

October 2024 • Volume 8, Number 10 • "Good News You Can Use"

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Cruisin' events planned for Long Beach, record crowds expected



Long Beach's annual Cruisin' the Coast parade is set to take place on Monday, October 7.

By Toni Miles

South Mississippi is again revving up for Cruisin' the Coast. In its 28th year, the popular weeklong event rolls out this year on Sunday, October 6, and will run through Sunday, October 13. So far, registered Cruisers are coming in from forty-three states, Canada and England. Prior to the pre-registration deadline, 8,259 vehicles had signed up.

While various events will be held at venues across the Coast, including the three Coastal counties and twelve cities, two popular annual events, the Long Beach Cruisin' the Coast Parade and the 2nd Annual Trucks 'N Tacos, will take place in the Friendly City.

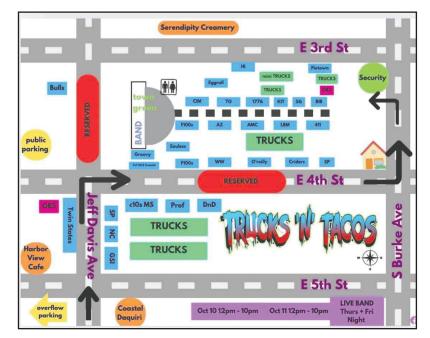
Long Beach's Annual Cruisin' the Coast Parade is scheduled for Monday, October 7, at 5:30 p.m. The parade is open only to vehicles registered to participate in Cruisin' the Coast activities. The first six hundred of those classic cars and trucks to arrive at the Long Beach High School football stadium (300 East Old Pass Road), which serves as the start of the parade route, will be able to be part of the parade procession, which will wind down Railroad Street, then south through the downtown area, then head east along the Long Beach shoreline and harbor, winding up at the Harper McCaughan Town Green. Those who plan to attend the parade are encouraged to stake out a spot early

on the route. The stadium staging site will open at 1 p.m. The Tip Tops will put on a live performance from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Long Beach Harbor after the parade. This year, the harbor will also play host to an all-new warm-up event. On Friday, October 4, just two days before the official October 6 launch of Cruisin' the Coast, classic car owners and enthusiasts are invited to head out to the Long Beach Harbor, where Chill Out 'N Park is scheduled to take place from 6 to 10 p.m.

Additionally, Long Beach will be the location for a relatively new event, the 2nd Annual Trucks 'N' Tacos, a two-day cruise-in at the Harper McCaughan Town Green. Set for Thursday, October 10, and Friday, October 11, the event will feature classic trucks and hotrods that are models from 1998 and older from noon until 10 p.m. each day. After debuting during last year's Cruisin' the Coast, the event is back by popular demand.

Although Trucks 'N' Tacos (TNT '24) is only in its second year, the event is already drawing national attention. "TORQUED Truck" will be bringing their show coverage to TNT '24 this year, with broadcast-ing coverage available at the tips of anyone's fingers via the world-wide web on YouTube and Instagram.

Local vendors and custom merchandise will be available for those who plan to check out the free event.

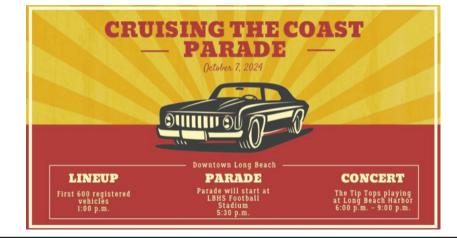


Other organizations, such as the Wounded Warriors of Mississippi, will have tents and booths set up at the event to help raise awareness and resources

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

Other returning CTC events scheduled across South Mississippi this year include live concerts and entertainment: Hollywood Casino will continue their Friday night concert on October 11 and their grand finale Super Sunday Bash on October 13. Bands will be playing in Diamondhead for the annual Blessing of the Classics; at Island View Casino for the annual Flame Thrower competition; in Pass Christian on Thursday, October 10, for the annual Burn 'Em Up in the Pass; and then also on Friday, October 11, for Pass In The Night.

New this year, as a "warm-up" before the official start of CTC, the Biloxi Shuckers and Ground Zero Blues Club will team up for a "Grand Slam Jam" series of concerts on Saturday, October 5. Tickets for the event are \$65 each. cont. on page 9



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Brown chosen for McNair Scholars Program at USM

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Long Beach resident Kyle Brown is one of only twelve University of Southern Mississippi (USM) undergraduates who have been chosen for the prestigious McNair Scholars Program at USM.

Officially known as The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program, the McNair Scholars Program is a federal TRIO program funded across the United States and Puerto Rico by the U.S. Department of Education. Scholars selected to the program come from disadvantaged backgrounds and demonstrate strong academic potential.

Competitive grant funding is awarded to institutions of higher education to prepare eligible participants in the program for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. Institutions encourage participants to enroll in graduate programs and then track their progress through to the successful completion of advanced degrees with an overall goal to increase the attainment of Ph.D. degrees by students from underrepresented segments of society. Since the program's inception in 1999, Southern Miss has assisted more than 200 scholars.

Brown is a junior computer science major whose McNair Research, "Us-

ing Neural Networks to Predict Suicide Risk in Youth," looks to create a Deep Learning model to predict the risk of suicide in high school students. With suicide the second-leading cause of death among this age group, the model will use survey data from the CDC's 2021 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS). Additionally, Brown plans to seek assessment of the system's apparent relevance from a medical professional. He is watching under the

al. He is working under the advisement of Professor Joe Zhang in the School of Computing Sciences and Computer Engineering.

"We are thrilled to have an exceptionally talented group of undergraduate researchers this year," said Dr. Daleana Phillips, director of the USM Mc-Nair Scholars Program. "Many are participating

in conferences, research symposiums, researching in labs and even traveling offsite to conduct research, all while researching graduate schools and pro-

grams of interest." Phillips says the most exciting part of working with McNair scholars is watching the individuals and their skills as researchers evolve.

"I enjoy seeing them present their work at our McNair Research Symposium, and then share their excitement about securing assistantships, fellowships and other types of funding for their chosen graduate programs.

LONG BEACH BREEZE

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

cial to Long Beach Breeze

"Seeing them move on to pursue their dreams is truly inspiring and rewarding to me."

