

CTE Center nearing completion, awarded \$5,000



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach Breeze

The new Long Beach School District Career and Technical Education (CTE) Center will open this fall, and students in the CTE's "Whiskers and Waggers Fun Hub-Extended Stay" project will enjoy a \$5,000 grant from Sparklight to tackle their initiative to revitalize the City of Long Beach Police Department's animal shelter. Participating students will gain career and technical training skills related to engineering, construction and welding, as they

improve the physical, emotional and social well-being of animals awaiting adoption. Participating Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) students will also earn volunteer hours.

"We are grateful to Sparklight for the \$5,000 donation for our Whiskers and Waggers project," said Long Beach High School Work-Based Learning Coordinator Demetria Brown. "It will truly have an impact across our entire community. Thank you, Sparklight, for putting the 'spark' into our important project."

The school's program was one of only twenty-six grant recipients across the company's twenty-four-state footprint during the company's most recent award period.

The CTE, for which funding was secured during the 2021-22 school year, will offer

cont. on page 9



See page 9 for more photos of the new LBSD Career and Technical Education Center.

Toni Miles

Registration open for car-centric October events

By Toni Miles

The Coast will once again welcome car lovers galore at the first part of October, as the 28th annual Cruisin' the Coast rolls into town October 6. While "America's Largest Block Party" has a multitude of events throughout the area during its eight-day run from October 6 through October 13, Long Beach will host its own special event for the second year, Trucks 'N' Tacos.

The two-day cruise-in debuted in downtown Long Beach last year and is returning to the Friendly City this year by popular demand.

Set for Thursday, October 10, and Friday, October 11, from noon to 10 p.m. at the Harper McCaughan Town Green, Trucks 'N' Tacos will feature classic trucks and hotrods that are models from 1998 and older.

Local vendors and custom merchandise will be available for those who plan to check out the free event. Other organizations, such as the Wounded Warriors of Mississippi, will have tents and booths set up at the event to help raise awareness and resources.

There will also be live entertainment both nights by bands set to play at the Harper McCaughan Town Green Pavilion off Jeff Davis Avenue.

While registration for Trucks 'N' Tacos is not necessary, it is required for Cruisin' the Coast (CTC). While the popular South Mississippi tourism and classic car event is still over two months away, organizers say records are already being broken, suggesting that participation will exceed the 10,070 registered vehicles from forty-five states that broke previous records last year.



Toni Miles

Truck models 1998 and older will be featured at the 2nd Annual Trucks 'N' Tacos event in Long Beach, planned for Thursday, October 10, and Friday, October 11, from noon until 10 p.m.

Again this year, Long Beach's annual Cruisin' the Coast Parade will take place on the first Monday of CTC, October 7. The parade is set to start at 5:30 p.m., and those who wish to attend are encouraged to stake out a spot early along the parade route for the best views and throws. The Tip Tops will play at Long Beach Harbor following the parade, from 6 until 9 p.m.

CTC is open to vehicles from 1989 and older, and entrants must be at least eighteen years of age.

Early-bird registration must be postmarked or completed online by midnight on August 15.

On-site registration opens on Monday, October 7, at Cruise Central, beginning at 11 a.m. It continues daily from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. through Friday, and from Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon. On-site registration will cost \$100.

All registered vehicles may participate in Show 'N' Shine at all locations, controlled cruises, the parade and the autocross. The Long Beach parade will be open to the first six hundred cars to arrive, with lineup starting at 1 p.m. at Long Beach High School.

There's still time for those who wish to sign up to volunteer to be part of this year's "Cruisin' Krewe." Cruisin' Krewe volunteers help with everything from traffic control and parking to administration, hospitality and vehicle registration. To apply, visit CruisinTheCoast.com and fill out the Cruisin' Krewe Application and Agreement.

Online and mail-in registration information is available at CruisinTheCoast.com.



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Family Movie Day planned for August 10

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn, LBPL Youth and Technology Services

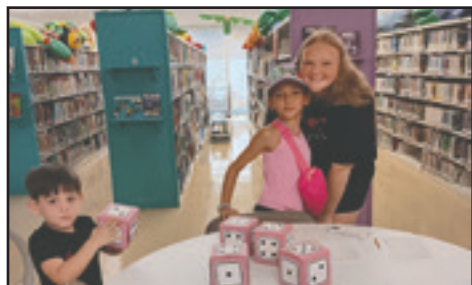
It's hard to believe that August is nearly here. As promised, we have included some pictures of the fun we had this summer. Family Movie Day will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 10, in the children's wing. We will be showing Paramount Pictures/Nickelodeon's *Barnyard*.

Preschool story time will continue to be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. The library will be closed for Labor Day from Saturday, August 31, through Monday, September 2, and will reopen on Tuesday, September 3, at 9 a.m.

There are no meetings planned in August for the Friends of the Library or the Long Beach Board of Trustees. As a reminder to everyone, Long Beach Public Library's 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.

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!



