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October 20, 2020 • Volume 4, Number 10 • “Good News You Can Use”

Carnival Association of Long Beach cancels ball

By Andy Kanengiser

Many folks in the Friendly City love the Carnival Association of Long Beach (CALB).

And what’s not to like? Founded in 1960, the CALB is a non-profit bringing together people of all faiths and professions to support loads of deserving charities along the Gulf Coast.

But given the COVID-19 pandemic that’s resulted in more than 209,000 deaths across the U.S. in early October, CALB leaders decided to cancel their 2021 Royal Coronation Ball.

With the Gulf Coast economy taking huge hits in 2020 due to the coronavirus outbreak, raising money to pay for the event would have been nearly impossible. Fund-raising activities for the event are now suspended.

Plus, the event usually attracts five hundred people, and that would have been a violation of



Special to Long Beach Breeze

The Carnival Association of Long Beach has made the decision to cancel their annual Royal Coronation Ball.

health protocols to mitigate the spread of the deadly virus, said CALB President Jason D. Green. Under guidelines, only about one hundred people would have been allowed to attend the ball.

For six decades, the St. Thomas Mother’s Club/Carnival Association has worked hard to bring revelry and the spirit of Mardi Gras to Long Beach, so it was with a heavy heart that Green announced the suspension of the Coronation Ball.

He estimated that it would have cost some \$15,000 to raise funds to hire a band and pay for other items associated with the big gala.

In a Facebook post, CALB President Jason Green, or King Scott XLV111, said the organization will bounce back better than ever.

“We are a resilient group of people, and, with everyone’s support and prayers, we will return STRONGER and do what we are

cont. on page 3

Long Beach welcomes new alderperson for Ward 3

By Shaun Szkolnik

2020 has been a year of clear challenges and changes in directions and quantities that could hardly have been foreseen or anticipated. A change came to the City of Long Beach and its Board of Alderman last month when a position was vacated. That vacancy has now been filled, with Angela Johnson joining the Board as the new representative for Ward 3.

Johnson replaces Kelly Griffin, who served Long Beach as the

alderperson until September 1, 2020. Griffin tendered her resignation during a regularly scheduled board meeting, as she was moving out of Ward 3 and, due to the move, would be no longer able to serve in her previous capacity.

In accordance with the City code on municipal elections, a special election was set to be held on October 13, 2020. Candidates that sought to fill the position were required to qualify twenty days prior to the election. Those potential candidates needed the

signatures of at least fifty qualified electors from Ward 3.

In the end, such an election was not necessary, as there was only one candidate that met the qualifications for the position.

Johnson was that candidate. She was sworn in as the new Alderperson for Ward 3 on October 6, 2020.

Johnson has a long history of service. She has been with Memorial Hospital for twenty-eight years and currently serves as the Board of Trustee Liaison and Executive Assistant at the hospital.

Additionally, she is the current president of the Coast Cares Foundation. According to their Facebook page, Coast Cares is “A 501c3 charity based in Long Beach, Mississippi, and serving Hancock, Harrison and Jackson Counties ... [they] provide cash grants and support to other not-for-profit groups focused on health, wellness and community development.”

Johnson served on the Long Beach School Board from 2007-2019. She has also had involve-

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Draw down for F.E.T.C.H. Dog Park set for Nov. 14

By Shaun Szkolnik

Come November, the good folks over at F.E.T.C.H. (Friendly City Exercise and Training for Canines and their Humans) will be holding the "Ruff Crowd for a Cause" draw down. Set for Saturday, November 14, at the Long Beach Senior Center, the event will include a grand prize of \$2,500.

Sara Brisolaro is the president of the dog park; it is a lot of responsibility for a twenty-seven-year-old. She plans meetings, plans events, raises money for the park, plans new stages and oversees all activities for and at the dog park. For Brisolaro, however, it is a labor of love.

"Me and my mom got tired of being scared to walk our dogs on the side of the road," said Brisolaro. "We started talking and wanted to build a dog park and put the word out to see if we could get people involved and make it happen for the people of Long Beach. Before you knew, it we had ten volunteers; now, we have twenty-five."

Brisolaro has several dogs, but one, in particular, has become the face of the F.E.T.C.H. Dog Park. Biscuit, a golden retriever lab, has been in all of the training demos for the park and is in many of the photos featured on the park's Facebook page.

"When we first got her, me and my dad took her for a car ride to see how she would do," said Brisolaro. "And we ended up going to People's Bank. You know how they always give a dog a biscuit? Well, they gave her one, and my dad also had cash in the little tube - and she ate his cash instead of the biscuit. That is how we found out that she does not like dog biscuits."

F.E.T.C.H. Dog Park has, in many ways, become Long Beach's dog park.

"We try and get involved with the city activities as much as we can," said Brisolaro. "We've had a few activities this year, even with COVID, but, hopefully, next year, if the pandemic subsides, we will have a few more, as well."

Past events for the park have included other draw downs. Those events

have funded the expansion of the park, and it is hoped that funds raised from this year's event will lead the park into a new phase of development.

"Last year, we had a Halloween costume contest. We got the prizes from the businesses of Long Beach to keep the city involved," said Brisolaro. "Two years ago, we had our first draw down; and we raised over \$16,000 with it. This year, we are having another draw down, and we want this one to profit towards our phase two of the dog park. We are trying to get a water feature and lights put on. That is what we are trying to get out of this draw down."

Brisolaro sounds most excited when talking about the water feature. She hopes the park will be able to build a small pond with a fountain system to filter the water. The feature will allow dogs to swim, jump, splash and cool down on those hot summer days that so often extend into the fall and winter.