Other 2024 Southern Miss McNair Scholars include Kalan Bledsoe from Batesville, Margaret Brune and Marcus Kirkland from Ocean Springs;

Astrid Gomez, Drew Le, Keimirra Lewis and Rachel Wince from Hattiesburg; Jaylin Jones from Clarksdale; Teyanna Monroe from Vicksburg; Sadie Pitre from Poplarville; and Liz Wynne from Madison.

The McNair Scholars Program is named for the late Dr. Ronald McNair, a former NASA astronaut who earned his Ph.D. in

laser physics; in 1984, he became the second African American to fly in space. Two years later, he was selected to serve as mission specialist aboard the ill-fated U.S. Challenger space shuttle.

The McNair Scholars Program is housed in the USM Graduate School. For more information about the program, visit www.usm.edu/mcnairscholars-program/.



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LONG BEACH BREEZE

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Night Out Against Crime set for October 19



Special to Long Deach Dreez

The Long Beach Police Department hosts National Night Out Against Crime in the fall of each year. By Toni Miles

The Long Beach Police Department (LBPD) will host the City's Annual Night Out Against Crime event this year on Saturday, October 19, at the Harper McCaughan Town Green off Jeff Davis Avenue from 5 to 7 p.m.

Police and other first responders will be on hand to shake hands and talk with local residents and children at the annual event, which is family-friendly and will play host to a number of hands-on activities, games and exhibits the public can enjoy.

National Night Out Against Crime is held each year throughout the United States and aims to heighten crime awareness and combat drug use, while also strengthening the area's neighborhood spirit and police community relations.

Emergency vehicles will be on display to provide local youth and others with hands-on, interactive experiences. Additionally, this year's attendees will again have the opportunity to interact with Long Beach police officers and other members of local law enforcement, who will be on hand to answer questions and listen to concerns, all in an effort to continue to build police trust and relations in the local community.

Several other public safety organizations, civic groups and businesses will also be on hand, manning booths to provide information to the public. Food and drink vendors and booths will also be onsite.

Long Beach's Night Out Against Crime is a free event and open to the public.

New drive-up book return installed, ribbon cutting planned

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn, LBPL Youth and Technology Services

Greetings from Long Beach Public Library!

Girl Scout Troop 4617 donated, installed and will be decorating the new drive-up book return for Long Beach Public Library patrons. For their involvement, the Junior scouts earned a bronze award, which is the highest award, and the Brownies earned what is known as a journey for their involvement with service hours and money earned from cookie sales.

These girls learned how to use hand tools, pour concrete and went in front of the Board of Aldermen to get the project approved. They were able to plan and be involved in every detail to help bring this project to fruition. Although the book return is already in use, there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony held on Monday, September 30, at 4 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

The Long Beach Board of Trustees will have their first meeting of the 2024-25 year on Tuesday, October 8, at 4 p.m. in the main wing of the library. This meeting is open to the public.

There are no meetings planned in October for the Friends of the Library. However, October 15 through October 21 is Friends of the Libraries Week. If you would like to contribute to our Friends group or become a member, you may pick up a form at the circulation desk in the main wing. Family Movie Day will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 12, in the children's wing.

Family Movie Day will be at 10 a.m. on Saturday, October 12, in the children's wing. We will be showing Disney/Pixar's *Monster's, Inc.* Preschool story time will continue to be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30

Preschool story time will continue to be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.

There are no scheduled closings for the month of October.

The Long Beach Public Library staff will be participating in Long Beach Police Department's Night Out Against Crime this year, which is to be held on Saturday, October 19, from 5 until 7 p.m. This event is free, family friendly, and a great way to meet your local law enforcement and other local agencies.

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!

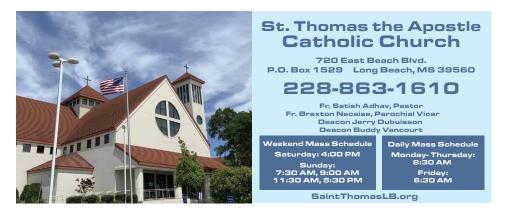




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LONG BEACH BREEZE

Scouts BSA Troop backpacks on the Pacific Crest Trail



Troop 321 departing Base Camp Sheppard as they prepare to embark on their backpacking trek on the Pacific Crest Trail

Troop 321 hiking adjacent to Mount Saint Helens posing for a picture in front of Mount Rainier

By Guest Columnist Tommy Carroll

Boy Scouts of America High Adventure Troop 321 from Long Beach spent part of their summer travelling to Washington and back-packing on the Pacific Crest Trail.

Troop 321 scouts met at First Methodist Church at 3 a.m. on a Tuesday morning to embark on their journey by caravaning to the Louis Armstrong Airport in New Orleans, where they caught a non-stop flight to Seattle.

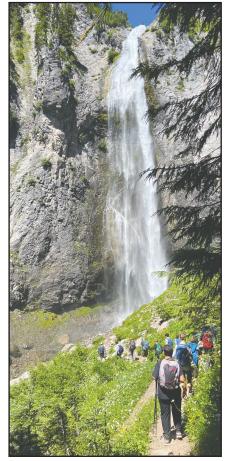
In Seattle, the scouts were met by their own bus, a converted school bus named *Scoutship Integrity*. One of the leaders and his wife had driven out a couple weeks in advance in order to be able to meet them there and do some reconnaissance for the trip. The troop traveled to Camp Sheppard, near Enumclaw, Washington, where they were greeted by the Camp Director. Scouts were then shown their camp area and shown all the features for bear-proofing the campsite, which would come in handy later.

The Pacific Crest Trail is 2,650 miles long. It begins at the U.S.-Mexico border and ends on the Canadian side of the U.S.-Canada border. Divided into thirty sections, it travels through the states of California, Oregon and Washington.

After an acclamation day at Base Camp Sheppard, the troop divided into backpackers and day-hikers. The backpackers, or "Rainier Walkers," were transported to the White Pass Trailhead on the Pacific Crest Trail, the southern end of Section "I" of the trail. Other scouts from the troop, the "Olympians," continued base camping from Camp Sheppard and took daily excursions to the nearby Cascades. This area is known as the "Land of 1,000 Lakes." It contains marsh-

This area is known as the "Land of 1,000 Lakes." It contains marshes in the hilly/mountainous area created from melting snow in the summer. The trekkers found a beautiful mountain meadow with signs of elk and bear. It is bordered on one side by a mountain stream and on another by a snow-melt lake. The scouts filtered water from the stream, swam in the lake and then prepared dinner before turning in for the evening.