All photos Special to Long Beach Breeze



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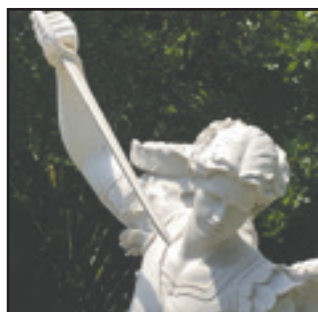


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Set in stone: Archangel “watches over” the Marian Grotto Prayer Garden

All photos by Toni Miles



A statue of St. Michael the Archangel, standing poised with a sword in one hand and his foot on the head of the enemy, can now be seen at the Marian Grotto Prayer Garden behind St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Long Beach.

The Marian Grotto Prayer Garden is now home to not only a statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, but also a statue of St. Michael the Archangel.

The base of the statue of St. Michael the Archangel includes a short version of the St. Michael Prayer for Protection, which reads, in part: “St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.”

By Toni Miles

The Marian Grotto Prayer Garden is a sacred site where St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church parishioners and others often visit to meditate, reflect and pray the Rosary.

After decades of being battered by hurricanes and even vandalism, the Prayer Garden still stands and is in full bloom today - a serene safe haven on the grounds behind St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Long Beach.

The site now has a visible guardian, a statue of St. Michael the Archangel, donated by Dr. and Mrs. James Heurtin. It is the most recent addition to the Marian Grotto Prayer Garden and replaces a statue of an angel cradling an infant, which was destroyed, along with the centerpiece statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by vandalism in July of 2022. The vandalism occurred just three months after a celebration of the Marian Grotto Prayer Garden Historical Marker unveiling and dedication that took place on Palm Sunday, April 10, 2022, at St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church grounds.

The statue embodies the Archangel, as often depicted, armed with a sword raised high in one hand and his foot on the neck of the enemy. St. Michael the Archangel is a protector, who stands ready to defend God’s people, according to the Catholic and Christian faith, a spiritual warrior in the battle of good versus evil, a champion of justice, a healer of the sick and the guardian of the Church.

On the base of the statue of St. Michael the Archangel is a short version of the St. Michael Prayer for Protection, which reads, in part: “St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil.”

The Prayer Garden established at the Church, but at a different site decades ago, has continued to bloom wherever it’s been “planted,” despite category-three (Katrina) and category-five (Ca-

mille) hurricanes and the vandalism in 2022.

In August of 2005, the site was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina, and, in 2009, the Grotto was moved from west of the church to the present location.

In 2021, members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul adopted the beautification and preservation of this sacred site. The site’s historical marker was sponsored by Mary Schepens Levens and family.

The original Marian Grotto was destroyed by Hurricane Camille in 1969. In 1972, Henry Schepens, Sr. donated the Grotto to St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church. It was built in memory of his parents, Leo and Theresa Dauro Schepens, and the Vincent and Angelina Trippa Dauro family, Sicilian immigrants, who settled in Long Beach in 1905.

The Blessed Virgin Mary statue, donated by A.C. Fayard, was re-dedicated in 1973 by Helen Fayard, in memory of A.C. Fayard and their daughter, Helen Ann Fayard. In 2002, a cherub fountain complete with an angel holding a baby, provided by Steve and Kathy Day, was given for the Parish Life Center Prayer Garden.

Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul provide ongoing labor to maintain the site. They, and members of St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, pooled their resources to restore, refurbish and enhance the Marian Grotto Prayer Garden after the July 2022 vandalism, first refurbishing the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary, then adding the statue of St. Michael the Archangel later to replace the statue of the angel cradling the infant.

Also in 2022, parishioners and others gathered at the Marian Grotto Prayer Garden to pray for the very man accused of vandalizing the site as soon as the crime was discovered - the same day the vandalism took place - embodying the universal message of forgiveness and mercy as believed and practiced by Catholics and those of the Christian faith worldwide.

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Long Beach #51 OES installs officers



Special to The Long Beach Breeze

Pictured (l to r) are, front row Lynda Gary, PM; Beth Somes; Shirley Curtis, PM; Worthy Matron Pamela Taylor, PM; Worthy Patron Tommie Taylor, PP; Dean Patrick, PM; Jewel Dickerson, PM; and Pat Anderson, DDGM; second row: Suzanne Stafford, PM; Ellen Lindsey, PM; Lynette McVey, PM; Deborah Alverson, PM; and Jeannie Cooper-Nolan; and back row: Larry McVey, PGP; and Kitsaa Stevens, PM. Not shown are Sharlotte Finley, PM, and Kevin Rapier, PP.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Recently, Long Beach Chapter #51, Order of the Eastern Star (OES), held its installation of 2024-25 officers. Worthy Matron Pamela Taylor, PM, and Worthy Patron Tommie Taylor, PP, will lead the chapter for the ensuing year.

The Worthy Matron's motto for the year is "Stars in Harmony," with colors red, white and blue and symbols stars and stripes. The group offered a special thank you to the installing officers: Installing Officer Sue Williams, PGM, from Louisiana; Installing Marshal Denise Ammons, from Louisiana; Installing Chaplain Melva Geiger, from Louisiana; Installing Secretary Pat Anderson, DDGM; and Installing Organist Wanda Pate. A luncheon was held after the installation.

