



# The Lillian

Serving Lillian and surrounding area since 1995

*Where pride, tradition and unity go hand-in-hand*

Volume 24 Number 1

January 1, 2020

Lillian, AL 36549



*Photo by Janel Smith*  
**Denice and Wayne Stout, owners of D's Sweets Bakery, are proud to display the new historic plaque awarded by the Baldwin County Historic Development Commission.**

## Bakery Continues With Building's Community Spirit

**By Janel Smith**

Honoring Lillian's past while looking toward the future is part of the plan at D's Sweets Bakery.

The Baldwin County Historic Development Commission recently awarded an historic building plaque to Denice and Wayne Stout, owners of D's Sweets Bakery. The sign designates the building as having historical value and importance in the community. The plaque also serves as an attraction for visitors and can help boost the community economically.

The BCHDC plaque consists of a shield with a banner. It has been placed on the front of the building, and is displayed with pride.

Originally built as the Lillian Post Office in 1896 on the corner of Sixth Street and Barclay Avenue, it naturally became the town center for Lillian residents.

Mail service to Lillian back in 1882 came by way of Swift's Landing in boats from the Port of Mobile.

Two years later, the United

States government agreed to provide post offices on the western side of Perdido Bay but in order to process the mail, the communities had to be named.

William Thomas Kee III chose the name Lillian for his post office, naming it after his daughter. In addition to postmaster, Kee was a blacksmith, ferryman, an election officer and magistrate.

For the Stouts, this historical designation is meaningful to their business and its future.

The couple would like to see the building remain a town center and meeting place, encouraging people to gather and enjoy each other's company in the bakery. They are grateful for every customer and remain appreciative of the support the Lillian community showed them as they faced the both the Baldwin County Planning and Zoning Commission and the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners before getting approval to open.

"The Zoning Commission told us they sometimes expect a small

crowd to attend a meeting when there is opposition to a project. But a large group attended on our behalf and we had over 2,000 signatures on a petition," said Wayne Stout.

"So many people showed us love and support as we got started," Denice said. One such advocate was Price Legg, who was very helpful and always available as they faced obstacles before opening their doors. "We just can't say enough about this community. They showed support during the zoning process and now many are regular customers."

For Denice, the business also means family. She loves getting to know the customers and having groups gather in their tea room for any type of event, from birthdays to business meetings to adoption celebrations.

The employees also become family. She admits she is tough on her workers, but many of them have responsibilities and struggles

• **See Bakery on Page 2**

## Scenes from Christmas in the Park lighting



*Photos by Ken Stewart*

*A large crowd came out to Lillian Recreational Park on Dec. 7 for the community's first ever Christmas in the Park celebration. The event included kid's activities, Santa visits, local church choir performances and concluded with a variety of light displays being turned on. Organizers and volunteers are planning to make this an annual event. Additional photos and information on Pages 6 and 7.*

**Board meeting of the Lillian Action Committee will be held at the Lillian Perdido Bay Library at 2 p.m. on January 20, 2020. The public is invited.**



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## BALDWIN COUNTY RECYCLING DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

Baldwin County cares about the environment and has several container locations throughout the county where you can place items for recycling. The county does not have a curbside recycling program at this time.

Yes! Please Recycle These Items:

- Newspaper & Inserts
- Magazines & Catalogs
- Junk Mail & Envelopes
- Cardboard
- Phone Books
- Office and School Papers (colored paper)
- Brown Paper Bags (grocery)
- Boxboard (cereal, cake & cracker boxes, etc.)
- Plastics No. 1 through 7
- Plastic Milk Jugs; 2-Liters; bottles and containers
- Aluminum Cans & Lids
- Pet Food Cans and Dry Pet Food Bags
- Aluminum Foil Baking Pans
- Balls of Tin Foil; Foil Pie Tins
- Tin and Steel Cans & Lids
- Metal Pots, Pans & Cookie Sheets

No! Do Not Recycle These Items:

- Glass; any color
- No Plastic Bags - Please check with your local grocery stores to see if they collect plastic bags for recycling.
- No Empty Plastic Bags
- No Ice Cream Cartons
- No Waxy/Paper Milk Cartons
- No Aerosol Cans
- No Juice Boxes / Bags
- No Household Garbage or Yard Waste
- No Garden Hoses
- No Window Blinds
- No Tarps
- No Bedding or linens
- No Carpeting or Rugs
- No Construction Materials
- No Styrofoam

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CARDBOARD ONLY  
PLEASE BREAKDOWN BOXES

ALUMINUM CANS ONLY

Plastic bottles & containers

# DID YOU KNOW?

A recycling trailer is located at the Lillian Volunteer Fire Department at 11331 CR 91 in partnership with Baldwin County Solid Waste.

Annual Christmas Luncheon



Soldier Creek ladies held their 24th annual Christmas luncheon on Dec. 4 at the home of Denise Cotton. Connie Ramseyer led the prayer and Christmas carols were sung. Hostesses were Joyce Boutwell, Denise Cotton, Sherry Frank, Loree Hadley, Carrie Lemcool and Connie Ramseyer. Others in attendance included Barbara Boykin, Cindy Baker, Eunice Brovold, Pat Brewer, Barbara Flynn, Claudine Floyd, Patty Flynn, Patti Granger, Mary Hicks, Stuart King, Judy Lurwig, Gwen Miller, Kari Jo Morrow, Jean O’Conner, Kathy O’Conner, Julie Stanhope, Kim Scott, Missy Scott, Mary Varner, Judy Witterstaeter and Melody Zick.

• Bakery, continued from Page 1

outside of work, so she strives to teach them valuable skills, customer service and a sense of pride.

Denice also likes to say, “I’m not from Lillian, but I am from Lillian.” She moved here in 1970 and Wayne came to town in 1979. They moved away from this area for a couple of years, returning in 2017.

Lillian means a lot to both of them, and that was part of their decision to purchase the old post office, as well as the home next door for themselves.

The post office opened in a new facility on Highway 98 in 1990. Champagne Optical operated in the former post office beginning in 1992 The Stouts purchased the building from Kathy Champagne after they moved back to Lillian.

“We didn’t want to see another old building become dilapidated,” she said. It’s apparent they value the history of Lillian and its residents and want to become part of it themselves. Obtaining the BCHDC signage was a natural and important step for them.