The second and third mornings on the trail were greeted by calls from elk. Although bear signs were everywhere, the troop neither saw nor heard any on the trail. The scouts traveled through Mount Rainier



Boy Scouts from Troop 321 hiking to the base of Comet Falls in Mount Rainier National Park

National Park and were greeted with incredible views of the mountain. Mountain streams and lakes, rocks, flora, giant fir trees, majestic views of valleys and snow drifts were common on the trail.

The Rainier Walkers finished their trek at the Rainier National Park trail bridge at Yakima Pass. They then rejoined the other group, the Olympians, there and together returned to Base Camp Sheppard.

While the Rainier Walkers were on their trek, the Olympians made several excursions in the surrounding Cascade Mountains and on Mount Rainier proper. Upon returning to camp, the campers were greeted by a bear in camp! A six-foot-tall juvenile bear had sampled the food in the ice chests in the base camp and left enormous claw and teeth marks in one of the troop's ice chests!

Additional nearby excursions from Camp Sheppard into Mount Rainier National Park and onto Mount Rainier allowed the troop to hike to the base of Comet Falls, an enormous waterfall on Mount Rainier, as well as tour the Mount Rainier Visitor Center at Paradise Valley and fish for trout in the Paradise River.

The troop then traveled to Mount Saint Helens, where they hiked the eastern side on an overlook that gave them a view of the magma dome and Spirit Lake, which was displaced by the lava flow from the eruption of the volcano in 1980.

From Mount Saint Helens, the troop headed to the Pacific Coast to base camp in a campground in a small village named Pacific Beach. The campground was on a cliff overlooking the ocean, and many of the scouts were able to go splash in the surf of the Pacific Ocean for the first time in their lives.

After Pacific Beach, the troop traveled to Cape Flattery, where they hiked the trail to the point overlook and took a picture at the most northwestern point of the contiguous states. From there, they took the troop bus to the ferry and traveled to Seattle, where they took a windshield tour of the Mariners and Seahawks stadiums, the Boeing factory and the World Headquarters for Starbucks Coffee.

The troop wrapped up their trip by staying in an Airbnb home, where they could hang up their tents to dry and basecamp again while making a final excursion out to a local water park.

Scouts from Troop 321 hail from Diamondhead, Poplarville, Gulfport, Ocean Springs and Long Beach.



Troop 321 stopping to pose at the city of Forks sign, famous for the movie Twilight



Troop 321 hiked to Cape Flattery, the most northwestern point in the contiguous U.S.



Boy Scouts from Troop 321 fishing on the Paradise River in Mount Rainier National Park





Mississippi's Move Over Law in effect to protect first responders

Special to Long Beach Breeze

There's a law that's "been on the books" for nearly two decades that some Mississippi drivers aren't yet aware of but could result in a costly ticket and court appearance – the Move Over Law.

Mississippi's Move Over law went into effect in 2007.

It requires anyone driving in Mississippi to move at least one lane away when approaching emergency vehicles that are parked on the roadside with lights flashing. This could include vehicles manned by poofficers. lice highway patrolmen, Mississip-Department pı of Transportaworkers tion or others who work as first responders. The law requires a lane change, or.



Mississippi's Move Over Law requires drivers to move one lane over when possible and to slow down when approaching first responder, law enforcement and road work vehicles with flashing lights that are parked on the side of the roadway.

if there are vehicles in the next lane over and it is unsafe to change lanes, motorists are required to slow down.

Under the Move Over Law, motorists who are passing an emergency vehicle on the side of the road must slow down and yield the right of way by changing lanes, keeping at least one lane between their vehicles and first responders, if possible.

The law is intended to protect ambulance crews, state troopers and other law enforcement, medical personnel and first responders. It also covers tow trucks and

highway maintenance vehicles. This often-ignored law also requires motorists to get out of the way of approaching emergency ve-hicles, as well, usually by pulling over to the right-hand edge of a road or street.

Drivers who don't make room and fail to change lanes when possible under the Move Over Law risk getting ticketed, as some Mississippians have already found out.

Failure to obey the Move Over Law is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine. If the violation results in property damage to an emergency vehicle, highway maintenance or recovery vehicle or bodily injury, the fine can be up to \$1,000.

Education fundraiser planned for Sept. 28

Special to Long Beach Breeze

On Saturday, September 28, the Long Beach High School Class of 1972, along with more than one hundred business and individual sponsors, will host a silent auction/raffle fundraiser to benefit the Long Beach Excellence in Education Foundation.

Set for 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the USM Gulf Park campus' Hardy Dining Hall, the event will feature many one-of-a-kind items and experiences and over \$9,000 worth of donated items.

"There will be something for everyone at this event, including themed baskets, day and sunset cruises, fishing gear, tickets to local attractions and events, restaurant gift cards, pottery and fine art, car care items and jewelry," says Denise Daniel, fundraising chair.

Admission to the event is free, and bidders and raffle ticket holders do not need to be present to win.

All funds raised will support scholarships for graduating seniors who want to further their career goals after graduation. Qualifying applicants must demonstrate a financial need, must have demonstrated good moral character/conduct and must be in good academic standing while attending Long Beach schools. After selection of the recipient(s) by a committee of school employees, the 501c3 Long Beach Excellence in Education Foundation will forward the raised funds to the student's choice of a regionally-accredited academic, technical or vocational post-secondary institution. For further information about the event, contact Denise Daniel at denise.dan-

iel1935@gmail.com.



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October, 2024

LONG BEACH BREEZE

Cancer diagnosis and battle changes life for local family

By Katelyn Petty

Hendrix Longfellow, the eight-year-old son of two Gulf Coast police officers, Amanda (Long Beach Police Department) and Justin Branning (Biloxi Police Department), has five siblings, all sisters. On August

11, 2022, his family's life changed forever, when, at six years old, Longfellow was diagnosed with Stage 4 brain cancer. A child facing a life-threatening medical condition is news

no parent wants to hear, but it was and is the reality still today for Longfellow and his family.

