating schools. Other area students (not pictured) who participated in the district competition included Grayson Werner and Zerriah Brooks of Pass Christian Middle School, as well as Long Beach Middle School students Peyton Reeves, Skylar Lacap, Ishaan Kalluru and Audrey Keeton.

Juneteenth activities planned

Special to The Pass Post

On Saturday, June 15, the Juneteenth in the Pass committee will host a day-long event in observance of Juneteenth.

The Emancipation Proclamation ended slavery in the Confederacy, but it wasn't applied nationally until two years later, on June 19, 1865. Today, the holiday is the most popular annual celebration of emancipation from slavery in the United States.

The day will begin with the "If Not You, Then Who" Brunch at 10 a.m. at the J. W. Randolph Center. The brunch, with Sonya Williams-Barnes as keynote speaker, will honor six community activists who serve in a voluntary capacity and work to achieve the common goal of unity and love for all. Guest vocalist will be Jamion Burney. Tickets for the brunch are \$35 per person.

A free community Juneteenth celebration will be held from 4 until 8 p.m. at War Memorial Park, located at 101 Fleitas.

The J. W. Randolph Center is located at 315 Clark Avenue in Pass Christian. For more information, call Kimberly at 228-313-8033.

To see even more Pass Post content, check out page 16 of our online version at

LongBeachBreeze.com

PCMS archery competes at state competition

The Pass Christian Middle School archery team recently competed at the State Competition in Jackson and ranked eighth in their division in the state. The top male shooter was Nathan Tent, and the top female shooter was Chloe Ladner. The team is coached by Emanuel Oatis and Chasity Benoit.



Special to The Pass Post

Annual One Book, One Pass community read effort begins for 2024

The Pass Post

With a goal of having everyone in Pass Christian read the same book and then join together to talk about it, the Pass Christian Library is kicking off the 2024 installment of their annual "One Book, One Pass" community read effort.



Special to The Pass Post

The 2024 selected author is Lauren Groff, and the book selection is *The Vaster Wilds*.

The novel is about one spirited girl alone in the wilderness, trying to survive. At once a thrilling adventure story and a penetrating fable about trying to find a new way of living in a world succumbing to the churn of colonialism, *The Vaster Wilds* is a work of raw and prophetic power that tells the story of America in miniature, through one girl at a hinge point in history, to ask how—and if—one can adapt quickly enough to save one's self.

Over the next several months, the community is encouraged to read the book and engage in book discussions, panel discussions and other programs that will culminate in a visit and presentation by the author at the Randolph Center on Tuesday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m.

Copies of *The Vaster Wilds* are available for check out at the Pass Christian Library or for purchase at Pass Christian Books. Those with questions or needing more information are encouraged to call the library at 228-452-4596, or email PassChristianLibrary@gmail.com.



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Local youth win sailing awards at regional regatta



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Members of the Long Beach Yacht Club Junior Sailing Team walked away victorious at the Gulf Yachting Association's Opening Regatta held recently in Fairhope, Alabama. Pictured (l to r) are Long Beach youth who placed in the competition: Patrick Clark, Oxford Brinkley Caldwell, Jonathan Mate, Tenly Ruhlman and Amelia Clark.

By Toni Miles

As the old saying goes, "A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor." Several local youth recently put their sailing skills to the test at the Gulf Yachting Association's (GYA's) Opening Regatta, which took place at the Fairhope Yacht Club in Fairhope, Alabama.

The Regatta marked the formal start of the of the summer sailing season among the thirty-three GYA member clubs, located from Texas to Florida.

"They did us proud," says Coach Tom Lansford, who, along with his daughter Ella Lansford, coaches the Long Beach Yacht Club (LBYC) Junior Sailing Team. "They competed strongly in the GYA's Opening Regatta."

The regional races were held on the waters of Mobile Bay, which was not providing smooth sailing on the day of the race. Nevertheless, the LBYC team members made it back ashore to capture second- and third-place finishes.

"In extreme conditions with high winds and seas, Skipper Amelia Clark and crew Oxford Brinkley Caldwell earned second overall in the Club 420 class after seven races," Lansford said.