To be awarded a plaque, an applicant and site must meet several criteria including:

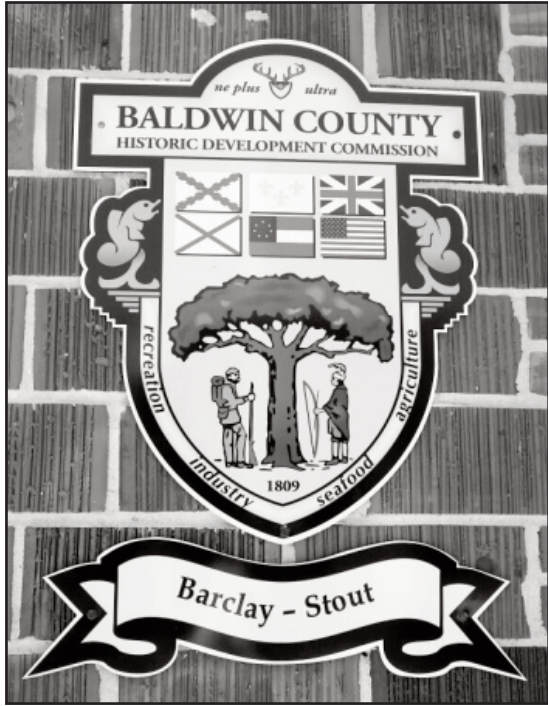
- The building must be a contributing building within an historic or preservation district established by the BCHDC,
- The building must be at least 50 years old, or be listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places,

- The building must be researched and documented by the BCHDC,
- The building exterior must be restored or maintained in accordance with the historic and architectural style, integrity and character of the building,
- All changes and alteration to the building’s exterior must be consistent with its historic and architectural style and integrity.

- All restoration and rehabilitation work must conform to the Secretary of Interior standards and guidelines for rehabilitation of historic buildings, or within the guidelines established by the BCHDC and the Architectural and Preservation District Review Board.

Applications are made by the property owner by submitting the official form, two photographs and an application fee. Applications are reviewed by the architectural historian and/or are researched by the plaque committee. Approved plaques are awarded in April and October.

The bakery has been open for nearly one year, and with the continued support of local residents, another chapter of Lillian history will be written from a landmark building.



Recently awarded by the Baldwin County Historic Development Commission, this plaque has been affixed to the D’s Sweets Bakery building, originally the first Lillian post office.







*The Lillian United Methodist Church men’s group has been named the winner of the 2019 Joe Garris Sr. Outstanding Men’s Ministry Award. Members include, front row, from left, Roger Jurries, Ken Robinson, Jay Dufer, David Gaines, Melvin Bell and Vic Lakatos. Second row, Ed Kish, Jim Wright, Price Legg, Roger Kuhr, Eric Michelson and Jerry Garner. Third row, Pastor Daniel Randall, Andy Wilkinson, Kirk Clark, Lee Hoffman, Sonny Keigley and Ricky Wiggins. Standing are Mark Langiois, Rick Lowe, Ken Foster, Mike Shutt, Jim Merryfield, John Poehlein, Perry Cunningham, Dick Erwin, John Edge, Jeff Keener, Daryl Reed, Stan Fertig and Bob Wright. Members not pictured are Bob Shankwitz, Joe Shankwitz, David Rittenhouse, Bob Ginn, Billy Suttle, Al Garrone, Bob Bailey, Jack Sain, David Drury, Andy Kaiser, Chuck Charbonneau, Dan Mines, Matt Kennedy, Austin Ingram, Dan Randall, J.C. Conn and John Wade.*

# Lillian United Methodist Men’s Group Earns Ministry Award

The Lillian United Methodist Church men’s group has earned the 2019 Joe Garris Sr. Outstanding Men’s Ministry Award.

The Garris ministry award was established by the Alabama-West Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church (AWFC) to recognize the vision and leadership of Joe Garris Sr. who served as the first AWFC president.

There are over 200 United Methodist churches in the conference. The award is presented annu-

ally to a men’s group within the conference for service in promoting men’s ministry in their church, community and AWFC.

The Lillian United Methodist Men are active in Baldwin County, Pensacola, west Florida and Lillian where members are involved in community non-profit endeavors.

They are one of the smallest groups in terms of congregation size but practice their vision of “Reaching out with God’s Love” into practice by supporting the Pensacola District

Mission in Brownsville, Boy Scouts of America (Gulf Coast Council and Elberta Troop 70), Mary’s Shelter of Baldwin County, Baldwin County Ecumenical Ministries, Repair Baldwin, Baldwin County Sheriff Boy’s Ranch, Stegall Foundation, Baldwin County Council on Aging, Operation Christmas Child, Franklin Graham Operation Christmas Shoe Box, Kairos Prison Ministry, Upper Room Prayer Ministries, St. Vincent De-Paul, Hurricane Michael Assistance, Good Neighbor Fund, Vacation Bible

School and other emergencies throughout the year.

The group’s funding comes primarily from their annual BBQ feed and car show held in conjunction with the women’s group rummage sale in March.

The men’s group meets at 5:30 p.m. every month for supper, devotion, pastor’s humor, guest speaker and necessary business. Guests are welcome.

For information, call the church at 251-962-4336

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The Lillian

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ADVERTISING  
INFORMATION

The Lillian newspaper is a monthly paper. Advertisements may be dropped off at the Lillian Perdido Bay Library, mailed to The Lillian, P.O. Box 1088, Lillian, Alabama 36549 or emailed to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com).

Advertisement inquiries can be directed to Julie McManus at 703-217-2874 (cell). Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Available sizes for advertisements are:

- ~ Full page: 9.5" wide x 15" tall
- ~ Half page: 9.5" wide x 7.75" tall
- ~ 1/4 page: 4.75" wide x 7.75" tall
- ~ 1/8 page: 4.75" wide x 3.75" tall
- ~ #2: 4" wide x 6" tall
- ~ #3: 3" wide x 3.5" tall
- ~ Business card: 3.5" wide x 2" tall
- ~ Classified: maximum 35-40 words

The Lillian is not responsible for the factual content of ads or articles submitted to us.

LETTERS TO  
THE EDITOR

Letters are welcome but must be signed and include contact information should staff have any questions. No letters will be accepted regarding property owner associations' problems.

POLICY

Thank you for your articles and news items, but due to space limitations, some submissions may not be included in this issue. They will be included in a future issue when possible.

The editorial board has the right to deny any articles or ads not suitable for this publication.

ARTICLE OR OBITUARY  
INFORMATION

We gladly accept news and information from the community. Please submit by:

- ~ Mail to P.O. Box 1088, Lillian, Alabama 36549
- ~ Fax: 251-961-3529
- ~ Email to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com)
- ~ Drop off at Lillian Perdido Bay Library (in yellow folder)

DISCLAIMER

The content of articles and letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the editor, the board of directors for The Lillian or the Lillian Action Committee.

We are also not responsible for the business practices of our advertisers.

DEADLINES AND  
CONTACTS

The deadline for the February issue of The Lillian is Jan. 22.

Send an email to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com) for information on articles.

Call Julie McManus at 703-217-2874 or email [chewlatta@yahoo.com](mailto:chewlatta@yahoo.com) for advertising information.

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Jackie Reid

A Great Debut  
for Christmas  
in the Park

I love it when a plan comes together and becomes a huge success. Many of us experienced this on Dec. 7 when the Lillian Recreational Park lit up for Christmas.