Long Beach Chapter #51 meets at Southern Star Lodge on Klondyke Road. The Order of the Eastern Star is the largest fraternal organization in the world to which both men and women may belong, with more than 500,000 members worldwide. It is a fraternal charitable organization, financially assisting local organizations, serving and supporting all age groups within their communities, as well as giving support to state and international projects.

The Order of the Eastern Star is open to adults of all ages who are trying to better themselves and the community around them. Those who would like to add their light to this Star are encouraged to contact a member of a local chapter to visit the Long Beach Chapter #51 Facebook page at LongBeach51OES.MS, which offers details on membership eligibility as well as information about the tenets and purposes of the Order of the Eastern Star.

Teachers complete Digital Teacher Academy



Special to The Long Beach Breeze

Harper McCaughan Elementary School teachers Tate Lassabe and Bethany Scott, along with W.J. Quarles Elementary School teacher Alisha Westbrook, recently completed the 2023-24 Digital Teacher Academy. The year-long professional development opportunity was designed to support classroom teachers as they implemented digital instructional practices in their classrooms and become technology leaders in their schools.

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6th grader wins first place in InvestWrite® competition

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Echoing the immortal words of Nelson Mandela, "It always seems impossible until it's done," Cade Boudreaux, a sixth-grader at St. Vincent De Paul Catholic School, defied the odds by creating a diversified investment portfolio aimed at securing long-term financial success.

Boudreaux's investment strategy placed him first in the state in the middle school division of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) Foundation's Fall 2023 InvestWrite competition.

In recognition of his accomplishment, Boudreaux and his teacher, Tara Meleones, were honored by the SIFMA Foundation and the Mississippi Council on Economic Education (MCEE) during the MCEE's recent awards ceremony.

The SIFMA Foundation's InvestWrite national essay competition serves as a bridge between classroom education in mathematics, social studies, language arts and the practical application of research and knowledge essential for saving, investing and long-term financial planning. The competition is a culminating activity for the acclaimed Stock Market Game™, a curriculum-based financial education program challenging students to manage a hypothetical \$100,000 online portfolio of stocks, bonds, mutual funds and cash.

"It brings me immense joy to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Cade and his teacher for a remarkable achievement in InvestWrite," said Melanie Mortimer, president of the SIFMA Foundation. "Cade's essay details a very thoughtful and compelling plan for long-term financial independence. His achievement signals the value of early financial education in setting youth on a path to positive financial life outcomes."

"We honor and congratulate our InvestWrite winning student and teacher," said Selena Swartzfager, president of MCEE. "Helping Mississippi students better understand our economy, our markets, the role of investors and how to make good investments will pay dividends for the students, their education and the Mississippi economy. The Stock Market Game is more relevant today than ever. In addition to teaching about the economy, it is a STEM-related hands-on tool to develop math skills."

"I have learned many valuable lessons while playing the Stock Market Game," wrote Boudreaux, "mainly that good investors do research before investing in different stocks... In ten years, I intend to be in college. When I go to college, I will probably need to take out student loans. If I invest in stocks now, I will have money to pay off my student loans... Investing in stocks is a life skill that will benefit me for a lifetime."



Special to The Long Beach Breeze
Tara Meleones and Cade Boudreaux

Military retirees invited to appreciation day

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Local retired military members are encouraged to save the date for Keesler Air Force Base's (KAFB) "Retiree Appreciation Day". Set for October 25, the event will be held at the Roberts Maintenance Building on KAFB and will provide information to attendees from a multitude of representatives of wellness and social groups.

Previous years have seen more than four hundred retirees from all branches of service attend.

For more information about supporting or attending the event, contact Tina I. O'Shields, TSgt (Ret), who serves as director of the Retiree Activities Office at KAFB, at 228-376-8111 or by email at keesler@us.af.mil.



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Batman helps save the animals of Long Beach



Special to Long Beach Breeze

By Katelyn Petty

Batman's LBMS Animal Rescue Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to helping animals in need throughout Long Beach. Rescue partners, along with the Long Beach Police Department, Animal Control Division, and local veterinarians, offer care to the stray animals of Long Beach, as well as no-cost or low-cost vet services to Long Beach residents who are pet owners. These services include microchipping, vaccinations, and spay/neuter surgeries for animals that are adoptable through the Long Beach Animal Control program.

"Our mission is to get medical aid for, rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals who have been abandoned, neglected, injured or abused," said Wendy Wagner, Batman's LBMS Animal Rescue Foundation owner, emphasizing that the focus is providing a comfortable and safe environment for all animals in their care.

Batman's LBMS Animal Rescue Foundation also offers transportation assistance for rescued animals.

"Whether a resident needs help getting their pet to a vet or a resident is relocating, we are here to help," said Wagner. The team is trained to handle animals of all sizes.