Other members of the team also finished well, with skipper Jonathan Mate and crew Tenly Ruhlman earning fourth among the 420s, along with one first-place finish; and Patrick Clark came in third overall in the single-sailor Laser class.

The Long Beach Yacht Club will host a Sail Camp for local youth ages seven to seventeen this summer, with the first session set for June 3-14, and the second planned for June 17-28.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Father-daughter duo Tom and Ella Lansford serve as coaches for the Long Beach Yacht Club's Junior Sailing Team.




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Community invited to monthly 1-mile Gulf Park walk and talk

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The University of Southern Mississippi (USM) Gulf Park Health Center (GPHC) invites members of the campus community to lace up their walking shoes and join in the monthly "Strutt Your Stuff Walk and Talk," a one-mile walk around the school's beachfront campus with GPHC nurse practitioner Connie Richardson.

The walks take place on the first Wednesday of every month, beginning at 12:15 p.m., with participants meeting at the GPHC.

"The walk is an opportunity to hold a conversation about general medical problems and to get outside and move in a relaxed setting," said Richardson.

Richardson was inspired by a program called "Walk with the Doc." She credits the beautiful coastal spring weather for inspiration to get outside and take a break from school and work. Participants can ask Richardson general health questions during the walk.

The first walk took place April 3, and participants asked questions about bone health, screenings and blood pressure. Richardson is hoping to continue facilitating conversations about women's health and other health concerns, while also emphasizing the importance of taking time each day to exercise.

"There are multiple benefits to walking outside, including improving one's mental health, getting vitamin D [from sunlight], improving metabolism, gaining muscle mass and benefiting serotonin levels in the brain," Richardson explained.

Richardson said that studies have shown that walking a minimum of 4,000 steps a day significantly reduces early death. Setting a goal of 2,300 steps a day also reduces risks of cardiovascular disease.

Local leaders and citizens join National Day of Prayer Service

By Toni Miles

“Prayer is a force as real as territorial gravity,” said Dr. Alexis Carrel. “As a physician, I have seen men, after all therapy had failed, lifted out of disease and melancholy by the serene effort of prayer.”

Earlier this month, Carrel, whose training is rooted in the knowledge of science, referenced his personal testimony chronicling inexplicable healings that occurred due to a force greater than science alone.

With the idea that there’s power in numbers, people from all walks of life gathered at Long Beach City Hall on Thursday, May 2, for the city’s annual National Day of Prayer Service.

Faith leaders from throughout the area led the crowd of dozens of people in unified, spoken prayers for various local sectors and industries, including military and family.

“I think there was a great turnout today,” said Long Beach Mayor George Bass. “I think it’s very important that we show unity, not just to those who showed up to be with us, but also for our citizens – a lot of them work and could not afford to come here and be part of this service... [so we are] also praying for our citizens who were not able to attend, as well.”

The Long Beach High School Choir lifted their voices in song during a special, live performance before the public group prayers began at the service.

Reverend Jon Kaufman with First United Methodist Church led the prayer for those who work in education, while Brother Mike Stewart with Antioch Baptist Church headed up the prayer for government. Pastor Ben Barlow with The Well Church said the prayer for family, and Rev. Matthew Gaddy with First Baptist Church led the prayer for churches. The prayer for military was conducted by Deacon Jerry Dubuisson with St. Thomas Catholic Church, and Pastor Brian Rousel with Connect Fellowship led the prayer for businesses.

This year’s theme – “Lift Up the Word, Light up the World”- is based on the Biblical scripture found in 2 Samuel 22:29-31.

Ward 2 Long Beach Alderman Bernie Parker said the closing prayer at the service.



Toni Miles

Dozens of local leaders, pastors and citizens turned out for the service.

To see all of our incredible photos of this event, check out page 13 of our online version at LongBeachBreeze.com.

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Local leaders and citizens join National Day of Prayer Service



Dozens of local leaders, pastors and citizens turned out for the City of Long Beach's Annual National Day of Prayer Service held at City Hall on Thursday, May 2.



Long Beach Police Chief Billy Seal was among the numerous local police, firefighters and other first responders who attended the service.



Reverend Jon Kauffman with First United Methodist Church of Long Beach led the prayer for those who work in education.