I'm sure when the park board approved the Christmas in the Park event many had misgivings, as did some of us when Lucy Smith and Monica Leonard brought it up to friends and acquaintances. It was going to be a mini-Bellingrath, a holiday wonderland, they inferred. Yeah, right.

They passed around photos of Bellingrath-type trees as well as other major Christmas lighting events, thanks to Google. Lucy's husband, Wayne, began experimenting to find out how the trees could be constructed. Yes, those were Christmas trees in his front yard at Halloween.

Meanwhile a committee was formed and started the plan on how the event would be presented. Later, they asked for contributions of Christmas decorations. OMG! The conference room at the park was packed with every color of lights and ornaments as well as lighted figures including a huge octopus, snowmen and reindeer and trees galore. It had now become a community event, as many participated in the donation process.

Did I mention that the event had to be self-funded? Letters went out, knocking on doors began, and in the end, the dollars came in and the goal was reached, thanks to friends and businesses in the Lillian area and beyond.

Meanwhile Santa's elves began sorting through the donations, fluffing the trees, testing the lights, checking ornaments, getting ideas for decorating. It was a great way to meet new people, tell stories and come up with new ideas and change old ones. Some could give an hour; some a whole day, but the job got done in time with the team effort. Men on the outside figuring out how to raise the 20-foot lighted tree. Women on the



Just a  
Thought  
or Two  
By Sally  
McKinney

inside fluffing. Both groups working on decorations for the new gazebo.

But the best part of the event was the turnout on Dec. 7 when the official lighting was held. Children were everywhere that afternoon, visiting with Santa, getting faces painted, making Christmas ornaments, writing letters to Santa, drinking hot chocolate, sucking on candy canes and just having a great time in their park.

Adults were visiting and reconnecting. Church choirs added to the atmosphere by singing Christmas carols before the official flick of the switch to light up the park for the month of December.

For some, it might have been the first time in the park. Others are there every day walking the trails, some are playing pickleball, others watching the Elberta Warriors play softball. Some are volunteer gardeners, keeping the trees, bushes and flowers looking beautiful.

I hope all realize how fortunate we are to have such a wonderful place to enjoy all year long, Movies in the Park, Christmas in the Park and next year - ta-da! - Music in the Park in the new gazebo/bandstand.

How fortunate we are to have dedicated men and women in Lillian who see a need and work to fulfill it. Thanks to the Lillian Recreational Park Board of Directors for taking on that responsibility. I'm looking forward to next year. I'll bet Monica and Lucy are already planning it.

• Congratulations to Lillian teen Caleb Sutton and the members of the Pensacola Children's Chorus. I, once again, was awed by the talent you and your friends exhibited on the Saenger Theatre stage Dec. 13. For those who are interested in terrific performances, their next one will be held Feb. 23 when the chorus presents "One World, Many Voices."

"Showtime," the best of stage and screen, will be performed May 8-10.

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Additional fundraiser dinners  
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New Robotics Teams Win at First Event

By Sally McKinney  
It was the first time they competed and to say the seventh and eighth grade students at St. Benedict Catholic School were ecstatic would be an understatement.

The robotics classes competed with 42 other Baldwin County teams in the VEX IQ Robotic Challenge at Foley Middle School and St. Benedict took first place.

Their teacher, Greg Tucker, says it was the teamwork exhibited that helped the team come out on top. The teams had only been involved in robotics and other computer oriented projects since school began in September.

While attending a math and science seminar at St. Margaret of Scotland Church in 2018, the retired engineer heard there were no technology classes at the Elberta school so Tucker volunteered to bring the kindergarten through eighth grade students up to date as STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) Coordinator.

Most of the old computers were not working, had to be updated and monitors replaced. He got the computers refurbished with donated screens and now he teaches programming and other skills once a week.

With a grant from Baldwin EMC's Operation Round Up Star Light program, he was able to get



St. Benedict Catholic School Robotics Teams have only been studying robotics since September, but it was long enough to take first place in the recent VEX IQ Robotic Challenge at Foley Middle School. From left are Raylee Murphy, Chloe Miodrag, Mary Frances Whitson, Charles Nevin, Marisol Acker, Maggie Mattison, Sasha Prouty, Lauren Wood, Cotton Kaiser, Teacher Greg Tucker and Cooper Frank.

a 3-D printer and three robots. Auburn University's SCORE program helped provide three more robots. The students have been using the 3-D printer to make Christmas ornaments this year.

The classes began in September to build the robots and controllers, with the students programming everything. Two after-school days are devoted to the projects, one for sixth grade and one for seventh and eighth.

In competition the teams had 60 minutes to control the robot to move baskets around a specific area from place to place and to stack baskets. The after-school classes and teamwork not only brought the top award, but one of the St. Benedict teams also took fourth place.

By taking first place in Foley, the team qualifies for the state competition at Auburn in February and the U.S. Open Robotics Championship in Ohio next March.

St. Benedict is the oldest Catholic elementary school in Baldwin County, having been established in 1921 by Benedictine nuns.

The pre-k to eighth grade school is supported by tuition, private donations, fund raising events and the six Catholic parishes in South Baldwin County including Our Lady of the Gulf in Gulf Shores, St. Bartholomew in Elberta, St. John in Magnolia Springs, St. Joseph in Lillian, St. Margaret of Scotland in Foley and St. Thomas by the Sea in Orange Beach.

THANK YOU

Your Lillian Dollar General store would like to thank the community for their amazing St. Jude's donations.

This wonderful community raised a total of \$2,609.77! Rita Hobart and Vanessa Hill collected about 90% of that total.

All of our team is very proud and

grateful to the beautiful souls of Lillian for showing what a community can do.

With three days before the end of collections, we were \$4 away from being #1 in the division of 1,858 stores.

Ann Newman  
Dollar General store manager

Lillian American Legion Post 48

By Wayne B. Lavallee, Adjutant



Legion Again Hosting Ham Dinners

American Legion Post 48 extends best wishes to everyone for a happy new year.

We hope you were able to get out and see our float in the Christmas parade on Dec. 14.

As we move into 2020, Post 48 will host three ham dinners on the fourth Sunday starting in January.

The dates are Jan. 26, Feb. 23 and March 22. The dinners are our primary fundraiser for the year. The money raised provides for continued activities and donations such as building ramps for disabled veterans, maintaining the medical closet for our community, sending two high school students to Boys State and presenting the Veterans Day program. We hope everyone will continue to show support to the post.

At our January meeting, we will present longevity award pins and certificates to members who have at-

tained at least five years of continuous membership in the American Legion. Post 48 does this to show thanks and gratitude with pins given in five-year increments.

If you have served federal active duty in the United States Armed Forces and have been honorably discharged or are still serving, you are eligible for membership in the American Legion.

Membership applications may be picked up at the American Legion Building next to the Lillian Community Club on Wednesday mornings between 9 and 11 a.m., from any member or at any American Legion meeting.

Meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the LCC. Come and join us and become one of the millions of Legionnaires still serving or come have a cup of coffee on Wednesdays. We'd like to meet you.

Optimists Announce January Speakers

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay meets every Saturday at 8 a.m. in the Lillian Community Club. After the famous Optimist breakfast, programs of interest to the members are presented.

- To start the new year, Retired Admiral Andy Wilkinson will speak on Jan. 4. His topic will be "Off to the Navy and Aviation."
- On Jan. 11 Amanda McFadden with Back on Track will give an insight to "Holistic Healing."
- Local boat captain Brant Frazier, owner of Capt. Frazier's

Seafood Market, will present "O-Fish-Al Business" on Jan. 18.

• Closing out the month on Jan. 25 will be Nicole Gislason, Interim Vice President of the University of West Florida Haas Center, who will inform the membership about "3D Printing: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly."

Guests are always welcome and eat free.

Come join the men and women of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay whose motto is "Bringing Out the Best in Kids."



BAYSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

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We would like to invite you to join us as we sing praises to and worship our Lord Jesus Christ.

Worship Times

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Sunday    | Bible Study 9:15am<br>Morning Worship 10:30am<br>Church Training 5:00pm<br>Evening Worship 6:00pm |
| Tuesday   | Men's Prayer Breakfast 8:00am   |
| Wednesday | Prayer and Bible Study 6:00pm   |

[www.baysidebaptistlillian.org](http://www.baysidebaptistlillian.org)  
[www.bbclillian.com](http://www.bbclillian.com)



It Takes a Village To Light Up a Village

The Christmas spirit was on full display at the Lillian Recreational Park’s first-ever, and now first annual, Christmas in the Park celebration held Dec. 7. Over 1,000 people attended the event. Hundreds more visited the park afterwards to see the light display, which remained lit until Jan. 1.

“The event was amazing! Everyone had such a good time and we loved seeing all the smiles on everyone’s faces and hearing all the oohs and applause when Rhonda Morris from United Bank flipped the switch to launch the lights,” said Lucy Smith, Lillian Recreational Park and Christmas in the Park volunteer.

“Obviously, having terrific volunteers and terrific community support were critical to this year’s success. We were blessed to have such wonderful volunteers. None of us had ever put together an event of this scale before, but we did it! Everyone brought different experiences and perspectives to the table and, together, we did it, proving that it does take a village to light up a village!

“The biggest challenge, of course, were the pole trees. Especially the 20 foot Christmas Wonderland Tree. But the tree team did a fabulous job of installing the lights and making sure all the extension cords and lines were trenched so no one would trip over them.”

The tree team, headed by Wayne Smith, included Tonda Adams, Ben Blevins, Don Canerdy, Laura Grubbs, Lewis Grubbs, Joe Hardy, Jorja Hardy, Walter Kowalski, Joe Leonard, Tom Rosner and Doug Smith.

Christmas in the Park committee members were Pat Canerdy, Judy Covert, Laura Grubbs, Kit Hamilton, Cheryl Josephson, Kat Keener, Elsie Sosenko-Kirby, Debby Lee, Monica Leonard, Debbie Lindsay, Sandra

Lillian Recreational Park News

By Monica Leonard

Madison, Sally McKinney, Rhonda Morris, Tay Randall, Vicki Rosner, Janel Smith, Lucy Smith, Carol Steely, Debbie Weiss and Lynn Wilson.

Christmas in the Park featured thousands of lights, visits and hot chocolate with Santa, “snowball” fights, games and activities for children of all ages, and carols and music by area churches. Children were not only able to tell Santa what was on their Christmas list, but they could also write a letter to him and put it into the Letters to Santa mailbox created by Sonya Price of Price Pecan Farm. Santa was excited to pick up the letters and take them with him.

Reverend Daniel Randall and Reverend Charlie Ellisor emceed the festive carols sung by choirs from Bayside Baptist Church, Eternal Life Church, United Methodist Church and St. Joseph Catholic Church. They also led the community sing-along.

“Everyone had so much fun! And the community response was amazing!” Lucy continued. “We had so many people donate lights, ornaments and trees, we ran out of places to put them, but Lillian Mini-Storage stepped in and provided a unit to put them in.

“But, of course, none of this would have been possible without the incredible sponsors who stepped up to make Christmas in the Park possible. They provided the financial support to purchase the lights, supplies and displays we needed. We are especially grateful to our Angel sponsors Brown Helicopter and United Bank and Silver Bell sponsors Chevron,



Santa met with members of the Christmas in the Park Committee to thank them for their hard work organizing the event. Pictured here are Judy Covert, Kit Hamilton, Lucy Smith, Elsie Sosenko-Kirby, Laura Grubbs, Monica Leonard, Rhonda Morris, Sandra Madison, Sally McKinney, Debbie Lindsay, Santa and Debbie Weiss. Not pictured: Pat Canerdy, Cheryl Josephson, Kat Keener, Debby Lee, Tay Randall, Vicki Rosner, Janel Smith, Carol Steely and Lynn Wilson.

Lillian Express Mart Shell and Swift Supply. We also appreciate the support of our Reindeer and Christmas Elf sponsors: Baldwin County Sewer Service, Coastal Real Estate, Lorie Drew and New Attitudes Spa & Salon, Dollar General, Elberta Market, Flynn Built, Grande Dames Red Hat Society, Home Depot, Jackson’s Steakhouse, Dr. Dan Kammer and Kammer Chiropractic, The Lillian, Lillian Community Club, Lillian Family Dentistry, Lillian Mason Lodge #925, Lillian Mini-Storage, Lillian Pharmacy, Lowe’s, Moore Fasteners & More, Optimist Club of Perdido Bay, Perdido Auto Spa, Price Pecan Farm, Spanish Cove and Ricky Wiggins Builders.

“The response to Christmas in the Park was so positive that we’re already making plans for next year. Based on the excited smiles we saw

and the reactions we got, Christmas in the Park is here to stay and will become an annual tradition at the park. Every year we plan to add more lights, displays and activities. So be sure to mark your calendars for the 2020 Christmas in the Park on Saturday, Dec. 5.”



We hope you enjoyed our first ever Christmas in the Park!

Whether you attended the preview party, the official lighting event or walked through the park in December, our group of volunteers put in a lot of hard work to bring our community some additional holiday spirit.