Wagner says partnering with the Long Beach Police Department Animal Control Division (LBPD ACO) provides a safe environment for animals that have been abandoned, abused or neglected, and working with other local shelters and animal welfare organizations provides the best care and support possible for animals to recover and thrive.

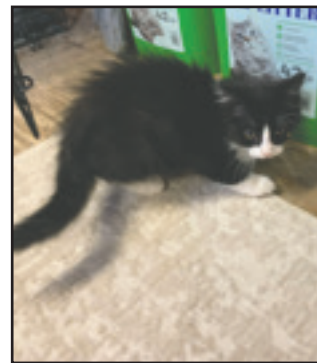
The non-profit's primary focus is on rescuing and rehabilitating animals in need. There is a foster program in place that allows the rescue to provide animals with a future within a loving home. The rescue also provides behavior training to the animals to ensure they will thrive with their forever family.

The team at Batman's LBMS Animal Rescue and their partnership with LBPD ACO offers a variety of educational programs and resources regularly through workshops and events, while also collaborating with local schools to raise awareness about animal welfare; educate the community about responsible pet ownership; teach animal welfare laws, compassion and respect for animals; and explain how to help animals in need. The volunteers and people working with the rescue say they strongly believe education is key to preventing animal cruelty and neglect.

"Our animal control officer, Quentin Denney, has built his career on the '3 E's' of being an animal control officer: engage, educate and enforce," said Wagner. "Batman's LBMS Animal Rescue is committed to finding permanent homes with loving families for animals in their care at the LBPD Animal Care Facility. Pet adoption services are offered through an adoption process, ensuring each animal is matched with the right family."

Wagner believes every animal deserves a second chance, and she says she and Officer Denney work tirelessly to ensure that animals receive the love and care they need to thrive. Proceeds of Batman's LBMS Animal Rescue Foundation benefit the program, which also assists in approved emergency vet care for the animals of the Long Beach community.

For more information about Batman's LBMS Animal Rescue Foundation, visit them on Facebook, or call 228-346-1854. Donations can be made to [paypal.me/BatmansLBMS](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.paypal.com/BatmansLBMS). To find out more about animals available for adoption in Long Beach, visit the LBPD animal adoption page on Facebook, LBPDMSAnimals or call 228-224-5584.



Special to Long Beach Breeze



Special to Long Beach Breeze

At press time, these two domestic short-haired cats and several kittens, including this shorthaired/tuxedo kitten, were available for adoption. There is no adoption fee, but potential owners must be vetted through the Long Beach Animal Control Division of the Long Beach Police Department. For more information about these or other animals available for adoption, call 228-224-5584.

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P.E.O. awards scholarship to Nguyen

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Arlene Nguyen, a senior at Long Beach High School (LBHS), was selected to receive a \$2,500 STAR Scholarship from the P.E.O. Sisterhood. She was recommended by P.E.O. Chapter B of Long Beach. Nguyen is the daughter of Tu Nguyen and Kim Mac.

The P.E.O. STAR Scholarship was established in 2009 to provide scholarships for exceptional women in their final year of high school to attend an accredited postsecondary educational institution in the U.S. or Canada in the next academic year. The competitive STAR Scholarship is for women who exhibit excellence in leadership, academics, extracurricular activities, community service and potential for future success.

P.E.O. Chapter B says Nguyen has been very active in both her school and community. She ranked near the top of her graduating class and has earned award recognition in multiple subjects during her high school career. She has been recognized at the Superintendent's Awards for each of her four years of high school and was selected for the LBHS Hall of Fame. Nguyen served in leadership positions in multiple school organizations and has been very active in both her church youth group and several community events, including Buddy Ball, Relay for Life and Camp Able. She was also a Girls State Delegate in 2023. She plans to attend the University of South Alabama.

"Arlene is pursuing a career in pediatric nursing, because of her love of children and her desire to help children receive medical care in a manner that will relieve their fears associated with the medical environment. With her quiet demeanor, her enthusiasm and her drive to accomplish tasks and goals, Arlene will be an asset in the medical field," said STAR Scholarship Committee Chair Sarah Lowry.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Arlene Nguyen

Established in 1930, Chapter B of Long Beach serves as Mississippi's second-oldest chapter, and currently hosts over fifty members. P.E.O. is a philanthropic educational organization and has been celebrating women helping women reach for the stars for more than 155 years. Since its inception in 1869, the nonprofit organization has helped more than 125,000 women pursue educational goals by providing approximately \$432 million in grants, scholarships, awards and loans. The Sisterhood also owns and supports Cotley College in Nevada, Missouri. Through membership, the P.E.O. Sisterhood has brought together more than half a million women in the United States and Canada who are passionate about helping women advance through education while supporting and motivating them. In addition to the educational philanthropies, the P.E.O. Sisterhood provides a framework of support and community for all members.

What started with a bond of friendship among seven women in Mount Pleasant, Iowa, is now one of the oldest women's organizations in North America with close to 5,500 chapters.