The event itself will feature plenty of entertainment, including a dog agility training demonstration, silent auction, food and the music of Long Beach favorite Jessie Allen. In light of the current pandemic, precautions will also be taken.

"We're going to do it in regards to the pandemic circumstances," said Brisolaro. "We are going to have multiple people manning the doors and counting how many people are going in. We are going to have the food already prepared in to-go boxes. People are just going to grab the food and move through the assigned exits. We are going to have everything spaced out six feet apart. People are going to be able to sit in the gym area, and we are also going to have tents outside where they can sit."

Brisolaro said the silent auction is going to take place at the Senior Center, along with the draw down. "We will have speakers outside to hear the draw down, and everybody won't have to be inside all at once to hear it."

The Ruff Crowd for a Draw down event will be held November 14 at 5 p.m. at 20257 Daugherty Road in Long Beach. Tickets are \$25, and only 500 tickets will be sold. Attendees must be over 21 years of age to enter the event. For more information, visit www.fetchparklongbeachms.com.



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Carnival Association of Long Beach cancels ball



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known for – the best Mardi Gras on the Coast.”

Jason Green says health concerns about the coronavirus are real. He noted “nobody is immune” to COVID-19. The Coronation Ball was suspended, he said, due to concerns about the safety of members and guests.

While leaders pulled the plug

on the Royal Coronation Ball in February 2021, Green pointed out the festive CALB parade remains on schedule for February 6, 2021. The parade winding along Jeff Davis Avenue begins at 6 p.m is always an annual favorite with crowds on the Gulf Coast.

In addition, there are expected to be other events on tap for early 2021.

Asked if he attends Mardi Gras activities in New Orleans, Green said he’s always too busy making the activities in Long Beach the best on the Mississippi Gulf Coast each year.

While it was a tough decision to make, Green didn’t do it alone. The entire CALB board unanimously endorsed the move this fall.



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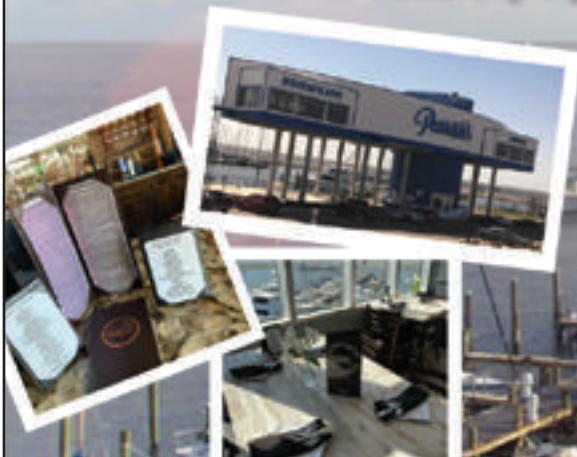
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Book Club resumes, book drive commences

By Guest Columnist Renee Rayburn, LBPL Youth and Technology Services

Hello, Long Beach! As I write this, it's unbelievable that I am collecting information to include in the issue for November. Unbelievable, right? So, let's get started!

Last month, I reported that the Long Beach Book Club did not set a meeting date for October. That has since changed. Their meeting will be held on Thursday, October 22, at 9 a.m. at the Long Beach Senior Center. The address to the Senior Center is 20257 Daugherty Road, Long Beach, MS 39560. The book for October is *The Alice Network* by Kate Quinn. November's meeting and destination will be determined at the October meeting; however, a book has been chosen for November. It is *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger.

An event that will close out the month of October is a book drive for the Long Beach Library by a young man named Joseph who is looking to earn his Eagle Scout badge. His purpose is to collect books for our library that fall under the young adult dystopian genre. He is also providing a shelf to display the ones that are purchased and donated to the library. I have included a flyer provided by this young man that includes any information you may need if you would like to not only help him earn his badge but also support the young adult section of the library with a selection of well-read books.

If you have been by the library recently you may have noticed the boxes of books and VHS tapes on carts and in boxes in the main wing. These are



WHAT WE NEED

We're collecting young adult dystopian genre books for the Long Beach City Library.

MEET ME!

I will be at Long Beach City Library from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. October 23 to accept donations and answer questions.

HOW TO DONATE:

GET A BOOK: Aside from buying a book in person or donating one you already own, you can use the online registry, which will provide links to Amazon for each book.

CHECK OFF THE REGISTRY: Using the registry to buy a book will automatically check said book as purchased, but if you get a book another way, you can manually check it off within the registry.

DONATE: To donate, you can drop the book off at Long Beach City Library [209 Jeff Davis Ave. Long Beach, MS 39560], or call 850-341-1207 to arrange drop off/pick up.

all discards, and THEY ARE FREE. Please take as many of them as you want.

Holidays coming up in November include the following:

- The library will be closed Wednesday, November 11, for Veteran's Day. We will reopen at 9 a.m. on Thursday, November 12.
- The library will be closing at noon on Wednesday, November 25, and will remain closed through Saturday, November 28, for the Thanksgiving holidays. We will reopen at 9 a.m. on Monday, November 30.

At this time, unfortunately, the library is still not able to schedule Preschool Story time, Parent's Coffee, or any type of group meetings at the library, due to social distancing restrictions. Our meeting rooms are being used for quarantine purposes.

The Friends of the Long Beach Public Library as well as the Long Beach Board of Trustees do not have meeting in November. We will keep you posted on when their next meeting will be.

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Lady Bearcats cross country team runs strong



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Alexa Nanatovich, Emily Lyons, Hannah Graf, Bridey Walters and Brooklyn Biancamano

By Andy Kanengiser

Coach Erin Biancamano leads a dauntless Long Beach Lady Bearcats cross country team as a new season begins.