**Holiday Helpers**  
I'd like to become a Holiday Helper with a donation to the 2020 Christmas in the Park event!

Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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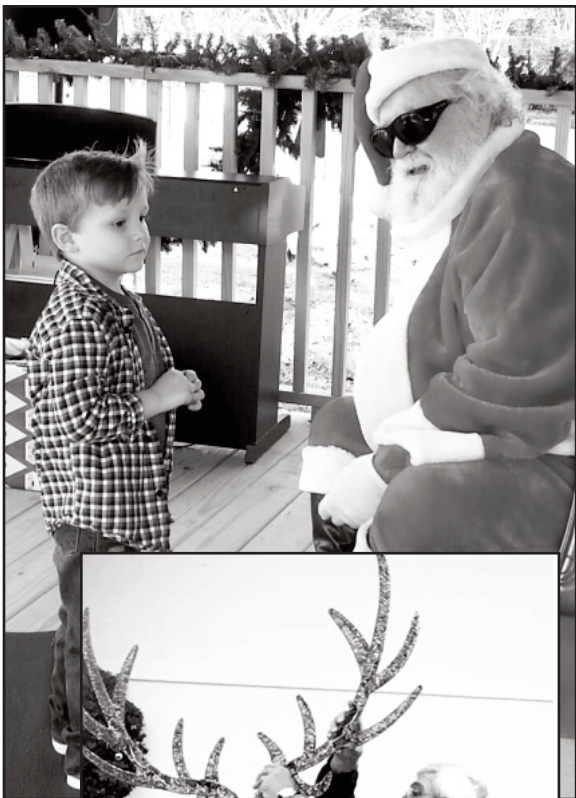
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Photos by Sally McKinney and Janel Smith



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Photo by Sally McKinney

*Educators of the Year were honored at a recent meeting of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay. From left are Katy Padgett, principal of Elberta Middle School; Branton Bailey, principal of Elberta High School; Matthew Hurst, Spanish teacher at EHS; Dr. Kathy McCool, principal of St. Benedict Catholic School; Mary Lazzari, fifth grade teacher at St. Benedict Catholic School; and Kimberly Therber, Elberta Elementary fourth grade teacher. Not pictured is Christa Goodwin, English teacher at Elberta Middle School.*

## Teachers Honored by Optimist Club

By Sally McKinney

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay's mission is to "Bring Out the Best in Kids." Recently the club honored teachers who have shown that they are striving for the same goals.

Honorees for Educator of the Year are Kimberly Therber, Elberta Elementary School; Christa Goodwin, Elberta Middle School; Matthew Hurst, Elberta High School; and Mary Lazzari, St. Benedict Catholic School. Each teacher received a monetary award to use in the effort to provide the best for local students.

Optimist Club members work with schools in Elberta, reading to kindergarten and first grade classes, tutoring and mentoring. They also provide food for the Special Olympics and the ARC Thanksgiving luncheon. The club provides Breakfast with


Santa, the Easter Egg Hunt and a Fishing Rodeo. In addition, each year it donates thousands of dollars to local programs that provide services to the Lillian community.

Funding for the various programs comes from the Annual Labor Day Mullet Festival, the "Streets of Red, White and Blue" Flag Program and the Annual July Fashion Show.

The members meet every Saturday at 8 a.m. for the famous Optimist Breakfast and a program of interest to the members. Guests are always welcome and eat free. Visit and find out how you can participate to "Bring Out the Best in Kids."

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## LASAR Names Officers for 2020

Lower Alabama Search and Rescue (LASAR) named new officers for 2020. Commander Ray Hogans and Deputy Commander John Wade will continue in their roles for another year. Mike Kovacs, previous boat captain, will replace Steve Duckworth as treasurer and new member Debbie Lindsay will replace Teresa Slavey as secretary.


Many LASAR members attended the Alabama Association of Rescue Squads (AARS) state conference in November in Orange Beach. AARS consists of 111 rescue units with about 3,000 members statewide. The conference offered opportunities for members to participate in FEMA, paramedic and medical courses to gain continuing education credits and new qualifications. Members also participated in EMS and rescue competitions as well as fun, but intensely

compet-  
itive,  
rescue  
cart and  
corn hole challenges.

**LASAR**  
By Donna Johnson

The conference ended with an awards ceremony recognizing exceptional acts of service by members. Last year, local LASAR member Billy Slavey was named 2018 AARS Rescuer of the Year and became the holder of the AARS trophy. Commander Hogans and Slavey were present when the trophy was passed to the 2019 award winner, James Miller of Etowah County Rescue.

If you would like to join LASAR, come to any of our monthly meetings held on the second Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at LASAR headquarters, 34247 West Barclay Avenue in Lillian. We look forward to meeting you then!



**Please submit your news articles, club notes, photos, etc. to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com) for our next issue!**



Giving You Further Incentive to Read

The residents of Lillian are here for a variety of reasons. I’ve heard Lillian described as “paradise,” a slow-paced community, a place to get away from the hustle and bustle of large cities. And each of you could come up with a million more ways to describe Lillian.

I’m going to describe Lillian as “the home of the greatest library ever” (excluding the Library of Congress, of course). Those of you who patronize the library frequently know just what I’m talking about. What makes this library even more amazing is that ALL of the books we have on our shelves have been donated.

Let me explain why that is so

amazing. I went online and found a list (several of them actually) which listed the 100 great American novels (Title: The Great American Read published and researched by PBS). I diligently went through each title using our wonderful online catalog and much to my absolute delight and joy, we have 66 out of 100 of those books in our library! We have them in hardback, paperback (sometimes both), audio CD and even a few on DVD as well as in print form. They are also in large print versions.

The books themselves include a variety of genres which will appeal to any reader. They are classics (i.e. *The Great Gatsby*, *Jane Eyre*, *Crime and*



Lillian Perdido Bay Library Corner  
By Sarah Henkel

*Punishment*), westerns (i.e. *Lone-some Dove*), science fiction (i.e. *The Martian*, a more recent publication, 2011 by Andy Weir), and young adult novels (for example the Harry Potter novels).

There are books which we’ve heard of all our lives but have not taken the time to read. I remember a number of these as required reading during high school. I’m excited that we have our high school in Elberta so maybe the students who attend there will visit our library for their required reading assignments.

Another thing I discovered while preparing to write this article was that there’s also a list of the 12 novels considered the “greatest book ever written.” (Yes, I said greatest book, not books.) That’s because these books are so outstanding that it was difficult to limit to just one.

Out of that list of 12, we have 7! Another impressive fact. And several of these are NOT part of the 100 must-read list. They fall into a category of their own, I guess.

Having said all this, we continue to have very current popular books, DVDs, audio CDs and a large variety of non-fiction books. I look forward to reading some of these books (I was surprised at how many I have already

read!) further broadening my reading horizons.

I truly hope that this article may motivate some of you who aren’t regular visitors to our library to begin making use of it. It really is a great and amazing place! For those of you interested in the list, we will have it available at the front desk at the library.



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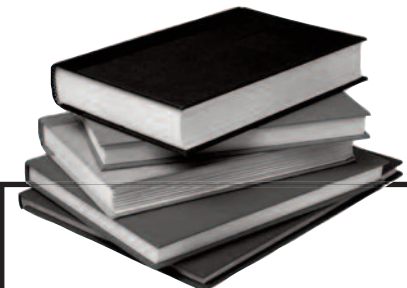
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Local Golfer Notches 7th Hole in One

**By Sally McKinney**

For golfers, getting a hole-in-one is a big deal and many never achieve it. For Lillian resident Ed Kish that’s definitely not the case.