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



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cont. from front page

CTE Center nearing completion, awarded \$5,000

classes in automotive, business marketing and finance, construction, digital media, educator preparation, engineering, health sciences, law and public safety and welding, in addition to the nursing, engineering, computer science, business and teacher academy classes that were

already being offered by the district. It will also give students the opportunity to participate in work-based learning.

Patrick Bennett serves as the director of the LBSD CTE.

“A lot of the in-demand jobs [in the workforce right now] require high-level

technical training,” said Bennett. “This [CTE] is an investment in not only our kids, but also our city and local economy. We’re going to create a pipeline of skilled workers that will meet the high demands and the needs for jobs all over the coastal economy.”

Equipment installation is nearing completion, and the facility, which is located at 200 Bearcat Boulevard, near Harper McCaughan Elementary School, is expected to be ready for the Bearcats’ first day of school, which is Monday, July 29.



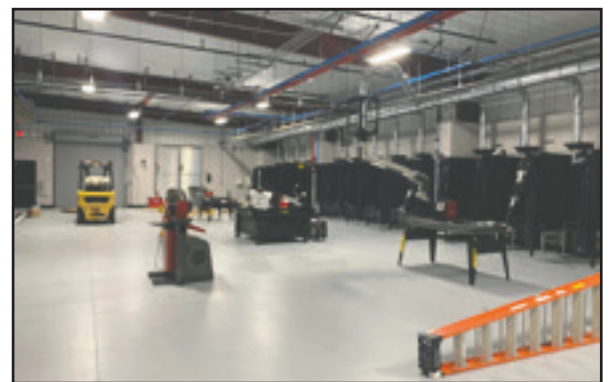
Special to Long Beach Breeze

Demetria Brown (right), a teacher in the LBSD Career and Technical Education Center, accepts a grant that will fund a student program to aid the City’s animal shelter.



Toni Miles

Construction of the new CTE began with a groundbreaking ceremony in May of 2023.



Photos special to Long Beach Breeze



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THE PASS POST

2-day Grilling at the Pass event set for Sept. 13-14

The Pass Post

Local residents who have a passion for grilling and the great outdoors have the opportunity in September to participate in what City officials say will be an internationally-televised cookoff competition. Pass Christian will host Grilling at the Pass, a Steak Cookoff Association (SCA) event that allows backyard chefs to show off their steak-cooking skills and compete for cash, trophies and prizes. The event will be the first SCA event ever held on a pier.

Grilling at the Pass, set for September 13-14 near the East Harbor Bridge, is open to anyone ages thirteen and over. The steaks for every SCA event are provided by the event promoter to create a level playing field, and cooks bring whatever is needed to prepare their competition steak or ancillary, such as a tent, folding table, ice chest, grill and spices. Ancillary categories for the event will include anything with shrimp, anything fish, anything Creole and anything Mississippi mud pie.



Cooks may cook on any fire or heat source, including wood, charcoal, gas, electric, pellet and sous vide. More than one cook may use the same site and grill, but each registrant must do their own steak selections, seasoning, cooking, and steak or ancillary turn-in at the event.

The event will be judged by a panel of judges under a "blind judging" format. Steaks will be judged on appearance, doneness (medium), taste, texture and overall impression. Steak winners can win cash prizes starting at \$25 and going up to at least \$725. The event will feature "dynamic payouts," which will increase the steak prize money as more teams sign up to participate. Ancillaries will be judged on appearance, creativity, taste and execution. Ancillary prizes range from \$50 to \$175.

The first-place steak winners from each day and the top four ancillary cooks will be



invited to participate in the Battle of the Grills on Saturday afternoon, with the chance to win more prize money. The Battle of the Grills steak prize is \$700, and the ancillary prize is \$600.

The action starts on Friday with a cooks' meeting at 4:30 p.m., ending with awards at 9 p.m. Saturday begins with a cooks' meeting at 10 a.m., with awards at 5:30 p.m. and the Battle of the Grills beginning at 6 p.m.

City officials say the televised event is expected to have over 144 million viewers. Organizers say the goal of the event is to create a fun, relaxed environment and a fair competition that is about cooking, not who has the most money. SCA events are family-friendly.

For more information, a list of entry fees, rules and prizes, or to sign up to compete, visit www.SteakCookOffs.com.

Library receives mini-grant from Carnival Association



Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Public Library recently received a 2024 Community Mini-Grant from the St. Paul Carnival Association. The \$500 mini-grant will be used to purchase additional Vox books for the children's section of the library. Vox books are picture books that have an audio reader attached. Children can simply push a button to listen and read along with the book, with no need for computers, tablets or CDs. The library has a small starter collection of Vox titles (pictured), which are very popular with young families, and library officials say the grant will allow them to purchase more.



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Coffee Chat planned for August 8

Special to The Pass Post

Pass Christian residents are invited to attend a Coffee Chat on Thursday, August 8, which will include a discussion of *The Vaster Wilds*, the 2024 One Book, One Pass selection.

The book, by award-winning author Lauren Groff, is the featured title for this year's program, which is designed to encourage everyone in Pass Christian to read the work and then join together to engage in book discussions, panel discussions and other programs held throughout the community.