The leader of the Maroon and White squad, Biancamano always counts on her daughter, Brooklyn and Long Beach teammates. Brooklyn Biancamano was Gatorade's 2019-20 Mississippi Girls Cross Country Player of the Year.

Brooklyn Biancamano received the award for her excellence as a runner and strong performances in the classroom. She broke the tape at the MHSAA 5A State Championships this past season, clocking the fastest all-class time of the day in 18:33.20 to finish nearly a minute ahead of her next-closest competitor. She won eight of nine races last fall.

The Long Beach High student is a three-time MHSAA Cross Country All-State team selection. She also earned Gatorade State Girls Track & Field Athlete of the Year honors in Spring 2019. Sports seasons were cut short in spring 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fast forward to fall 2020. Coach Biancamano depends on speedy student-athletes like her daughter, Alexa Nanatovich, Emily Lyons, Hannah Graf, Bridey Walters and Riley Morvant to make the cross country team go strong all season.

The entire varsity girls team

(six total) were returners from last season.

"They are progressing great so far," Coach Biancamano says. As mid-October neared, Brooklyn Biancamano finished first in all four races, and three teammates clocked personal best times.

"We have to be creative at practice on the flat Gulf Coast to simulate hills and rough terrain," Coach Biancamano says. "This team works so hard in the tough heat and humidity at the hottest part of the day."

And the Long Beach High girls aren't just fleet-footed athletes.

"They are all amazing young women, in the classroom and community."

Long Beach High girls may be a little short of depth on the cross country team, but that's not stopping these Lady Bearcats from succeeding. The girls make up for any lack of depth with "perseverance and heart," their coach says.

The goal before the Lady Bearcats is winning the state 5A championship. The girls expect to compete at the state meet at Mississippi College's Choctaw Trails in Jackson, just outside Clinton. Metro Jackson is a three-hour drive from the Gulf Coast, and Long Beach fans are encouraged to cheer them on Saturday October 31.

"We are excited to conquer this tough course!" Coach Biancamano said. "It's what we train for."



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Long Beach High boys hoops team opens new season

By Andy Kanengiser

Long Beach High basketball standout Anthony Robinson is generating interest at colleges in Mississippi and across state lines.

The leading scorer on the Bearcats hoops squad last season, Robinson is back on the hardwood for his senior year this fall. The talented 6'6" guard averaged a 15.9 points per game a year ago.

It's one of the reasons that first-year coach Nick Coln feels upbeat as the season opens with the Di'Iberville Jamboree on the road October 24 and an away game October 31 with St. Martin in Ocean Springs.

The first home game in the Friendly City is slated for November 3 versus Purvis, followed by a November 5 road game against Biloxi. Early season home games for Long Beach include a November 17 contest to face Forrest County.

Expect a parade of college scouts and coaches to watch in hoops arenas when Anthony Robinson has the ball in his hands. Community colleges statewide, the University of Southern Mississippi, as well as schools like the University of South Alabama and UAB are expressing interest. More colleges will join the list of potential landing places for the eighteen-year-old senior.

The Long Beach standout would be an asset to a number of college programs next year.

"He has the ability to take a game over on both ends of the floor," Coach Coln said. "He's long, athletic and understands the game. I look for him to be a leader and bring the young guys along."

During the 2019-20 season, Robinson averaged 15.9 points per contest in 27 games.

That was a nice improvement over 8.5 points per game average as a Bearcats sophomore. Last season, Robinson hit forty three-pointers out of 170 attempts, or twenty-four percent, but nailed fifty percent of his two-point shots. He also snagged 149 rebounds a year ago.

Anthony Robinson isn't the only versatile player returning. Vincent Armstrong, a 5'10" senior, is back as the team's point guard. Some players on the Bearcats football team will join the basketball squad when their 2020 season wraps up.

Besides Robinson and Armstrong returning, "we will be young and inexperienced, but I think we will compete once I get everybody in the gym and working together," Coln said. "There will be a couple of freshmen and sophomores that will have to step up. The guys work hard. And once we get going in season, I think we will be able to compete with our district teams."

At schools on the Gulf Coast and elsewhere, players come and go for a variety of reasons. Three players that Coln counted on earlier this year are no longer with the Maroon & White program. Two were projected starters, and a third might have started or would have been the sixth man.

Earlier this year, Brandon Cobb stepped away after two seasons as the Long Beach Bearcats head coach. Cobb departed to become associate admissions director at his alma mater, St. Stanislaus in Bay St. Louis. His record was 33-26 at Long Beach High.

Nick Coln brings twelve years of coaching experience in North Mississippi, guiding hoops teams like Smithville, Olive Branch and Alcorn Central. Last season, Coach Coln was 23-7 with state 1A Smithville and led the team to a spot in the playoffs.



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Long Beach has long history of scouting in Mississippi

By Shaun Szkolnik

It has been 110 years since Robert Baden-Powell brought scouting to the United States. Since 1910, there have been two world wars, nineteen presidents and at least three technological revolutions. The times have changed. Despite the changes, The Boy Scouts of America have held fast onto their mission of training young men, and now young women, too:

On my honor I will do my best to do my duty to God and my country and to obey the Scout Law; to help other people at all times; to keep myself physically strong, mentally awake and morally straight.

Troop 205 serves the Long Beach area and, founded in 1939, it is one of the oldest troops in Mississippi. Tash Solangi is the scoutmaster. He has a wealth of information when it comes to scouting in Long Beach, across the country and around the world.