"Tomorrow is never promised, unfortunately, especially since the tumor is still there," said Amanda Branning. On July 18, 2022, Longfellow started having symptoms

On July 18, 2022, Longfellow started having symptoms - his eyes had distinct and constant nystagmus (involuntary, rapid and rhythmic eye movements), and he was having dizzy spells during which he was acting very lethargic and kept falling to the right. The symptoms required Longfellow to need assistance walking, as he was losing function in the right side of his body, especially in his right arm and right leg.

After extensive medical testing, less than a month later, he was diagnosed with a High-Grade Neuroepithelial ETMR Tumor of the CNS (pontine).

A treatment plan was immediately made for Longfellow: five months of chemotherapy, followed by one to three months of consolidation/randomized treatment, which would filter his stem cells back in after filtering them out during chemo. He would then end chemotherapy treatments and continue with six weeks of direct targeted proton radiation.

Longfellow has completed his treatments and radiation, but he will not be considered in remission until 2028. Until then, he will continue to have MRI testing every two to three months to check on the tumor and make sure

to check on the tumor and make sure it hasn't grown. Once he is in remission, he will continue MRI testing once or twice a year.

Following his last radiation treatment, "we were hoping for the results to be that the tumor has shrunk or is shrinking," said Amanda.

Test results continue to show that the tumor is still there, with no significant change in size, hopefully meaning the tumor is dead and will not grow any larger, even though it hasn't shrunk.



Hendrix Longfellow, with his mom, Amanda Branning

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

"[At his August 2024 scan, the] tumor appeared a smidge smaller," said Amanda. "Since there was really no change, we are still considering it as good news." From the beginning of their journey, Longfellow and his family say they have gotten the support they needed from funds raised locally all along the Gulf Coast. Fundraisers have ranged from local fish fry events in Biloxi

Fundraisers have ranged from local fish fry events in Biloxi hosted by the Biloxi Police Department, to donations from all sales made during a citywide fundraiser in Long Beach, to being made Honorary Chief of Police for the Biloxi Police Department.

On September 26, 2019, the month of September was officially recognized worldwide as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, established to encourage supporters to "Go Gold" to increase awareness honoring the many children who are facing the effects of childhood cancer.

Recently, Long Beach joined a growing list of cities proclaiming September as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in their municipality.

Although childhood cancer is rare, it is the number one leading cause of death for children under the age of fourteen in America. Many types of childhood cancers exist, but hematologic malignancies and tumors of the brain and central nervous system are most common, and 300,000 children worldwide are diagnosed with cancer each year – approximately 44 children each day.

This fall, the St. Baldrick's Foundation, together with the City of Long Beach, held a "Rock the Bald" event, inviting community members to secure sponsors and then shave their heads, make a donation, or help raise money for the Foundation, which raises awareness of and donates money to cancer research for improved cancer treatment plans and to help find a cure for all childhood cancers. At press time, Long Beach Mayor George Bass had committed to shaving his head for the cause.

Longfellow says he sees the beauty in God's creation of his life and is learning how to handle his current life with a large tumor in his brain, hoping to be able to do the things he enjoyed before his cancer diagnosis.

joyed before his cancer diagnosis. To donate to the St. Baldrick's Foundation, visit www.StBaldricks.org.

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Amanda Branning, mother

of Hendrix Longfellow and a Long Beach police officer,

accepts a proclamation

on behalf of St. Baldrick's Foundation from Long

Beach Mayor George Bass

and the City of Long Beach.

The proclamation dedicates

September as Childhood

Cancer Awareness Month in

Long Beach.



Monday - Friday: 8:30-6:00, Saturday: 9:00-2:00 5107 Beatline Rd., 100B, Long Beach, MS, (228) 731-3329, info@PremierPostalMS.com





LONG BEACH BREEZE YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

October, 2024

St. Thomas plans urgent fundraising events to beat the heat

Special to Long Beach Breeze

With an ailing air conditioning (AC) chiller that has been damaged from wear and salt water corrosion from the coastal climate threatening to fail any day, St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church is scrambling to quickly raise \$50,000 to replace it. "It could also ruin the inside of our

church, office building and community center," explained Fr. Satish Adhav, pastor at St. Thomas. The chiller, which is

part of the climate control system that makes the air warm or cold, needs to be replaced, but the new parts and repair are estimated at \$350,000.

"That is a lot of money," continued Fr. Satish, "and our church just doesn't have it right now."

Fr. Satish explained that an initial \$50,000 is necessary to just order the chiller, and, even then, it could take six months or more for the parts to be manufactured and shipped.

We really need the help of everyone in our parish - and even those beyond who have connection to St. Thomas to pull together and help to quickly raise the funds necessary to save our church from the heat," he said.

The parish hopes sever-al fundraisers, especially a \$10,000 drawing, will do the trick. Tickets in the drawing, will do the trek. Thek-ets in the drawing are \$100 each, and a special fundraising "CHILL OUT" event is being planned at 5 p.m. on October 12, where the winning ticket will be drawn. There will be an "insane chili bar," frozen treats and a silent auction, as well.

Other fundraisers are also planned. On Saturday, October 19, Fr. Louis Lohan will be guest of honor on a "Sunset Dinner Cruise with Fr. Louis Lohan." The

evening will offer guests an opportunity to enjoy fellowship with the beloved priest, along with a catered dinner, live music and a South Mississippi evening on the water. The two-hour cruise boards at 6:30 p.m. at the Ship Island dock in Gulfport Small Craft Harbor. Tickets are \$125 per person, and there will be a cash bar onboard. Space is limited.

"We are delighted that Fr. Louis is partnering with us to raise funds for St. Thomas," remarked Fr. Satish. "We

Louis possible."

the dinner cruise.

are grateful for Ship Island

Excursions and the Skrmetta

Family, as well as restaurant

owner Rob Stinson, for their

support in helping us make

this dinner cruise with Fr.

Fr. Satish and Fr. Braxton

Necaise, Parochial Vicar at

the parish, also plan to attend

Guests are invited to wear

'island" or "parrot head" at-

tire as they wine, dine and

visit with the beloved guests

of honor. Boarding for the

cruise begins at 6:30 p.m.,

Tickets for the \$10,000

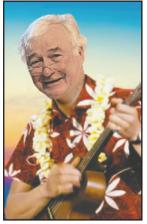
drawing as well as for the

cruise can be purchased on-

line at www.SaintThomasLB.

org, or in the St. Thomas the

Apostle Church office during



and departure is at 7 p.m. ecial to Long Beach Breeze A two-hour dinner cruise benefitting St. Thomas the Apostle Church's efforts to raise money to replace the church's chiller will be held on October 19, with special guest Fr. Louis Lohan.

regular business hours. Businesses and individuals are asked to be sponsors of the "CHILL

OUT" event and drawing. To become a sponsor, contact PLeBlanc@Coldwell-Banker.com.