The program will culminate in a visit and presentation by the author at the Randolph Center on Tuesday, October 22, at 6:30 p.m.

The August 8 Coffee Chat will be held from 9:30 until 11 a.m. at Roberts Place Café. Coffee and tea will be provided, and pastries and breakfast items will be available for purchase

during the discussion. The Café is located at 233 Davis Avenue in downtown Pass Christian. 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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Garden Club builds butterfly garden with grant



Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Garden Club recently received the Garden Clubs of Mississippi Nature Grant. With this grant, the club created a Children's Butterfly Waystation, which is located behind the Pass Christian Library. The project involved teen volunteers, library Storytime families, scouts, library staff and Garden Club members.

The teen volunteers planted native perennials in the garden and also assisted Garden Club members in creating six olla pots for watering and a butterfly puddling station. The Storytime children planted the host plants and seeds for the butterflies. Garden Club members donated several native plants, and the Mississippi Wildflower Trails donated seeds. The Girl Scout Brownies created stone snakes. In addition, this summer, the Scouts will be placing stepping stones in the garden.

Eagle Scout Elizabeth Walton built and installed a butterfly bench for the garden for her Eagle Project.

The garden is now blooming, and library officials say it is a delight to view. It has been certified as a Monarch Waystation #47056 through Monarch Watch. A Monarch butterfly sign and native plant labels have been placed to help promote gardening for pollinators.

The Pass Christian Library has already used this garden as an outdoor classroom in several children's programs, allowing the children to explore and watch the butterflies, caterpillars, ladybugs and birds in the garden. Garden Club members say they are proud to receive the grant and be able to provide a learning environment for all ages. The library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue.



Library programs aim to dispel computer fears

The Pass Post

The Pass Christian library continues to offer programs for those who want to learn more about their computers and computerized devices and dispel fears about using them.

Two upcoming sessions on Thursday, August 22, will focus on the basics of using handheld devices and e-services.

The first session, focusing on iPads, tablets and smartphones, will start at 1 p.m. Participants do not have to own one of the devices to attend and learn about the basics of using them, including how to download and install applications (“apps”). Part 1 of the session will focus on Apple products, while Part 2 will feature Android devices. Those who have devices are encouraged to bring them to the session.

The second session, which will begin at 2:15 p.m., will



showcase the free e-services offered by the Harrison County Library System. Attendees will learn about Hoopla, Kanopy, Rocket Languages and Universal Class. They will also explore the library’s online catalog and learn how to search, request and renew available items.

Both sessions will be held in the library conference room.

No experience is necessary, and the classes are free and open to the public. However, class size is limited, and reservations are recommended.

To reserve a spot or for further information, call the Pass Christian Public Library at 228-452-4596.

The Pass Christian Library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue.

Luncheon to explore history through historical markers

The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Historical Society will hold its monthly luncheon on Monday, August 26, at noon, welcoming speaker Brother Rogers, who works for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Programs and Communications. Rogers will entertain luncheon-goers with a presentation about learning Mississippi history through historical markers.

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, August 23. 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.



Johnson wins Governor’s School award



Jacoby Johnson from Pass Christian High School was awarded the Big Dave Critical and Creative Thinking Award at the 2024 Mississippi Governor’s School (MGS). Established in 1981, MGS is a tuition-free residential honors program with a competitive application process that offers unique creative and academic experiences to students with exceptional abilities and achievements. For two weeks each June, MGS invites rising high school juniors and seniors from all over the state to the Mississippi University for Women campus. During their time in the program, MGS scholars take rigorous interdisciplinary courses, engage in team-building exercises, and create lifelong friendships and memories. The Big Dave Award is reserved for scholars who best represent superior critical and/or creative thinking.

Special to The Pass Post

Jones awarded CALB scholarship



Special to The Pass Post

The Carnival Association of Long Beach (CALB) recently presented Pass Christian High School graduate Halle Jones (center) with a CALB scholarship. Jones is pictured with CALB King Scott LXIV Junior Husband (left) and Queen Rosalie 2024 Lisa Frazer (right).

Pedal in the Pass set for August 8

Special to The Pass Post

Thursday, August 8, will be the next Pedal in the Pass, a free community bicycle dinner ride which takes place on the second Thursday of each month. Rides take place, weather permitting, each month from March through October.


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 meet near Scenic Drive in War Memorial Park in Pass Christian. The ride begins at 6 p.m.

For more information, call 228-452-2453.



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Massey awarded continuing education grant



Special to The Long Beach Breeze
Chapter B - PCE Committee Chairperson Dominique Perryman and 2024 PCE Grant Recipient Courtland Massey.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

P.E.O. Chapter B of Long Beach recently awarded a Program for Continuing Education (PCE) grant to Courtland Massey.

P.E.O. is an international philanthropic educational organization interested in bringing women increased opportunities for higher education.