“We have survived major hurricanes, wars, floods, and now pandemics,” said Solangi. “The number of Boy Scout Troops and Cub Scout packs has changed over time, and has always been driven by parents and kids wanting to have those adventures and learn those skills associated with Scouting. We are a completely volunteer organization, which has been great, because those that step up have a great passion to do what is best for the Scouts ... The one thing that has remained consistent is that Troop 205 has been here through all of it, and right now Scouting in the city has been thriving.”

Solangi’s time with scouting began when he wanted to find a productive activity for his son. It has enriched both of their lives thoroughly over the years.

“I have a teenage son, Caleb, and when he was five years old, I wanted to find activities that he and I could do together,” said Solangi. “I never was much of an outdoorsy type growing up, and I really felt it was a major skill that I was lacking. I wanted my son to have that knowledge growing up, and also it would be fun to learn them, as well.”

“Caleb and I went on many adventures together, but, with Scouting, it was very well structured and really kept the scouts excited about learning. I also wanted him to meet other kids that have the same interests, so that he can make friends with other good kids and they can all have adventures together. I had volunteered at the Cub Scout level to be Caleb’s den’s leader when he first joined Cub Scouts in first grade, and we have been on

this journey together ever since.”

Scouting at the local level is, at its core, a community affair. It involves the time, talents and efforts of religious and civic organizations, as well as leaders in municipal government.

“We are sponsored by the First United Methodist Church in Long Beach, but gain support from the mayor and City Council, the Rotary [Club] and many businesses in the area,” said Solangi. “The chartered organization provides oversight, and helps make sure the Scouts have the proper facilities and that the Scouting program being offered is in line with Boy Scouts of America and their ideals.”

There are many roads on the journey to reaching the scouting ideals. Troop 205 has cut a path that balances the modern age with what is truly timeless.

“[In Troop 205] ... we focus on making our scouts the best, most well-rounded scouts that they can be, by encouraging kids to explore different things, to step out of their comfort zone, help others around them, and to be the best version of themselves,” said Solangi. “We are blessed to have a large number of active scouts and adult leaders that we can offer, smaller sets of scouts, activities that they would be interested in doing.”

“For example, we have a set of scouts that are interested in wild-life first aid, so we arranged for a military medic to do a demonstration; while we have some kids that love fishing, so we setup a fishing camp-out where they learn to catch, clean, and cook their catches,” said Solangi. “On the other extreme, we have scouts that are very STEM focused who don’t like the outdoors, so we offered merit badges in reading, engineering and robotics; but we also do the quintessential Scout activities with another group, and they go camping, backpacking and hiking as much as they can.”

That balance underpins the success of scouting in Long Beach.

“We encourage fun and friendship, but they also understand that they must learn and fine tune their skills while doing each of these activities,” said Solangi. “They are on their own, so they must practice and get help in being able to be successful. By asking for help, the Scout learns humility; and, by teaching, the Scout learns patience. It is an amazing thing to watch.”

For more information about Troop 205, visit their website at www.LBMSScouts.org or visit their Facebook page.



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Scouts from Troop 205’s Cobra Patrol recently completed their service project by picking up trash around the Long Beach Harbor.



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Lady Bearcats soccer team focused on state championship

By Andy Kanengiser

Lady Bearcats soccer coach Andrew Lamier leads a stellar squad with its sights set on winning a 5A championship in early February 2021.

From the beginning of the summer, the first-year Long Beach High coach set goals he feels are within the team's reach in the Friendly City.

"The goal has been focused on the State Championship and the steps we have to take to get there and be successful," Lamier said.

"We are looking forward to some really great match-ups this year. Our vision in the regular season is to go undefeated in district play."

Looking over the new schedule, he's hoping the Lady Bearcats come away with triumphs over teams out of district, including Pass Christian, Biloxi, Vancleave and Our Lady Academy.

"They seem to be the biggest out of district threats on the schedule. We are not taking any team lightly."

Leading the girls soccer team this year are captains Lauren Bennett, Ella Setnikar and Ashton Rupert.

The Long Beach girls soccer team has achieved much success in past years.

"But the one thing that eludes the program is a State Championship," Lamier said.

His message to the Lady Bearcats boils down to a few sentences. He's told the girls that "success isn't given. You have to earn and then sustain that level of dedication. Every day needs to be championship focused. No matter where we are skill-wise, we have to improve," the



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Pictured (l to r) are, front row: Camdyn Biancamano, Macy Willis-Trahan, Amy Treminio, Jillian Powell, Kyla Cuevas, Morgan Eleuterius (LBMS visiting player), Skylar Mac Mann and Lauren Bennett; and back row: Chrisjenn Dominick, Rachel Crapps, Natalie Crapps, Pressley Carothers, Hannah Hartley, Karly Lafontaine, Lola Charman, Riley Rolison, Ella Setnikar, Maddie Hartley, Sophia Fimiano, Allie Cruz, Kylie Best and Ashton Rupert.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

LBHS Lady Bearcats soccer coach Greg Lamier is presented with a slice of birthday cake from senior soccer player Sophia Fimiano, while assistant coach Ashley Harvey looks on.

coach adds. "We have to learn to trust each other, and we will succeed."

"Defense is our best strength," Lamier says. But he expects to see great things, too, from the Long Beach girls when they take kicks at the goal.

There are only two seniors on the Long Beach girls soccer team. There are plenty of juniors, sophomores and freshmen on the team. In the coach's view, "the sky is the limit for these girls."

"We have to be ready at any moment to be quarantined for two weeks," Lamier says. So that's a major factor to consider for coaches to consider in all sports – from practices to games.