Those who would like to donate an item to the silent auction are asked to contact SuzanneWaitsGibson@yahoo.com.

For additional information, or to make a donation to St. Thomas Church, contact the St. Thomas Parish office at 228-863-1610.

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Salute to the Military set for Oct. 8

Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Mississippi Gulf Coast Chamber of Commerce will host the 43rd annual Salute to the Military on Tuesday, October 8. The event is held to pay tribute to and thank the men and women in uniform for their service to the nation and the Coast communities.

Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast, with the program beginning at 8 a.m. at the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino's Magnolia Ballroom.

Individual tickets are \$50. Sponsorships of varying levels are available. For more information, call Kendyll Palermo at 228-604-0014. To purchase tickets, visit MSCoastChamber.com to register.

The Beau Rivage is located at 875 Beach Boulevard in Biloxi.



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Churches unite for inaugural Praise in the Park

by Emma Ellard

First Baptist Church of Long Beach is sponsoring an upcoming inaugural event called Praise in the Park. The event is set for Saturday, October 5, in the Harper McCaughan Town Green. Participating local churches and recording artists will perform, and food trucks will be present.

Most importantly to event organizer Mag Holland, though, the event will be an opportunity to connect both the churches of Long Beach and the members of the Long Beach community.

"It's just a way to get everybody together in unity," Holland said.

At the center of the event will be the musical stylings of several local churches' worship teams, including groups from First Baptist Church of Long Beach, Connect Fellowship Church, St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church and Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church. Holland also says that other singers will perform between the churches' sets.

The event is free, and food will be available for purchase on-site from food trucks. The organizers encourage all members of the Long Beach community, regardless of church affiliation, to attend. The event is set for 5 until 8 p.m.

The event has many moving parts, but Holland claims that coordinating it was easy, largely thanks to the caring nature of the Long Beach church community. Holland and the event's participating churches hope to highlight the spirit of unity and community in Christ through the worship night.

"We're just all working together to bring a night of praise to Long Beach," Holland said.

For more details, contact Holland at 228-861-0007.

cont. from front page

Cruisin' events planned for Long Beach, records crowds expected



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Pass Christian will once again be a hotspot for Cruisers on Thursday, October 10, for the annual Burn 'Em Up in the Pass event, followed by Pass In The Night on Friday, October 11.

CTC has evolved into a major launching event for the South Mississippi fall tourism season, attracting hundreds of thousands of CTC participants and visitors. With this comes parking challenges at some of CTC's most popular events.

This year, parking for Cruise Central spectators will be at Hardy Court Shopping Center on Courthouse Road in Gulfport. Free shuttles will transport people who are not official registered Cruisers from Hardy Court to Cruise Central (at Gulfport's Centennial Plaza just north of Highway 90) Monday through Sunday (October 7 through October 13) during Cruisin' Week. In years past, spectators would park in areas adjacent to Cruise Central, but, this year, only registered

In years past, spectators would park in areas adjacent to Cruise Central, but, this year, only registered Cruisers may drive into and park at in the official CTC venue. Cruisers will receive a Window ID Card, which is to be placed in the windshield, or on the dash or sun visor, for access and parking at CTC sites.

Last year, a total of 10,070 classic vehicles registered for CTC 2023. In just two years, CTC will celebrate another milestone during the week of October 4 through 11 - its 30th anniversary. In its inaugural year back in 1996 in South Mississippi, 374 vehicles registered for CTC, which was launched as a festival to celebrate antique, classic and hot rod vehicles, nostalgic music and other related events designed to provide participants with the opportunity to "take a stroll down memory lane" and for classic car lovers to show off their beauties, network and celebrate their love for vintage vehicles. Over the past twenty-eight years, "America's Largest Block Party" has grown into the biggest special

Over the past twenty-eight years, "America's Largest Block Party" has grown into the biggest special event in the state of Mississippi, providing a much-needed boost to the start of the fall tourism season in the area, hosting more than a dozen car clubs and boasting more than seven hundred volunteers. For more information and a full list of scheduled events, visit CruisinTheCoast.com.

THE POST

Two weekends of butterfly events planned for Pass

The Pass Post

Saturday, September 28, will kick off the first of two weekends of butterfly-related events in Pass Christian.

From 9:30 a.m. until 3 p.m. on September 28, area residents of all ages are invited to join in the third annual **Butterfly Count** for southwest Harrison County. The following Saturday, October 5, brings the **Butterflies in the Pass Monarch Festival** to War Memorial Park from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m.

The official Butterfly Count will be conducted in accordance with the guidelines of the North American Butterfly Association, with Craig Marks, author of *The Butterflies of Louisiana*, guiding participants through a variety of coastal habitats and assisting in the identification of the butterflies, creating a family-friendly learning experience.

Those interested can join the counters for the whole day or for just a portion, and no experience is necessary. The group

will meet in front of the Pass Christian Library at 111 Hiern Avenue at 9:30 a.m.

Those attending are asked to provide their own transportation and be responsible for their own safety. Boots or closed-toed shoes are recommended, and water shoes are also acceptable. Participants should bring their own water and snacks and make their own plans for lunch. Bug nets, binoculars and a camera to help identify the butterflies are all encouraged.

Pre-registration is required to help with the count. To sign up, email JenBuck3@ gmail.com. There will be a \$3 registration fee for the event, and exact change is appreciated. For more information, call Jennifer Buchanan at 228-860-5763.

The following weekend, Butterflies in the Pass will feature speakers, educational exhibits, hands-on activities for all ages and a walking parade for anyone in

and a walking parade for anyone in butterfly regalia (including pets). The goal of the festival is to celebrate and educate the community about Monarch butterflies and other pollinators and what humans can do to help them thrive. At **10 a.m.**, there will be a **welcome**, and **exhibits** will open, followed by the

At 10 a.m., there will be a welcome, and exhibits will open, followed by the Butterfly Walking Parade. At 10:30 a.m., the "New Orleans Bug Lady," Linda Auld, will present "Monarchs, Migration, Milkweed and OE," followed by "Native Plants for Butterflies and Pollinators," presented at 11:30 a.m. by Heather Sullivan, who is a state botanist with the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science. Exhibits will be open until 1 p.m.