Massey and her husband Jacob are both employees of the Long Beach School District. During their marriage, they relocated twice due to his career as a football coach. They are parents of two children, Gray Alexander, age 3, and Merideth Anne, age 1. After recently applying to William Carey University and while balancing family, work, and school, Massey plans to complete her master's degree in elementary education.

"Receiving my master's degree would further my education, so that I could widen my field of study," said Massey. "I would be able to make a difference in students' lives from the beginning of their school career. It is important to lay a positive foundation early in students' education."

"Our committee was impressed by Courtland's tenacity to achieve her education goals amid multiple moves and roadblocks," said PCE Committee Chairperson Dominique Perryman. "Her strong faith has gotten her through, and we feel that she epitomizes what it takes to be successful. Courtland has a passion for God, her family, her students and teaching. She is everything P.E.O. supports in women striving to better themselves by reaching their education goals."

The P.E.O. Program for Continuing Education, established in 1973, is a grant program providing one-time financial assistance to women whose education has been interrupted and who find it necessary to return to school to complete a degree or certification that will improve their marketable skills for employment. Applicants must be identified and recommended by a local chapter.

Massey was recommended for consideration by P.E.O. Chapter B of Long Beach. Established in 1930, the group serves as the state's second oldest P.E.O. chapter. For more information about P.E.O., visit www.PEOInternational.org or PEOMississippi.org.



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Long Beach receives Heritage Award



Quarles House

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach recently received a 2024 Heritage Award for the Quarles House. The award is given by the Mississippi Heritage Trust, and there were twenty-five recipients this year. The awards are designed to honor the hard work and commitment of many individuals, civic organizations, educational institutions and local, county and state governments to preserve the places that tell the story of Mississippi.

When Hurricane Katrina ripped through the coast, it took the roof of the Quarles House with it. The Mississippi Heritage Trust stepped forward to install a roof to buy time for Carol Paola and her team of Discovery students to build community support to repurpose Long Beach's first school and general store.

In 2020, the City of Long Beach and Representative Richard Bennett worked hand-in-hand with Paola to secure a \$2 million dollar grant to restore the house through the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund. Jim Alexander and Janet Alexander Griffin then donated the house and land, which includes the Quarles family cemetery, to the City. Architects Albert and Robinson and J.O. Collins Contractors oversaw the meticulous restoration of the house to be repurposed as a visitor's center for Long Beach.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach Community Affairs Director Courtney Cuevas accepts a 2024 Heritage Award for the Quarles House.

National Eucharistic Pilgrimage makes its way to Mississippi Coast



Toni Miles

Pilgrims from as far away as Brownsville, Texas, (pictured) and others joined in South Mississippi's "Bridge to Bridge" week-long march and celebration of the nationwide Eucharistic Pilgrimage.



Toni Miles

A youth choir performed as parishioners and pilgrims enjoyed lunch together.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Hundreds of people turned out for the six-mile walk from St. Paul's Chapel in Pass Christian to St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Long Beach as part of the nationwide Eucharistic Pilgrimage.



Toni Miles

Local parishioners served a barbeque meal for those who participated in the Eucharistic Pilgrimage walk and activities.

By Toni Miles

Thousands joined a five-day faith journey during the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, which made its way to the Mississippi Gulf Coast earlier this summer.

Catholic faithful and other participants, including some local law enforcement officers, joined in the nationwide event, which launched in Indianapolis for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress.

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage included coastal Catholic churches spanning from Bay St. Louis to Ocean Springs, who took part in the "Bridge to Bridge" Southern Route Biloxi Diocese leg of the two-month-long, cross-country journey. Small groups of young adults began at the north, south, east and west edges of the United States, and invited others, including those not of the Catholic faith, to join in their march and revival.

"They are journeying with Jesus in the Eucharist across the entire country, blessing more than 6,000 miles of the U.S. in the shape of a cross," according to the National Eucharistic Revival group.

St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church in Long Beach served as a main host for the South Mississippi leg of the nationwide journey, with nearly 1,000 gathering for a 6 a.m. mass at St. Paul's Chapel in Pass Christian. The events included a coast-wide procession, followed by a six-mile pilgrim walk along the Mississippi Gulf Coast that led to St. Thomas Catholic Church around midday, where parishio-

ners served up a hearty meal and fellowship as part of the local celebration.

Youth from St. Thomas Catholic Church's recent first communion class helped lead the way on foot during the Long Beach leg of the pilgrimage.

Robed faith leaders from Brownsville, Texas, members of the local clergy and hundreds filled St. Thomas Church for a trademark Southern barbeque and potato salad meal. A local youth choir provided a concert for attendees as they refueled to prepare to journey on to other parts of the Mississippi Coast as part of the pilgrimage.

"It's bringing all Catholics on the Coast together," said Pam Fallow, a local parishioner who was among the dozens serving up food at St. Thomas Catholic Church. "It's bringing us closer to the Eucharist, the Eucharistic Revival. People from Brownsville, Texas, walked all the way here, pilgrims walked here, and they have stopped along the way, and we are so thankful they are here at St. Thomas. We're feeding them not only food, but also their souls, with the Eucharist."