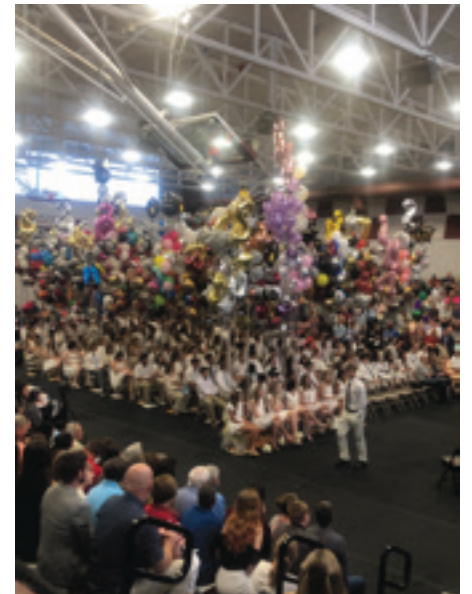
Hundreds gather to celebrate LBHS Class of 2024



Toni Miles



Toni Miles



Toni Miles



Toni Miles



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Riley Madison McDonnell is valedictorian of Long Beach High School's Class of 2024.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Vicki Ha Vy Tran is salutatorian of the Long Beach High School Class of 2024.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month in Mississippi

By Guest Columnist Wendy Bailey, Executive Director, Mississippi Department of Mental Health

With the arrival of May, we were not only greeted by the warmth of spring, but also by a call to prioritize an aspect of our lives too often overlooked—our mental health. May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a time dedicated to raising awareness, providing support and fostering understanding about mental health and treatment. We at the Department of Mental Health urge communities across the state to join together in acknowledging the importance of mental wellness and the resources available to support it.

In our fast-paced lives, it's easy to neglect our mental well-being amidst the myriad responsibilities and challenges we face. However, investing in our mental health is not just a personal choice—it's a social imperative. By prioritizing mental wellness, we not only enhance our individual lives but also contribute to the overall health and resilience of our communities.

One crucial aspect of mental health awareness is early intervention. Just as we prioritize regular physical check-ups, it's essential to prioritize mental health screenings, as well. These screenings can help identify potential issues early on, allowing for timely interventions that can prevent the escalation of mental health challenges.

Connecting with mental health services should not be seen as a last resort, but rather as a proactive step towards maintaining well-being. In Mississippi, there are eleven Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) that serve as invaluable resources, offering a range of services tailored to meet a person's needs. Whether it's counseling, therapy, peer support or crisis services, these centers can get Mississippians on their journeys to healing and recovery.

However, seeking help can be daunting, often due to the misconceptions that surround mental health issues. We must work collectively to educate ourselves, replacing judgment with empathy and understanding. Mental health conditions are not a sign of weakness, but a natural part of the human experience. By normalizing conversations about mental health, we create a supportive environment where people feel empowered to seek the help they deserve.

As renowned author Brené Brown once said, "Owning our story and loving ourselves through that process is the bravest thing that we'll ever do." Seeking help for our mental health is an act of courage, one that reflects a deep commitment to self-care and self-compassion.

Moreover, it's essential to recognize that mental health is not a destination, but a lifelong journey. Just as we prioritize physical fitness through regular exercise and healthy habits, we must also prioritize our mental fitness through self-care practices, mindfulness and ongoing support.

As we bring this year's Mental Health Awareness Month to a close, let's come together as a community to prioritize mental wellness, support one another and break the silence surrounding mental health issues. Together, we can create a future where mental health is treated with the same importance as physical health—a future where every individual can thrive.

If you or someone you know is experiencing a behavioral health crisis or needs to speak to a trained counselor, call 988 24/7 to reach one of the call centers in Mississippi. You can also visit www.dmh.ms.gov and www.mentalhealthms.com for resources in your area.