On the 300 East Old Pass campus, Lamier succeeded former coach Haley Hammons. She departed earlier this year for a post in another Gulf Coast district. A University of Southern Mississippi graduate, Lamier taught social studies and computer science at Vancleave High while coaching girls soccer, before taking the Long Beach post.

The Long Beach girls team opens the 2020-21 season with matches against Biloxi and Vancleave in an October 24 jamboree. The event will begin in Vancleave at 10 a.m. Among other dates on the schedule is a November 3 road contest with Pass Christian that begins at 5:30 p.m. The first home game of the season will be November 12 against St. Patrick, with a 5:30 p.m. start. The Lady Bearcats travel to face rival West Harrison in Gulfport, with the match to kick off at 11 a.m. on November 14.

The first round of the playoffs are set for January 26, with round two on January 30. The South State Championship is February 2. The season concludes February 6, 2021, with the 5A State Soccer Championship.

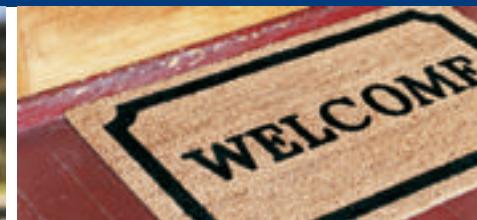
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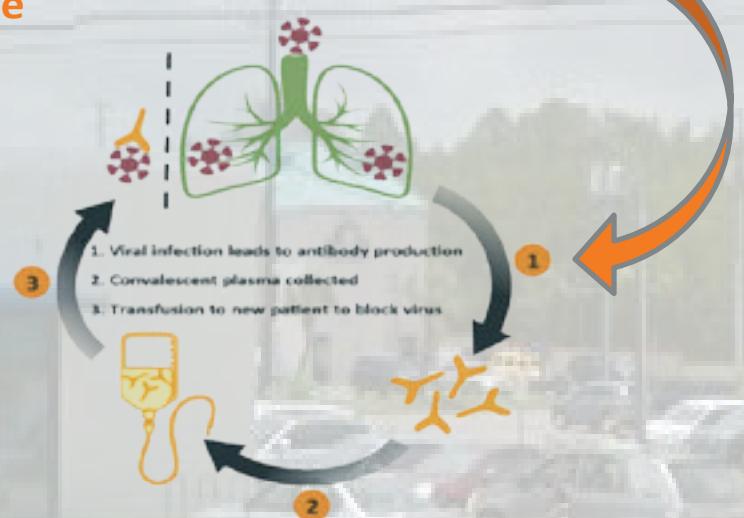
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Alderman resigns – photo correction



Photo by Hunter Dawkins

WOW! What a great picture! When we pulled this picture from a City source, we didn't notice at the time that Hunter Dawkins - and not a City employee - had taken it. Hunter pointed it out and asked that he receive his credit. So, photo credit to Hunter Dawkins on a great photo! And let's give another shout out to our wonderful alderwoman Kim Griffin for her many years of service.

cont. from page 1

Long Beach welcomes new alderperson for Ward 3

ment with, and served, with the Long Beach School District on the Parent Advisory Committee. Her tenure lasted from 2003-2016. She has been involved with PTOs for Harper McCaughan Elementary as well as Long Beach High School and Long Beach Middle School.

Johnson has been involved with other service organizations, including the Boys and Girls Club (Forrest Heights), Long Beach Yacht Club, Gulf Coast Substance Abuse Task Force and the Long Beach Substance Abuse Task Force.

Currently, Johnson is serving as a board member for the Irish American Society of Long Beach and as a board member for the

Carnival Association of Long Beach.

Johnson has been the recipient of a number of awards and special recognitions over the years. She was the Parent of the Year in 2003. In 2016, she was Long Beach's Queen Rosalie for the Carnival Association of Long Beach. In 2011, she was the Grand Marshall of the Long Beach High School Homecoming Parade, where she represented the class of 1981.

With an impressive resume and a history of service to her community, Johnson seems poised to bring her special blend of commitment and service to the Board of Alderman for the City of Long Beach.

PLACES OF WORSHIP

Include your church in this section!

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(Behind Post Office)
228-224-6500

Service Times:
Sunday A.M. - Bible Study-9:30; Worship-10:30
Sunday P.M. - 5:00
Wednesday - Bible Study-6:00 p.m.
Watch us at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday
[facebook.com/LongBeachCommunityChurch](https://www.facebook.com/LongBeachCommunityChurch)

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register for worship at fbctb.com

SUNDAY
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Starting October 4th
10:30 AM Bible Study



LONG BEACH CHURCH OF CHRIST
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MEETING SCHEDULE
Sunday A.M.
Bible Classes: 9:00
Worship: 10:00
Wednesday P.M.
Bible Classes 6:30

 **Grace Lutheran Church** 
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

All in-person worship has been suspended until we receive an "all clear" notice from the authorities. Our Congregation is worshipping together electronically via ZOOM. This limits participation to only those to whom the link and password has been provided. If anyone else wishes to participate, they can send me a request at gracepastordave1@gmail.com

 **We Welcome You To** 
First United Methodist Church of Long Beach
208 Pine Street, Long Beach, MS 39560

8:30 a.m. Sanctuary Worship In-Person in the sanctuary (reservation is required @ 228-863-9619).
This service will be live steamed on Facebook.

11:00 a.m. The Well service In-Person in the Christian Life Center (reservation is required @ 228-863-9619).
This service will be live streamed on Facebook.