Other churches in the area also participated, holding mass and other activities as part of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, including Holy Family Catholic Church and St. Paul's Chapel in Pass Christian, St. James Catholic Church in Gulfport, Our Lady of the Gulf Church in Bay St. Louis, Nativity BVM Cathedral in Biloxi and Saint Alphonsus Catholic Church in Ocean Springs, where the weeklong "Bridge to Bridge" South Mississippi pilgrim walk and activities wrapped up with a mass and performance by the Vietnamese Choir.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Youth from St. Thomas Catholic Church's recent first communion class helped lead the way and the procession during the Long Beach leg of the pilgrimage.

Lock elected to statewide superintendents' board

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Long Beach School District Superintendent Dr. Talia Lock has been elected to the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents' (MASS) board of directors. MASS recently approved a new slate of leaders during its summer convention.

With a nineteen-year career invested in public education, Lock will work with fellow directors to build a world-class education system for Mississippi by ensuring that education leaders statewide have access to high-quality, state-of-the-art training and professional development programs.

Celebrating its 55th anniversary, MASS is a nationally-recognized coalition that provides training and mentoring programs for educators throughout Mississippi while advocating for improved public schools. By appointing board members from school districts statewide, MASS ensures that all regions are represented and have a voice in shaping the future of public education in Mississippi.

The board also ensures that MASS remains a strong voice for Mississippi's public schools through awareness, advocacy and engagement efforts with members of the State Legislature, the Mississippi Department of Education and other groups.

"Dr. Lock's leadership and expertise are critical in our vision to build a top-tier education system to move Mississippi forward," said Dr. Phil Burchfield, executive director of MASS.



Special to The Long Beach Breeze
 LBSD Superintendent Dr. Talia Lock

"Our board represents experienced leaders who understand the challenges facing our school districts and the best path forward to improve public schools in Mississippi."

Board members meet routinely and participate in networking, training and mentoring activities year-round. By proactively engaging with elected officials and policymakers, MASS leaders ensure that the statewide education community has input into legislation that impacts public schools.

Through outreach and coalition-building efforts, MASS has successfully advocated for higher teacher pay, stronger certification standards, improved hiring and recruiting practices, and other strategies to strengthen Mississippi's teacher workforce.

"MASS has accomplished much since its founding in 1969, and I am honored to support the association's legacy of service," said Lock. "There's a brighter future ahead for Mississippi when we work together to improve public education, and that's our mission at MASS."

The Mississippi Association of School Superintendents and the Alliance of Educational Leaders of Mississippi is a non-profit association whose membership is made up of one hundred thirty-nine public school superintendents and more than two thousand public school administrators. Its mission is to provide resources, advocacy, leadership, policy information, training, support, renewal and public relations services that improve the quality of public education.



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Science Café on the Coast headed to Pass library August 20

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Science Café on the Coast, a collaboration between The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast Libraries, Harrison County Library System, Long Beach Public Library, the Hancock County Library System, Infinity Science Center and Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, will host a presentation on "Microplastics" on Thursday, August 20. Microplastics are pieces of plastic measuring 5mm or smaller, the size of a sesame seed or a pencil eraser.

Set to begin at 6 p.m. at the Pass Christian Public Library, the event offers those with minimal background in science the chance to meet and discuss scientific issues in a relaxed social setting.

Attendees can join Elizabeth Englebretson, who serves as the program coordinator for the MSU Extension Plastic-Free Gulf Coast, for an evening of dialogue and hands-on investigation of microplastics in the water system.

The program will allow for discussion of the different categories and types of microplastics, their effects on human health, economy and ecology. Attendees will also filter water samples to look in real-time at microplastics in the water supply.

Those who are attending are invited to bring a water sample to filter. Water samples need to be at least two cups, be placed in a clean glass jar, and avoid heavy organic load – in other words, bring tap water, not pond water.

Admission is free and open to the public, and light refreshments will be available.

The Pass Christian Public Library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue. For more information, call 228-452-4596.



Local youth learn the ropes of sailing at annual Sail Camp

By Toni Miles

Several local Long Beach youth have spent the summer tacking sailboats, learning to change direction when sailing upwind or at angle to the wind, and other sailing fundamentals.

It's all part of the Long Beach Yacht Club's (LBYC) annual Sail Camp.

"This was a great year," said Sailing Director Tom Lansford. "All of our sessions had full enrollment, and we had strong winds. It was awesome to see the harbor full of sailboats."

At the helm of this year's Sail Camps were Head Counselor Ella Lansford and instructors Patrick Clark, Kate Lansford and Johnathan Mate, who worked closely with local youth, teaching them the fundamentals of sailing and other skills. Camp participants also swim, fish and kayak, along with several other special activities during these annual camps.

The program's goal is to create a safe, as well as fun, environment in which young people can explore the sport of sailing.



Two Sail Camp participants enjoy the view and sailing experience.



Instructors at this year's annual LBYC Sail Camp worked closely with local youth, teaching them the fundamentals of sailing and other skills.



Photos special to Long Beach Breeze



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