Butterflies in the Pass is held in coordination with the weekly **Pass Christian Market in the Park**. In addition to the market vendors, many of whom will have butterfly-themed items for sale, the festival will bring exhibitors that include the Mississippi State Extension Bug Blues, Crosby Arboretum, Dr. Blair Sampson, Amy Nichols, State Apiarist Dr. Jeffrey Harris, the Pass Christian Garden Club, Hancock and Harrison County Master Naturalists, Hancock County Master Gardeners, the Mississippi Forestry Commission, the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science, Harrison and Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation Districts, the Beach Beekeepers Association and the Pass Christian Public Library.

The Butterflies in the Pass event is free and open to the public. Attendees are asked to bring lawn chairs, and butterfly-themed costumes are encouraged.

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

For more information, call the library at 228-452-4596, or follow the Butterflies in the Pass Facebook page or on Instagram.



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LONG BEACH BREEZE YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPI

Writing series set to begin Oct. 16

The Pass Post

A five-week series, **"Flash Writing Your Memoir,"** will begin at the Pass Christian Library on **Wednesday, October 16**. Author Deborah Tainsh will facilitate the workshop, which will begin at 2 p.m. and will continue weekly on Wednesday afternoons through November 13.

The purpose of the workshop is to inspire and assist those attending the class to write stories for family posterity through flash, micro and creative nonfiction writing to tell true life or fictional stories. Ideally, participants will attend as many sessions as possible, but perfect attendance is not required.

Tainsh is the author of the novel Love's Return; the memoir Heart of a Hawk: One Family's Sacrifice and Journey Toward Healing; and essays published in the Chicken Soup for the





Soul publications; and Folded Flag: Families of War Share Stories of Coping, Courage and Faith.

Tainsh has facilitated numerous creative and memoir writing workshops for libraries and Barnes and Noble stores in Georgia and Florida.

Anyone who is interested in writing is welcome to attend. Attendees are asked to bring their laptop or a pen and paper, as well

as any writing that they are working on, if they would like to share. Those who wish to attend are asked to call the library at 228-452-4596 to reserve their spot or for more information.

The library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue.

Two programs on tap for Historical Society this month The Pass Post

For October, the Pass Christian Historical Society will again offer two programs during the month

On **Monday, October 14**, the group will have its monthly meeting, beginning at **7 p.m.** Dr. Richard Summers, an award-winning theoretical biologist with the University of Mississippi Medical Center, will speak on "Science as Natural Philosophy and Finding Our Place in the Universe." The program is free and open to the public, and no registration is needed. Those who are not currently

members are encouraged to consider joining. On Monday, October 28, at noon, the Society will hold its monthly luncheon. This month's speaker will be Dr. Jim Keating, with the Hancock County Historical Society. He will

present information on Edward Livingston, Pass Christian and the Battle of New Orleans.

Lunch will be offered and Dr. Richard Summers starts at noon. The cost for lunch

is \$12 for members and \$15 for non-members. Lunch reservations should be made by no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, October 25.

Reservations can be made by calling 228-452-7254 or emailing Reservations@PassHistory.org. For more information about either event, call 228-452-7254 or email info@PassHistory.org.

The Historical Society is located at 201 East Scenic Drive in Pass Christian and welcomes new members.

Edward Livingston

One Book, One Pass concludes Oct. 22

The Pass Post

The 2024 One Book, One Pass community book project will conclude on Tuesday, October 22, with a presentation by the author, Lauren Groff, an award-winning writer and bestselling author.

The book that was selected for this year, *The Vaster Wilds*, will be the subject of Groff's presentation, which will be held at the Randolph Center beginning at **6:30 p.m.** One Book, One Pass has included several months of community book

discussions, panel discussions and other programs, as all residents of Pass Christian were encouraged to read the same book. The Randolph Center is located at 315 Clark Avenue. Copies of *The Vaster Wilds* are available for check out at the Pass Christian Library or for purchase at Pass Christian Books.

For additional information, call the library at 228-452-4596 or visit the program's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/events/7185583154904784.

Seniors urged to attend driving course

The Pass Post

AARP will present a **Driver Safety Class** on **Friday, October 25**, from **10 a.m. until 2 p.m.** in the conference room of the Pass Christian Public Library. Mississippi law requires insurance companies to give seniors who attend an

approved driver safety course a discount on their auto insurance, so seniors are

approved driver safety course a discount on their auto insurance, so seniors are invited to attend the course to help them save money on their insurance. The four-hour course is designed to show seniors how they should adjust their driving habits as they get older. Topics will include **defensive driving techniques**, **proven safety strategies**, and **new traffic laws** and **rules of the road**. A light lunch will be sponsored by the Friends of the Pass Christian Library. All instructors are volunteers. The cost for the materials workbook for the class is \$20 for AARP members and \$25 for non-members. To register or for more information, call 228-452-4596 or email PassChristianLibrary@ amail.com

gmail.com.

The library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue.

Library and Garden Club partner for Oct. 3 program

Special to The Pass Post

The Pass Christian Public Library and the Pass Christian Garden Club are partnering to host a garden program with Kaitlyn Mitchell from the MSU Extension Coastal Extension Service.

Mitchell, who is the program lead for the Native Plant Producers Network, will present "Building Local Capacities to Grow and Sell Native Wetland **Plants.**" Her program will be an introduction to the network and its role for the community.



The program, which is free and open to everyone,

Those interested in joining the Garden Club are welcome to attend the meeting following the program

For more information, call the library at 228-452-4596.

The Pass Christian Library is located at 111 Hiern Avenue in Pass Christian

Three-day book sale begins Sept. 27

The Pass Post

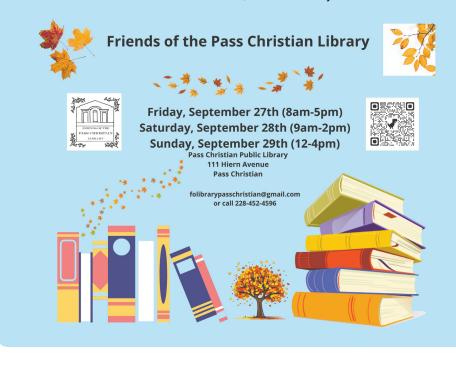
The Friends of the Pass Christian Library will have their fall book sale for three days, beginning on Friday, September 27, and continuing through Sunday, September 29.