He chalked up #7 on Nov. 29 at Osceola Golf Course in Pensacola. It was a 5 wood at the par 3, 150 yard 14th hole that did the job.

It isn’t always a wood that accomplishes the feat.

His first was with an 8 iron in 1965 in Hubbard, Ohio. During a

30th wedding anniversary celebration in Hawaii with his wife, Joan, and his five daughters, he got his fourth hole-in-one.

His love of golf began when he was in the Army at age 19.

He continues his quest for #8 at local golf courses on the Gulf Coast.



Kish

Celebrating 25 Years

Toward the end of the year we tend to reflect on where we have been and what’s to come. Lillian Veterinary Hospital wants to thank our community for letting Dr. Susan Wells care for their pets for the last 25 years. Many people, puppies and kittens have grown up knowing the warm smile and understanding of Dr. Wells. She has a soft spot for anyone,

human or animal, who may need a little help.

Lillian has been a wonderful place to practice veterinary medicine, rebuilding and growing. Thank you to all of the wonderful people we’ve had the pleasure to meet and serve.

**Lillian Veterinary Hospital**



## Lodge Assists with Holiday Meals

Lillian Masonic Lodge 925 held an AED/CPR class at the lodge and now has four newly certified members. The recent purchase of a defibrulator was a safety decision to assist members and guests in case of an emergency.

The annual Christmas party was held Dec. 17. Brother Joe Taylor served as event chairperson and said, “The food, comaradery and Dirty Santa gift exchange was lots of fun. We limit the value of the gifts to \$15 to \$20 each, but this doesn’t limit the imagination of our members who spend hours thinking up some of their tricks. Everything was done in fun and the laughs were contagious.” A silent auction was also conducted to raise funds to further support community service.

A new community service project grew over the holidays. Thirty-seven individuals and families received a holiday meal courtesy of the combined efforts of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay and Lillian Masonic Lodge. The lodge purchased and prepared turkeys for area needy families. The OCPB purchased the rest of the holiday meal that was taken to local churches for distribution.

The lodge originally planned to help up to 20 families. Brother Sam Jackson secured turkeys and made arrangements with the Flora-Bama Yacht Club to smoke them. The number expanded to 32 after partnering with the Optimists. The list expanded again after OCPB member Rev. Melvin Whitehurst interacted with local churches to make the list for distribution.

The meals were primarily delivered to local churches and then distributed. In a few cases, members of the Optimist Club and the Masonic Lodge delivered the meals directly. The Masonic Lodge also made its annual financial donation to the Lillian Volunteer Fire Department to close out its annual giving program for the year.

### Lillian Masonic Lodge

By Jeff Keener

## Brantley Honored



*Masonic Lodge Past Master and District Lecturer Brother Steve Williams presented Dan Brantley his 50-year membership award as Brother Mike Blankenship looked on.*

## CHIT CHAT

Chit Chat is your column. Brag a little, share a little, and have fun.

Happy January Birthday CAPRICORN: Heather Price, Becky Wiggins, Jake Fretwell, Bob Garcia, Dick Ayres and Joanne Matthews.

Happy January Birthday AQUARIUS: Tay Randall, Caroline Canaday, Linda Sepac, Vic Deeter and Shirley Covert.

Happy January Wedding Anniversary: Don and Adele Hartman - #39, Weldon and Ruby Dell Cox - #9

and Jerry and MJ Rooks - #63.

Sometimes we all need a hug - Julia Stephens, Gwen Furio, Dick McCoy, Dick Martin and Billy and Pat Bonner.

Any information you want added or deleted from Chit Chat, send to The Lillian, P.O. Box 1088, Lillian 36549 or place in the yellow folder at Lillian Perdido Bay Library.

The deadline for the February issue is Jan. 22. Wishing you all a very happy and healthy new year.



## Community Bulletin Board

- Jan. 4, 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25 & 28 - Alcoholics Anonymous meeting, every Saturday and Tuesday at 7 p.m., Lillian United Methodist Church
- Jan. 7, 14, 21 & 28 - Weight Watchers meets every Tuesday, 4:30-5:30 p.m. at Lillian United Methodist Church
- Jan. 7 & 21 - Lillian Masonic Lodge 925 meetings first and third Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m. Contact Joe Taylor at 251-962-4301 or Jim Covert at 251-962-7354
- Jan. 2 - Lillian Recreational Park meets the first Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. in the park conference room
- Jan. 4, 11, 18 & 25 - Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Saturday breakfast and meeting, 8 a.m. at Lillian Community Club
- Jan. 13 - LASAR meeting, 7 p.m. second Monday of each month, Barclay Street
- Jan. 13 - Lillian Civic and Legislative Committee meeting on second Monday of each month, 8:30 a.m., open to public, Lillian Community Club
- Jan. 9 - Gulf Coast Classic Car Club meeting, 6 p.m. second Thursday of each month, Gulf Bowl Bowling Alley, 2881 S. Juniper Street, Foley
- Jan. 19 - Sunday Night Songfest, 6 p.m., third Sunday of each month, Bayside Baptist Church
- Jan. 20 - Lillian Action Committee meeting, 2 p.m., Lillian Perdido Bay Library
- Jan. 20 - American Legion Post 48 meeting, 7 p.m. third Monday of each month, Lillian Community Club
- Jan. 21 - Lillian Women's Club meets the third Tuesday of the month Sept. through May, 11:30 a.m., Lillian Community Club
- Jan. 26 - American Legion Ham Dinner fundraiser, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lillian Community Club



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Photo by Sally McKinney  
Assisting with the Annual ARC Thanksgiving Dinner this year were, from left, Rose Adams, Carolyn Armstrong, Caroline Mack, Cathy Partin, Priscilla Westgate, Betty Casey, Linda Warren and Bertha Scott.

Annual ARC Dinner Still Serving It Up

The Annual ARC Thanksgiving Dinner, recently held in the Foley Civic Center, served approximately 275 diners. Some of them were student special needs classes, some were intellectually disabled adults in the ARC Program, and others were their teachers and aides.

It wasn't always such a spectacular event. It all started when Willie Nell Evans was an aide and volunteer at the Magnolia House in Magnolia Springs. Her daughter, Mary, was a student there, so she helped wherever she could. With much community support, the school helped special needs students with life skills, such as gardening and home skills as well as using money wisely.

"We cooked a meal every day," says Willie Nell, the retired leader of the Thanksgiving program.

One project was to teach the boys and girls to tie their shoes. Sometimes it was a real challenge for the students and their helpers.

"I had been working with one child who just couldn't get it. I tried all the tricks, but nothing worked until one day she said, 'I did it!' What joy that was. I really enjoyed working with the classes. It's one of the best jobs I ever had."

