

HBSCA NEWS

Hermosa Beach Sister City Association Newsletter

VOL. 1, ISSUE 5 JUNE 2020



Top stories in this newsletter:



HBSCA Scholarships Awarded



HBSCA History: 40th Anniversary Video



HBSCA 2020 Student Exchange Cancelled



Eco-Alianza Food Security Program

HBSCA Awards High School Senior Scholarships

Our Scholarship Committee (Nicole Burke, Peter Hoffman, and Jessie Acamando) selected 4 worthy recipients for our 2020 Senior Scholarships (\$500 each). Each recipient was a participant in our Student Exchange Program.

- **Courtney Gronbach** (*Mira Costa High School, MBUSD*)
- **Shelby Forier** (*Mira Costa High School, MBUSD*)
- **Michelle Cullen** (*South High School, TUSD*)
- **Sergio Godinez** (*Redondo Union High School, RBUSD*)

We wish them well on this important next leg of their life journey!

Special thanks to Peter and Cathy Hoffman for donating an additional \$500 to our scholarship fund!

HBSCA 40th Anniversary (2007) Video Re-Surfaces!



Thanks to Monica Frey for making me search for a video that included interviews with her, her grandfather Joe Diaz, and J.R. Reviczky, among others! Martha Diaz and Rick Koenig were able to put their hands on copies of the long-lost 40th Anniversary HBSCA DVD and I have copied it to YouTube so it will be available for posterity! I am also posting it on our website. See the 15 minute video on YouTube [here](#).

HBSCA 2020 Student Exchange Has Been Cancelled



HBSCA has decided to cancel the 2020 Student Exchange due to the Pandemic. The students selected for the 2020 exchange will be invited to go in 2021. We are working with Alaska Airlines to ensure no one loses any money.

HBSCA NEWS, CONTINUED...



Eco-Alianza's Food Security Program Assists Unemployed Loretanos

HBSCA donated \$1000 to the Eco-Alianza Food Security Program. The following is excerpted from their newsletter:

Update on the progress made by Eco-Alianza to design and implement the temporary Food Security Program for Loreto's recently unemployed workers and their families: Generous financial support from organizations and individuals gave us the confidence to enter into discounted contracts with nine locally-owned stores and to begin providing food despensas ("pantries") to 800 Loreto families.

These twice-monthly distributions began May 1, will continue at least through August, and will be expanded to include another 200 or more families in the very near future. Employment information for all food recipients has been verified, and the size of allocations are greater for those unemployed workers who support families. In all, we estimate that 3,000 Loretanos already are being served by this project. Recipients include tour guides, waiters, housekeepers, groundskeepers, entrepreneurs, fishermen, stylists, and a huge array of professionals and laborers who keep Loreto running.

"We are so grateful for this compassionate ongoing support and will ensure that every cent of it goes to feed the families of these unemployed Loreto workers, with the financial oversight of ICF." The 21 core items provided in the despensas were designed for maximum nutrition by food experts working for the state government. Store owners and managers also have expressed appreciation. Their participation has supported continued store operations, as well as the employment security of their workers, which is why they were able to offer significant merchandise discounts.

Store employees assemble the despensas, reducing the need for volunteers to handle or transport the food and merchandise. Stores participating in the first month of the program have included El Pescador, Big Mart Infonavit, Big Mart INVI, Big Mart Zaragoza, Big Mart Tamaral (entry of town), Mini Súper Dylan (Miramar), Mini Súper Liguí, Mini Súper Ensenada Blanca, and Mini Súper San Javier. The scattered store locations allow most recipients to receive their despensas within easy walking distance of their home.

Eco-Alianza's Board and Staff are honored to serve the Loreto community in this time of economic crisis and are truly grateful for the support of so many concerned friends of Loreto. Additional donations may be made online through the Eco-Alianza website at ecoalianzaloreto.org.

2018 Adult Trip Video & 2020 Trip Information:



Thank you to Rick Koenig (aka Coconut!) for creating a new video of the 2018 Adult Trip. View it here: https://youtu.be/ohi_yaqq2qY It is also available on our [website](#).

The information for the **October 2020 Adult Trip** is also available on our [website](#). Let's pray we will be safe and healthy and able to go!

CAMPAIGN FOR NEW FIRE ENGINE FOR LORETO CONTINUES:



We are continuing our campaign to solicit pledges to co-fund a new Fire Engine for Loreto!

Please pledge to support this campaign today! [Pledge Sign-Up Link](#)

HBSCA NEWS, CONTINUED...



Want to keep up with what's going on in Baja? I found this great resource: [bajainsider.com](http://www.bajainsider.com) - The Original Baja Peninsula Travel and Living Online Magazine. I have been using it to follow cases of COVID-19 across Baja, updates from the Governor Davis of Baja CA Sur, etc. Here's the link I've been following: <http://www.bajainsider.com/article/daily-updates-covid-19-baja>

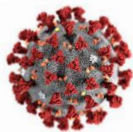
NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF HERMOSA BEACH CITY SCHOOLS



Jason Johnson has been named the new Superintendent of Hermosa Beach City School District. Read The Beach Reporter article [here](#).

We look forward to forming a continuing relationship with Hermosa Beach City Schools. (See our website Daily Breeze News articles about our [first Cultural Exchange between Hermosa and Loreto students in 1967](#) and an [article celebrating 40 years of our Student Exchange Program in 2014!](#))

OTHER UPDATES:



COVID-19 Help at Home - If you are a person who is at-risk and would like help with groceries, pharmacy needs, pet supplies, and/or calls of comfort, please visit this [link to a request form](#). You can complete this form for yourself or for someone else. Let's be sure our South Bay community stays happy, healthy, and safe.

Other organizations Helping the People (and animals) of Loreto during the COVID-19 Pandemic:

- **Con Amor a Loreto** –A collaborative effort between HBSCA, Loreto DIF, and volunteers Travis and ShuLei Flippen to provide needy families with basic grocery and hygiene supplies <https://givebox.com/hbsca-conamoraloreto>
- **FEED LORETO** – A program developed by Orlando de la Cruz (of Orlando's Restaurant), Gretchen Bell (of Wine Bar in Loreto) and Mary Lampros (of the Loreto Optimist Club). Donations accepted via **PayPal** using email bajabell@yahoo.com
- **BuyLoreto.Com** - <https://www.buyloreto.com/sponsor-a-family-with-a-csa-box-6-week-program/>
- **Animalandia** - <https://www.animalandialoreto.org/>

**JOIN US FOR A GENERAL MEMBERSHIP ONLINE MEETING ON
MONDAY, JUNE 15TH, 2020 AT 6PM**