Friday's sale hours will be 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Saturday's hours are 9 a.m. until 2 p.m., and, on Sunday, the sale will be open from noon until 4 p.m.

Shoppers are encouraged to come early for the best selection. Prices at the sale will range from twenty-five cents for small paperback books to \$1 for hardcover books and DVDs.

All proceeds from the book sale will benefit the Friends of the Library. Residents who have books, videos, puzzles or other items that they would like to donate are encouraged to bring them to the library. Donations are accepted Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

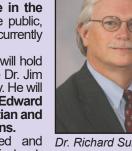
The book sale will be held at the Pass Christian Public Library, located at 111 Hiern Avenue. For more information, call the library at 228-452-4596.













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Seabees use skills to fortify **Long Beach Food Pantry**

By Toni Miles

LONG BEACH BREEZE

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAP

They're trained by the U.S. Navy to build, whether it's constructing roads, bridges, bunkers and even airfields at sites both foreign and domestic; however, local Seabees stationed at the Naval Construction Battalion Center in Gulfport recently dedicated an entire day putting their skills to use at a local food pantry.

Known as the "Fighting Seabees," these American heroes stepped up in the fight against hunger in the local community by trading their hammers and nails for pressure washers and saws to help spruce up the Long Beach Community Food Pantry, located on Johnson Road in west Harrison County.



The Seabees, all members of the Gulf-port-based NMCB 133 and headed up by BU1 Valerie Romero, the Lead Petty Officer for this effort, spent an entire day by organizing into groups of teams to perform assigned tasks that included power washing buildings on site, landscaping the grounds, tree removal and removal of cuttings - all just in time to better prepare the Long Beach site for the high winds and heavy rainfall spurned by Hur-ricane Francine, which made landfall just west in Louisiana on September 11.

The Seabees also took the time to rotate the food pantry's dry goods for distribution. It was all part of the local unit's Community Service program. The results of NMCB 133's efforts impressed both the staff and recipients of the Long Beach food pantry.

The Seabees didn't walk away empty-handed. NMCB 133 CMDMC Duane Jerry says this community project not only helped the food pantry and local residents it serves, but also equipped these young(er) Seabees with a better understanding of the importance of giving back to the community.



The annual two-day Holiday Boutique hosted by the Pass Christian Yacht Club's Ladies Auxiliary will be back in Long Beach on Friday, November 8, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Saturday, November 9, from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., at the West Harrison Civic Center (Espy Center), located at 4670 Espy Avenue in Long Beach. Now in its twenty-eighth year, the boutique will feature artwork, unique gifts, handcrafted and customized pieces, as well as homemade holiday goodies. The ticket price remains the same as in past years: \$5.

"What distinguishes our Holiday Boutique is the emphasis we place on providing re-gional shops and artisans an opportunity to display their merchandise and talent," said Jo Ann Francingues, boutique chairwoman. "The Holiday Boutique is a comfortable, indoor - rain or shine - shopping experience with free parking. And, with the incredible selection of crafts, art, gifts, food and merchandise we have this year, I predict we will attract even more than the nearly eight hundred shoppers we had in 2023.

Gifts for sale will include many one-of-a-kind items, such as artisan and vintage jewelry, bags, pottery, wood-turned bowls and other handcrafted items, original artwork, fused glass art, oyster shell art and mosaics, adult and children's books (many of which are written and signed by regional authors), toys, children's sensory craft, tumblers, nutritional teas and even gifts for the family pets. To help celebrate the holidays, vendors will also sell distinctive ornaments, holiday blooms and greens, home décor, clothing and goodies for the kitchen, such as flavored oils and vinegars, homemade entrees, sides and baked goods.

The vendors at this year's Holiday Boutique will include Becky's Creations, Cabi on the Coast, Café BoneJour Dog Bakery & Boutique, Cat Island Creations, Classic Collections, Creations of the Heart, Dee's Nutrition, Finding Wonder Books, Holiday Blooms, Jolly Olive, LambShop Studio, La Terre Farms, Little Tales, Lisa Nalley Art, Luxuries of Life, Magic Box Toys, Micey Moyer Artist, Mockingbird Lane, Pass Christian Books, Patti's Crafts, Robin's Nest, Sister Swank Boutique, Walton's Turnings, Wire by Sue, and more. For more information, call 210-930-6461.





Long Beach and Pass Coffee with First Responders, Breakfast with the Mayor events coming up

By Toni Miles

Bankhouse Coffee Café & Coffee Shop was probably the safest place for anyone in South Mississippi to be on the morning of February 1 of this year, the date of the **Long Beach Chamber of Commerce's** debut of Coffee with First Responders.

Organizers say the inaugural event was such a success that another **Coffee** with First Responders is scheduled for Thursday, October 3, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. The event is free and open to the public, and will once again be held at Bankhouse Coffee, located at 126 Jeff Davis Avenue.

First responders, politicians, business leaders and members of the community will all be on hand, providing a unique opportunity for community members to network, meet and greet and show appreciation for the area's first responders. **Pass Christian's Chamber** will follow suit with its second **Coffee with First**

Pass Christian's Chamber will follow suit with its second Coffee with First Responders on Thursday, October 24, from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at 301 East Scenic Venue.

Both events will provide free coffee and pastries to all local first responders who attend.

Mid-month, the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce is set to host the City of Long Beach's Annual Breakfast with the Mayor and State of the City Address. It will be held on Tuesday, October 15, at the University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Park Campus's Hardy Hall Ballroom. Doors will open at 7:30 a.m. The program, which will also include the presentation of awards for the Aline Doherty Citizen of the Year, First Responders of the Year and Public Works Employee of the Year, is scheduled to run from 8 to 9 a.m.

The Pass Christian Chamber's Breakfast with the Mayor will be on Friday, November 1, at the Pass Christian Yacht Club, 120 Market Street. Doors open at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast and networking, followed by the program at 8 a.m.