Masks are required at all services. We will have masks available for you if you don't have one

Seeking to Love, Live, and Serve Like Jesus in Our Community

VFW builds ramp for veteran's widow

All Photos Special to Long Beach Breeze



By Lindy Sholes

Many Long Beach residents have heard of or experienced the Friday night steak dinners hosted by the Eddy Blake VFW Post 3937, but Lynn Moore was able to experience the fruits of these fundraising efforts when members of the post spent one Sunday building a ramp at her residence.

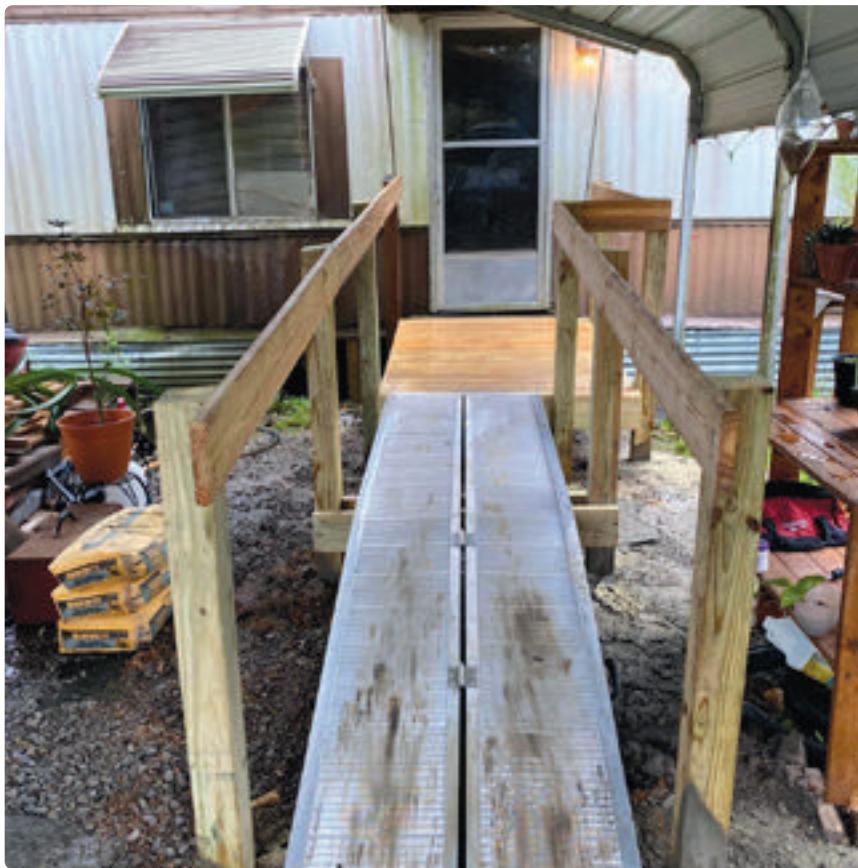
Moore, the widow of a veteran, was unable to leave her home without the help of her family, because she uses a wheelchair and did not have a ramp. She contacted the VFW in hopes that someone would be able to help her out.

"We bought the materials and went out there and built it for her," said post commander Russ DeStefano. "Right after we were done, she was quite happy, because we put a little deck outside her door that was part of the ramp."

Moore's daughter, Karen Fayard, commented on Long Beach's VFW Facebook page to thank the post members for their efforts.

"I can't thank y'all enough for the amazing ramp you built for my mom!" she shared. "Truly appreciate your thoughtfulness!"

DeStefano said on occasion and when they have the resources, the VFW does proj-



ects to help disabled vets or widows and will try to meet other needs that arise in the community.

Every Friday, the VFW prepares and serves around 165 steaks, selling them to the public to pick up or dine in. DeStefano said they get their steaks from the Butcher Block in Wiggins, and usually they serve T-bones, but will also serve ribeyes and sirloins when they go on sale. A \$15 plate includes steak, a baked potato, bread and a salad. To order a plate, call the VFW at 228-863-8602 by noon on Friday. The post has also started serving breakfast again on the first and third Saturday every month.

Besides special projects like Moore's wheelchair ramp, the post uses money raised from their plate sales to help other organizations, make donations to the high school, pay for newspaper ads, pay bills and maintain the VFW building. In November, they begin working on their Christmas program, using lists of community needs from area churches and collecting money, gift cards, toys, clothes and bicycles to meet those needs.

Those who wish to contribute to the Christmas collection can bring donations to the VFW. Donations of clothes, toys or bicycles must be unused.

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OLA continues mentoring program



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Freshman Little Sister Kennedy Leverett and Senior Big Sister Reagan Fairley



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Little Sister Amy Reeves, Big Sister Faith Anderson and Little Sister Kirynn Necaize



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Senior Ava Gordon passing the torch to Freshman Emma Cleveland



Special to Long Beach Breeze

Senior Claire Housey passing the torch to Freshman Anne Pierson Kane

Special to Long Beach Breeze

Big Sister-Little Sister is a mentoring program between the senior and freshman classes that was started in 1976 at Our Lady Academy. The senior "Class of 2021" of OLA recently continued the Big Sister-Little Sister tradition during a special prayer service at Our Lady of the Gulf Church.

Days before the special prayer service, the seniors, maintaining their anonymity, left ornamental gifts on their little sisters' desks for them to wear on the unveiling day. The gifts were used as clues to their big sister's identity. The following day, the unveiling ceremony was held in the gym, where seniors wrapped themselves in wrapping paper and attached a gift tag, identifying their little sister's name. Freshman anxiously searched for their name and unwrapped their big sister, to reveal their identity.



During the prayer service, the tradition of lighting a candle, or the passing of the torch, was passed on to their little sisters. This mentorship gives the freshmen a sense of empowerment, community and pride. The big sisters will be there to help their little sisters navigate through their first year as a high school student.