Students were bused to Mobile for bowling and movie outings as well as the Special Olympics. Unfortunately a fire destroyed the house and the program was eventually moved to Foley High School Magnolia Room where it continues today and at all the schools in the South Baldwin County area.

When the ARC building in Foley got too small for the yearly get together, long-time supporter Joe Bishop talked to the Mayor of Foley, who offered the Civic Center and the kitchen, free of charge. It

has been the venue ever since, bringing joy to all who attend, especially the volunteers who cook and serve the food.

Since Willie Nell retired, her extended family has taken over the aprons and ovens. Every year the tradition continues due to the dedication of one woman who more than 20 years ago had the idea that everyone needs a special dinner for Thanksgiving.

Because of the support of the community, the Thanksgiving event has also expanded to include all the schools as well as the ARC Program. In addition to individual donors, community businesses and organizations have helped over the years, including the Kiwanis Clubs, Gulf Shores Methodist Church, Cato's of Foley, the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay, Cassebaum Farm and Elberta Co-op.



Eddie Tyler, Baldwin County Board of Education Superintendent, with Willie Nell Evans, who started the ARC Thanksgiving dinner over 20 years ago.



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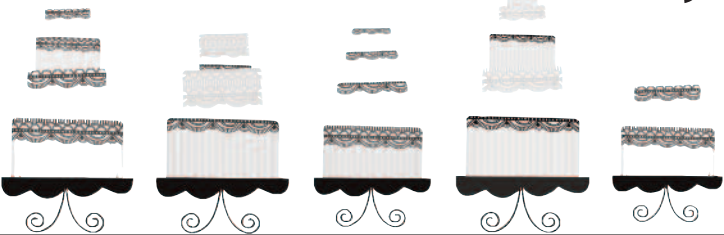


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Women’s Club Holiday Skit



The Lillian Women’s Club held a Christmas party Dec. 17 at the Gift Horse in Foley with a skit by Jane Head. Participating were, from left, Santa (Daniel Randall, pastor of Lillian United Methodist Church), Millie Freeze, Vicky Massey, Deborah Adams, Beverly Woosley and Joe Shankwitz.

Invest in Your Family and Community

Why do you invest? For many people, here’s the answer: “I invest because I want to enjoy a comfortable retirement.” And that’s certainly a great reason, because all of us should regularly put money away for when we’re retired. But you can also benefit by investing in your family and your community.

Let’s start with your family members, particularly the younger ones. How can you invest in their future?

One of the best ways is to help send them to college. A college degree is still a pretty good investment: The average lifetime earnings of a college graduate are nearly \$1 million higher than those of someone with a high school degree, according to a study by the U.S. Census Bureau.

To help your children or grandchildren pay for any college, university, vocational school or other postsecondary education, you may want to open a 529 savings plan. With this account, withdrawals are federally tax free, as long as the money is used for qualified higher education expenses, including those from trade and vocational schools.

However, if you withdraw some of the earnings on your account, and you don’t use the money for qualified expenses, it will be taxable and can also incur a 10% federal tax penalty. Plus, you retain control of the funds until it’s time for them to be used for school, so if your original beneficiary chooses not to pursue some type of higher education, you can name a different eligible beneficiary.

Another way to invest in your family is to help your adult children avoid feeling obligated to provide financial assistance to you. For example, if you ever required some type of long-term care, such as an extended stay in a nursing home, could you afford it?

The average cost for a private room in a nursing home is more than \$100,000 per year, according to a study by Genworth, an insurance company. And Medicare typically pays very few of these expenses. So, to avoid burdening your adult children — while also preserving your own financial independence — you



Financial Focus

By Jason M. Kozon of Edward Jones

may want to consider some type of long-term care insurance. A financial advisor can help you determine what coverage may be appropriate.

Moving beyond your family, you may want to invest in the social fabric of your community by contributing to local charitable, civic, educational or cultural groups. Of course, now that we’re in the holiday season, it’s the perfect time for such gifts. Furthermore, your gift will be more appreciated than in years past because one of the chief incentives for charitable giving - a tax deduction - was lost for many people due to tax law changes, which raised the standard deduction so significantly that far fewer people chose to itemize deductions. However, you might still be able to gain some tax benefits from your charitable gifts. To name one possibility, you could donate financial assets, such as stocks that have risen in value, freeing you of potential capital gains taxes. In any case, contact your tax advisor if you’re considering sizable charitable gifts.

Saving for your retirement will always be important. But don’t forget about investing in your family and your community because these investments can provide satisfying returns.

• This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

The Lillian Advertising and Article Deadlines

Issue Month	Deadline
February 2020	January 22
March 2020	February 19
April 2020	March 18
May 2020	April 22

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LVFD Enjoys Santa Run, Parades

The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department responded to 71 calls dispatched by the 911 operators in November including 42 medical assistance, 7 public assists, 8 motor vehicle accidents, 5 brush fires; 2 structure fires, 2 vehicle fires; 2 fire alarms cancelled and 3 miscellaneous. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer give us a call at 962-2696 and leave a message. We will return your call.

LVFD had a great turn out for the Santa Run on Dec. 7. We handed out apples, oranges, and candy and treats for your four-legged friends. All the volunteers had a wonderful time dressing up as Santa and elves and driving through the streets of Lillian in our fire engine sleigh.

After the Santa Run, we joined Spanish Cove in their Christmas pa-

rade. LVFD pulled Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus in the fire boat through the cove and a great time was had by all.

The following week we joined the Optimist's Club parade, and what a wonderful time we all had. We had to pull out all our apparatuses to hold the all LVFD volunteers and the Perdido Beach fire department joined. It was amazing to see so many of the Lillian community join in the festivities to spread joy, peace, and goodwill to their neighbors, family and friends.

We are coming to the end of another successful year for the department. A lot has happened over the year, mostly good, but some not so good. We were all very sorry to see our Chief Jim Ellis, and Captain Laura Ellis, leave the LVFD family, but fortunately our Assistant Chief Nick Dewhurst was able to take over the top position without any up-



**Lillian Volunteer Fire Department**  
By Gorette Lysek

heaval. There were other changes in rank including Joe Jones becoming assistant chief, Jim Fletcher becoming captain and Jeff Gleason promoting to lieutenant.

We were also blessed to see seven new volunteers join LVFD. Four volunteers attended college for EMT training at the beginning of the year and all passed.

Of course we couldn't be successful without the support we get from the Lillian community, and we want to take this opportunity to thank you all for all you do and give to keep us going.

All of the volunteers at LVFD would like to wish the Lillian community and surrounding areas a very happy and safe new year.

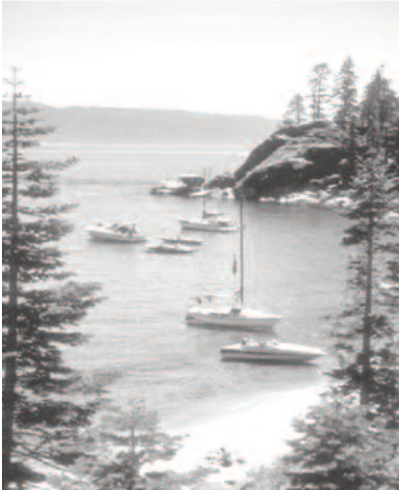



Marvin Showers and Asst. Chief Joe Jones as Santa on the LVFD Santa Run.