Tickets to each breakfast are \$30 for Chamber members, \$40 for general admission.

For more information about the Breakfast with the Mayor or the Coffee with First Responder events, visit MSCoastChamber.com, or call Anna Claire Perronne at 228-604-0014.



Coffee with First Responders aims to provide an opportunity for politicians, business and community leaders and citizens to express their gratitude for local first responders.



Run winner announced and all Prizes pulled at 17:30 SUPPORT YOUR L

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LONG BEACH BREEZE

Madden to curate CES shows through 2024-25 school year

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Gulf Coast Artist Ann Dinwiddie Madden is curating three art shows at Coast Episcopal School's (CES) Gail Keenan Art Center (GKAC) throughout the 2024-25 school year, according to CES Head of School Jake Winter. The current season will be the third year of Madden orchestrating shows at the independent school in Long Beach.

"Having Ann Madden as our official curator is not only a privilege, it raises the bar for the participating artists and the art lovers who attend our events," said Winter. Madden's photographs and

Madden's photographs and mixed media pieces have been shown at galleries all over the United States. She splits her time

behind the camera between New Orleans and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. She owned and operated Smith & Lens Gallery with Sandy Maggio, silversmith, for six years in Old Town Bay St. Louis. Her personal and most recent work can be viewed on her website at AnnMaddenPhoto.com.

"My goal in organizing these shows is to make them inviting and exciting in memory of the incredible Gail Keenan, for whom the gallery is named. It's an honor to play a role in providing wonderful opportunities for artists of all ages," said Madden.

Currently on display through November 1 is "Legends," which features the works of powerhouse artists Kat Fizpatrick, Erica Larkin Gaudet, Mitchell Gaudet, Ellen Ellis Lee and Ruth Miller.

Fitzpatrick works in encaustic - pigmented wax, painted in layers, Erica Gaudet is a sculptor who primarily welds metal as her medium, while her husband, Mitchell Gaudet, regards himself primarily as a glass caster who ladles molten glass out of



a furnace and into a mold and likes to make objects of desire with "a funky historical presence to them." Lee is a sculptor and costume designer who creates one-of-a-kind mixed media figurative sculptures, vases and wall art. Miller, who developed a love of making art and doing needlework as a child, later combined the two and began to create embroidered art as an alternative to painting. Gradually, she leaned toward making portraits of actual individuals, and her detailed work can take years to complete.

Each of the three shows will include a 5 - 7 pm evening opening reception featuring cuisine created by Colette Weber of Proost.

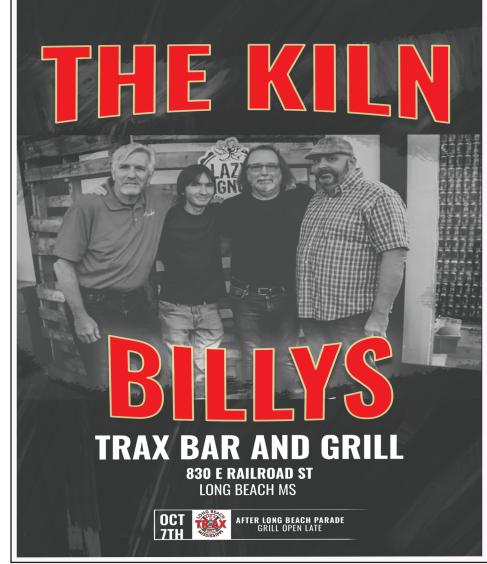
After the holidays, the "Sweet Dreams are Made of This" show

will open on January 17, 2025, with an evening opening reception from 5 until 7 p.m., featuring cuisine created by Colette Weber of Proost. The show will continue through February 28. Madden will be featuring her own works in the winter show and, to date, has also secured works by Carmen Lugo of Biloxi and Jenny Day of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Day of Santa Fe, New Mexico. On March 28, "Paper Fools," back by popular demand, will open with an evening reception from 5 until 7 p.m., also featuring Weber's cuisine. "Paper Fools" was well received at the Gail Keenan Art Center in 2022 and 2023, and, in 2025, Madden's vision for the invitational show is to celebrate the 160th publishing anniversary of Lewis Caroll's *Alice in Wonderland*.

The Gail Keenan Art Center was dedicated in February 2011 to the memory of the recognized ceramic artist and printmaker who was born in 1940 in New Orleans and passed away in February 2005.









2nd annual Long Beach Spooky Halloween trail set for Oct. 18

By Toni Miles

Back by popular demand, the City of Long Beach is preparing for its second annual Spooky Halloween Trail. The event is free and open to the public and will be held on the grounds of the Long Beach Senior Center at 5 p.m. on Friday, October 18.

Nearly 2,000 people showed last year for the family-friendly event, which seeks to provide a safe fall celebration and venue for local children and their families.

Children are encouraged to dress in costume and bring a bag or container to collect candy and other goodies as they walk through the decorated on-site trail.

There is one big change, though, this year, according to the City of Long Beach's Community Affairs Director Courtney Cuevas.

"We recommend individuals to come when the event starts," Cuevas says. "Due to the large amount of attendees, the trail will be closed when the candy runs out.'

"We are encouraging community members and business owners to participate in this year's trail by decorating a section and passing out candy," Cuevas said. The Senior Center is located at 20257 Daugherty Road.

Boots and Bowties Gala fundraiser set for Nov. 9

By Toni Miles

The Long Beach-based Pink Heart Funds non-profit will be the beneficiary of the proceeds from the upcoming Boots and Bowties: The Giving Gala event.

Scheduled to take place on Saturday, November 9, from 6 to 10 p.m., the gala will include an evening of food, drinks, both a live and a silent auction, raffles for lots of prizes, and live entertainment, all to benefit the Pink Heart Funds, which was launched in 2005 to provide cranial prosthetics (wigs) for children and adults with cancer-related hair loss or severe hair loss (alopecia). Pink Heart Funds also provides women with free breast prosthetics and post-mastectomy bras, as well as resources for those seeking support or advice.

The gala will be held at the Slavonian Lodge, located at 159 Maple Street in Biloxi. Tickets are \$100 and include dinner and a drink, and the band Dr. Rock and the Interns will provide live entertainment.

Sponsors for the event are still needed. Sponsor forms and ticket purchases can be made by the November 1 deadline at www.PinkHeartFunds.org.

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