Mississippi Community Mental Health Centers

REGION 2

Calhoun, Lafayette, Marshall, Panola, Tate, Yalobusha
 Communicare
 152 Highway 7 South
 Oxford, MS 38655
 (662) 234-7521
www.communicarems.org

REGION 3

Benton, Chickasaw, Itawamba, Lee, Monroe, Pontotoc, Union
 LIFECORE Health Group
 2434 South Eason Boulevard
 Tupelo, MS 38801
 (662) 640-4595
www.lifecorehealthgroup.com

REGION 4

Alcorn, DeSoto, Prentiss, Tippah, Tishomingo
 Region 4 Mental Health Services
 303 N. Madison
 Corinth, MS 38835-0839
 (662) 286-9883
www.region4mhs.com

REGION 6

Attala, Bolivar, Carroll, Coahoma, Grenada, Holmes, Humphreys, Issaquena, Leflore, Montgomery, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tunica, Washington
 Life Help
 101 Hwy 7 South
 Greenwood, MS 38935-1505
 (662) 453-6211
www.region6-lifehelp.org



REGION 7

Choctaw, Clay, Lowndes, Noxubee, Oktibbeha, Webster, Winston
 Community Counseling Services
 1032 Highway 50
 West Point, MS 39773
 (662) 524-4347
www.ccsms.org

REGION 8

Copiah, Lincoln, Madison, Rankin, Simpson
 Region 8 Mental Health Services
 613 Marquette Road
 Brandon, MS 39043
 (601) 825-8800 (Service);
 (601) 824-0342 (Admin.)
www.region8mhs.org

REGION 9

Hinds
 Hinds Behavioral Health Services
 3450 Highway 80 West
 Jackson, MS 39284
 (601) 321-2400
www.hbhs9.com

REGION 10

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www.weemsmh.com

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St. Vincent de Paul students hold May Crowning ceremony

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic School students recently had their morning prayer and pledge and their May Crowning ceremony. The Pre-K4 teachers led the students in the Ave Maria Grotto in honoring Mother Mary with a crown and flowers. Teachers, parents and students joined in singing, "Hail Mary, Gentle Woman" as the children processed forward to lay flowers at Mary's feet.

All photos Special to Long Beach Breeze



Youth aviation camp open for registration

By Toni Miles

Young people in grades six through twelve can take their summer vacation to new heights while learning about flying, airplanes, aviation history and more.

Registration is underway for the 2024 Aviation Summer Camp, which will offer three two-week camp sessions where students will learn about aircraft aluminum riveting, drones, 3-D printing, flight simulation, robotics, aerodynamics, welding, aviation history, navigation and careers in aviation.

Camp sessions will be held at The Brown Condor Col. John C. Robinson Mississippi Aviation Heritage Museum located 429 Pass Road in Gulfport.

The first session will be held June 10-12 and June 17-19. The second session will be held June 24-26 and July 8-10; and the third session will be held July 15-17 and July 22-24. Sessions will be from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. and are \$300 per camper per session.

Each session will include field trips to the local airport. Lunch will be provided every day, and during the lunch hour, expert aviation speakers will share their stories, knowledge and experience with aviation campers.

On the last day of camp, participants will visit the Gulfport Control Tower, the Gulfport terminal, and the Mississippi National Guard helicopter repair station in Gulfport.

For more information or to register for camp visit www.MSAviationMuseum.org.



Youth who participate in the Aviation Camp will have the opportunity to interact and hear from aviation experts.

Toni Miles

Adventures for all ages abound at the library for summer reading

The Pass Post

With a theme of “Adventure Begins at Your Library,” the Pass Christian Summer Library Program has begun – and it’s not just for kids.

Beginning May 29, every Wednesday through July 10 will bring free family programs to the library, including a Gulf Coast safari, a visit from the Hattiesburg Zoo, illustrating fun with Chuck Gale, reading with author Mary Annaise Heglar, learning how to keep wild families together with Woodside Wildlife Rescue, and how to prevent wildfires with Smokey Bear and Officer Kevin Craft. The closing party on July 10 – also at 10 a.m. – will feature not only The Magical Musical Meteorology Tour with Stormin Bob Swanson, but also reading prizes and snowballs.

Registration can be found at <https://harrison.lib.ms.us> or by visiting the library.

Adults are encouraged to participate in summer reading, as well, with a new “Silent Book Club” planned for Saturday, June 8, at noon, as well as on July 13 and August 10. Adult readers are encouraged to bring whatever reading material they would like

– manga, magazines, a paper book or e-reader, or even an electronic book or podcast – to read and discuss, if desired, at the book club. Donuts and coffee will be provided.