Freshman Kennedy Leverett commented, "I've been looking so forward to this tradition since I was in seventh grade; and, as a freshman now, I couldn't wait to find out what senior chose me to be her little sister. The whole experience was so much fun! I know my big sister Reagan Fairley will be a positive influence and a wonderful role model for me."

Ava Gordon said she is looking forward to teaching her little sister Emma Cleveland about the values and traditions of the school.

"I remember when I was a freshman, it was advantageous to have a big sister for support and to help me make the right decisions through my first year at OLA," said Gordon.

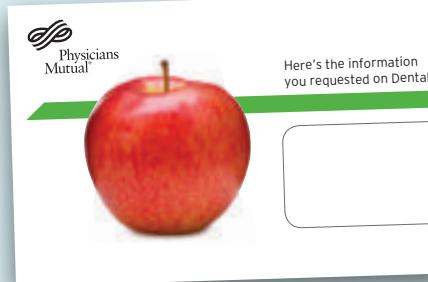
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CRUISIN' THE COAST PARADE DRAWS CROWDS IN LONG BEACH

The 2020 Cruisin' the Coast parade, with Cristy Lee as grand marshal, was held in Long Beach on Monday, October 5.

All Photos by Lindy Sholes unless otherwise noted



Photo by Dom Fimiano



Photo by Dom Fimiano



Yards of the Month awards given



Special to Long Beach Breeze

September Yard of the Month, 107 Azalea Street

The Long Beach Garden Club has announced its Yards of the Month for September and October. For more information about the Long Beach Garden Club, visit their Facebook page.



Special to Long Beach Breeze

October Yard of the Month, 5053 Beatline

Long Beach voting information for November 3 election

Compiled by Lindy Sholes

For the November 3 general election voting, Long Beach precincts will include the following:

- West Long Beach: First United Methodist Church of Long Beach at 208 Pine Street
- East Long Beach: St. Thomas Catholic Church's Religious Education Building at 712 East Beach Boulevard
- Long Beach #5: Grace Lutheran Church at 19221 Pineville Road
- Long Beach #6: Long Beach School District Administration Building at 19148 Commission Road
- Outside Long Beach: Faith Baptist Church at 8467 Canal Road in Gulfport.

Polling locations are listed on registered voters' voter registration cards, or voters can check their precinct at co.harrison.ms.us/elected/circuitclerk/elections/precincts.asp.

The following are acceptable forms of voter identification accepted at precincts:

1. A driver's license
2. A photo ID card issued by a branch, department or entity of the State of Mississippi
3. A U.S. passport
4. A government employee ID card
5. A firearms license
6. A student photo ID issued by an accredited Mississippi university, college or junior college

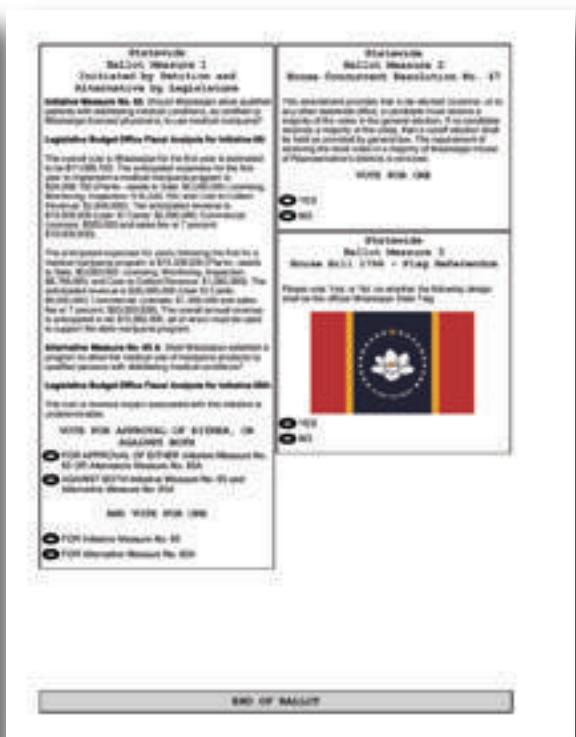
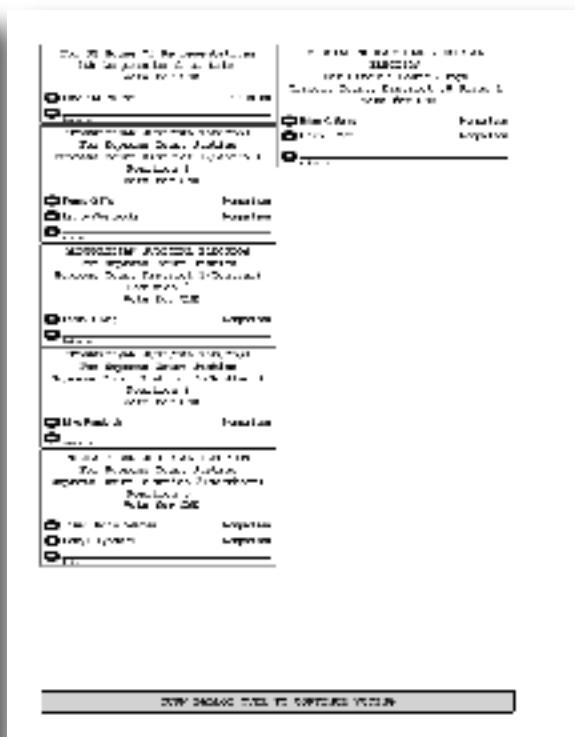
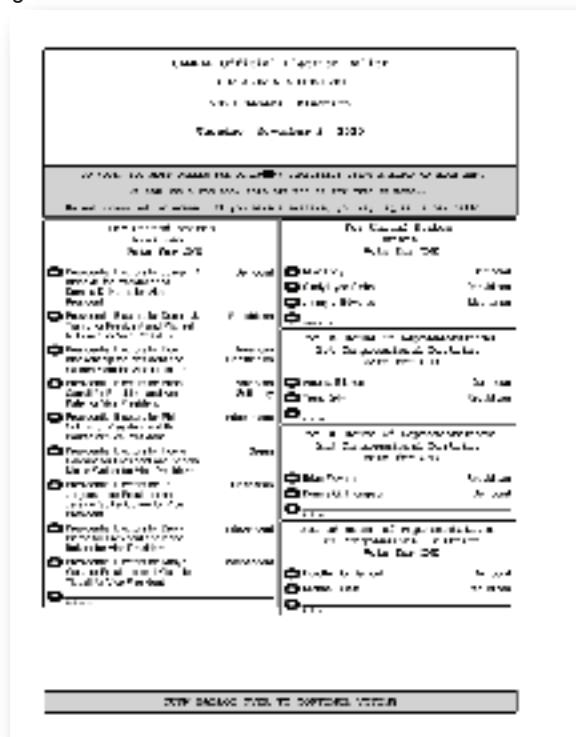
7. A U.S. military ID
8. A tribal photo ID
9. Any photo ID issued by any branch, department, agency or entity of the US government or state government
10. A Mississippi voter ID card