In addition, the community is invited to attend a pizza chat and discussion of *The Vaster Wilds* by One Book One Pass author Lauren Groff on Wednesday, June 26. Pizza, beverages and more will be provided, beginning at 6:30 p.m. in the library conference room. Copies of the book are available for check out at the library, and the ebook and audio are available through Hoopla.

All events are free.

The Pass Christian Library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue in Pass Christian. The complete summer library schedule is available at the library or on the Pass Christian Library Facebook Page. For more information, call the library at 228-452-4596.



Toni Miles

Children drawing with Chuck Gale during the 2023 Summer Reading Program.

Art for Youth’s Sake programs announced

Special to The Pass Post

For over twenty-five years, the Pass Christian Public Library has partnered with the Pass Christian Art Association and local community artists to organize “Art for Youth’s Sake” summer art classes for teens aged twelve to eighteen years old.

Classes are free and will take place on Thursdays at 2 p.m.

This year’s classes include Still Life Drawing with artist Margaret Inabinet on June 6, My Totem in Pottery with artist Marie Lamb on June 20, Landscaping with Charcoal with artist Henry Stiller on June 27, and Abstract Landscapes in Watercolor with artist Beth Ann MacDonald on July 11.

Enrollment is limited, so teens are encouraged to call the library at 228-452-4596 to register for classes they wish to attend.

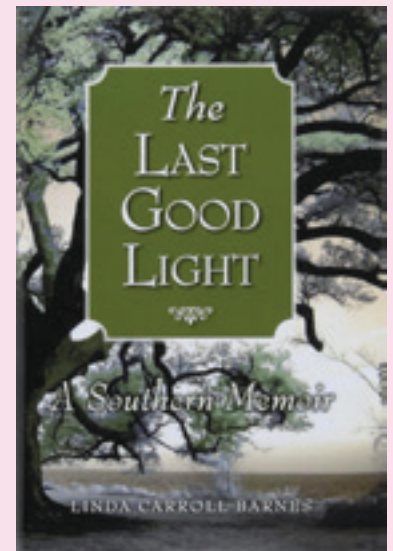
The Coast in the ‘60s focus of luncheon

Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Historical Society will hold its monthly luncheon on Monday, June 24, at noon. The speaker will be Linda Carroll Barnes, the author of *The Last Good Light: A Southern Memoir*, who will be joined by the photographer for the book, John Magure. The topic of their presentation will be the Coast in the 1960s.

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, June 21. 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.



Pass students win chess awards



Special to The Pass Post

Chess winners in the first-ever PCPSD Gifted Chess Tournament, which was held earlier this year at the Randolph Center.

Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Public School District (PCPSD) recently held its first PCPSD Gifted Chess Tournament. Thirty-five participants came from Delisle Elementary School, Pass Christian Elementary School, Pass Christian Middle School and Pass Christian High School. Gifted teacher Sarah Badeaux, Jane Bunn and Paula Lacoste, along with high school Chess Club sponsor Ashley Ladner, partnered with Jeff Bolhuis of the Mississippi Scholastic Chess Association for the event.

Fifth-grade winners included Blake Holman, gold; and Charlie Hurst, James Strawhorn and Gene Wong, tied for silver. Sixth-grade winners were Cael Fryer, gold; Jordan Taylor, silver; and Izzy Milevsky, bronze. Seventh- and eighth-grade winners were Daniel Johnson, gold; Adrian Rodriguez, silver; and Aiden Rice, bronze. High school winners included Kolbie Brassfield, gold; Gabriel Dupree, silver; and Jacoby Johnson, bronze.

Pedal in the Pass continues this summer



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June 13 will be the next Pedal in the Pass, a free community bicycle dinner ride which takes place on the second Thursday of each month. Future ride dates include July 11, August 8 and September 12.

The activity is described as “an easy, no drop bicycle ride” through downtown Pass Christian, with riders invited to conclude the evening with an optional Dutch treat group dinner at one of the downtown restaurants.

All participants must have a bike and a helmet, and all ages are welcome.

Those wishing to participate should near Scenic Drive in War Memorial Park in Pass Christian. Weather permitting, the ride begins at 6 p.m.

For more information, call 228-452-2453.