To participate in absentee voting, residents should comply with at least one of the following excuses:

1. Outside of registered county on election day
2. 65 years of age or older
3. Will be working during poll hours on election day
4. Student, teacher or administrator away at college
5. Have a permanent or temporary disability, which may include physician-imposed quarantine due to COVID-19, or caring for dependents under such conditions
6. Enlisted military or dependent
7. Citizen of MS temporarily residing outside the territorial limits of the U.S.

In-person absentee voting in the circuit clerk's office will be held through October 31 until 5 p.m.

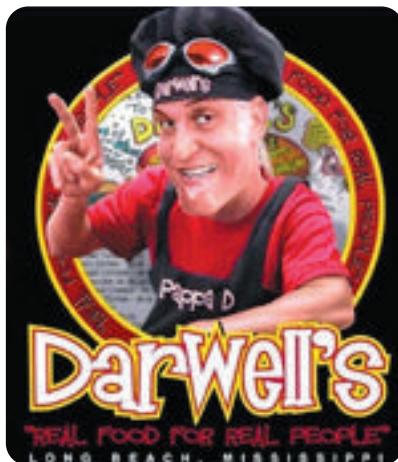
For a full list of acceptable reasons for absentee voting, visit: co.harrison.ms.us/elected/circuitclerk/elections/absentee.asp.



DARWELL'S CAFÉ OWNER RETIRES, CLOSES RESTAURANT



Donna Dimitri wishing PaPa D well

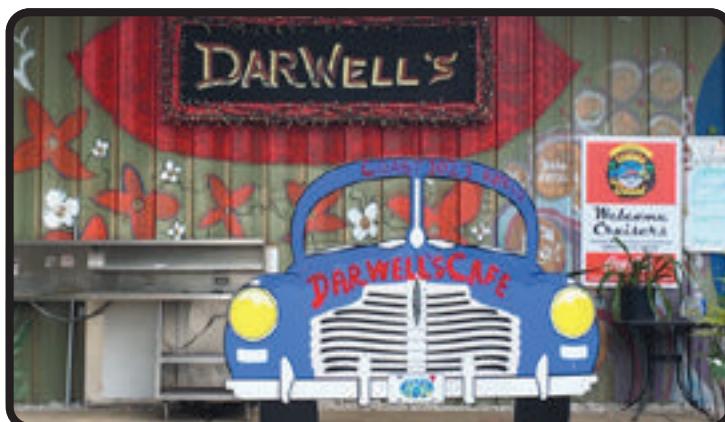


Tracy Parker, Donna Dimitri and Kiersten Hardison celebrating PaPa D's retirement

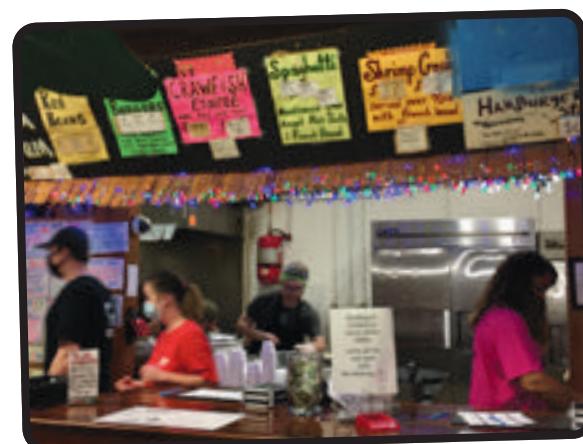


Darwell's patio life with soloist James Johnson

Darwell's Café, considered a Long Beach institution by many locals, closed on October 11, as owner PaPa D is retiring the cafe' and, after a break, plans to open an event center with an artistic and musical entertainment focus.



Darwell's was a family-friendly escape that many loving great tasteful southern dishes, playful art and free live music will miss. The nationally-recognized cafe' was a Forbes Top 10 Best Restaurant, ranking fifth best.



Adrian Balaban, Renee Cornette, Pedro Jackson and PaPa D's wife Sunny Outstalet

All Photos by Dom Firmiano

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