LVFD members Jakeup Cole as Santa and Martie Clarke as an elf.





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MLS



Beware of Most Common Tax Scams

Hi folks, I’m back for another tax season. I usually start my tax articles with the IRS’s latest dirty dozen list of tax scams. But since the list hasn’t changed much, I thought it might be more useful to focus on some of the most common scams. You are probably thinking that’s old hat, but unfortunately every day some unsuspecting, trusting soul falls for one of these scams.

Data breach thefts have given thieves millions of identity data points including names, addresses, social security numbers and e-mail addresses. Often, one additional piece of information is all they need to wreak havoc with your life and financial security. So always err on the side of caution when you get an unusual phone call, text message, social media request or e-mail.

Phone scams or “vishing” (voice phishing) continue to pose a major threat. The phones scams, according to the IRS, have cost 14,700 victims more than \$72 million since 2013. Criminals make unsolicited calls and leave voice mails with urgent call-back requests, claiming to be IRS officials. They demand payment of a fake tax bill by sending cash through a wire transfer, prepaid debit or gift card. Many phone scammers leave threatening messages to intimidate and bully you into calling back. Once you call back, the con artist requests personal information, including all or

the first five digits of your social security number (SSN). The callers are often hostile and abusive. Alternately, scammers may claim that the taxpayer is entitled to a large refund but must first provide personal information.

In another new scam, callers claim to be able to suspend or cancel your SSN. In this variation, the threat is often associated with the IRS impersonation scam. Scammers may mention overdue taxes and threaten to cancel your social security payment to frighten you into returning robocall voicemails. Last March, the IRS warned about a new twist on the IRS impersonation phone scam in which criminals fake calls from the Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS), an independent organization within the IRS.

Other characteristics of these scams include using fake names and IRS badge numbers to identify themselves, knowing the last four digits of your SSN, spoofing caller ID to make the phone number appear as if the IRS or local law enforcement is calling, sending fake IRS e-mails to support the scam telephone calls and using background noise of other calls to mimic a call site. After threatening jail time or a driver’s license revocation, scammers hang up. Others soon call back pretending to be from local law enforcement agencies or the Department of Motor Vehicles and fake



Let’s  
Talk  
Taxes  
By Carol  
Kovacs  
CPA, EA

caller ID supports their claim.

Remember, the IRS will never call to demand immediate payment using a specific payment method, such as a prepaid debit card, gift card or wire transfer. Instead, if you owe additional tax, you will receive a mailed notice describing the reasons tax is due.

The IRS will never demand that taxes be paid without giving taxpayers the opportunity to question or appeal the amount owed and it will never ask for a credit or debit card number over the phone or call you about an unexpected refund. The IRS will never threaten to immediately bring in local police or other law enforcement.

Then there is phishing. Two common schemes are the direct deposit scheme and the business e-mail. In the direct deposit scheme, criminals steal personal data and file fraudulent tax returns.

They use taxpayer’s bank accounts to direct deposit tax refunds. Then they use various tactics to reclaim the refund from the taxpayer, including claiming to be from a col-

lection agency or the IRS. It sounds like a wild scheme, but it happens according to the IRS. E-mails may be cleverly disguised to look like an IRS e-mail. They often threaten to seize your property or make an immediate arrest.

The IRS has also seen more advanced phishing schemes targeting information in the files of tax or payroll professionals, human resource personnel, schools and other organizations. Criminals will pose as a business asking the recipient to pay a fake invoice, an employee seeking to reroute a direct deposit, or someone the recipient trusts or recognizes, such as an executive, to initiate a wire transfer.

Sometimes, the phishing schemes are malicious e-mails and websites that infect your computer with malware without your knowing it.

The malware downloads in the background, giving the criminal access to the device enabling them to access any sensitive files or even track keyboard strokes and exposing your login information.

It is sad that we can no longer take people at their word. Folks, that was the good old days and they no longer exist. Today we must look at all promises, good or bad, with a mean eye.

If you have any specific questions or areas of interest you would like addressed in future columns, my email is carolpkovacs@aol.com. Use Let’s Talk Taxes as the subject.

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Wisconsin Snow Birds Start 2020 Meeting Season

The WI Sno-bird Club will meet on two Wednesdays, Jan. 8 and 22, at the Orange Beach Event Center (OBEC) near the Wharf with coffee and donuts at 8:30 a.m. and the meeting starting at 9 a.m. Everyone who is in Lower Alabama for the winter is welcome to attend. The group collects Boxtops for Education from General Mills cereals and Johnson & Johnson products, motel-size toiletries, empty printer ink cartridges and pop-top rings. There is also a puzzle and book exchange.

You will meet other Wisconsin snow birds, learn about volunteer opportunities at the new zoo, the Baldwin County Heritage Museum in Elberta and local libraries and senior centers. Local speakers present programs and there will be information about day trips.

Card players meet at the Gulf Shores American Legion Post 44 on Hwy. 59 every Friday at 8:30 a.m. starting Jan. 3.

For more information, contact Kenn at 251-967-2463 or [wissnobirds@yahoo.com](mailto:wissnobirds@yahoo.com).



*Gary Durgin, left, of the WI Sno-bird Club, presented gift cards to Erica Hall, a supervisor with the Baldwin County Foster Children program as gifts for 75 foster children to buy Christmas presents for themselves. There are almost 200 children in this program over the holidays and the club collected \$1,875 at their January, February and March 2019 meetings.*

Clean Up Efforts at Lillian Restaurant



*Demolition is finally underway after fire destroyed the Pirate's Cantina restaurant in Lillian in March 2019. The state fire marshal's office determined the cause of the fire as undetermined several months ago. The building was built and owned by Tim Lett.*

Inspiration in the South



*St. Jude's By The Sea Lutheran Church of Gulf Shores will continue sponsoring an "Art Studio" group for the winter season beginning Jan. 11. Shown with some of the projects are, from left, Elizabeth Rollings, Barb Helgesen and Jean Rollings. Participants enjoy working with different media such as watercolors, chalk/pastels, acrylic paints or other arts and crafts projects. Bring your current project and materials and join in. This is not a group of professionals, just people who enjoy art. Meetings are held each Saturday from 1 to 3 p.m. in the church fellowship room. Please contact Barbara Helgesen at [bionicbarbs@aol.com](mailto:bionicbarbs@aol.com) for more information. The church is located at 312 East 16th Avenue.*

Need To Borrow Medical Supplies?

You can borrow medical supplies for free! Lillian American Legion Post #48 has a 'lending closet' that stocks many useful items, including wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, hospital beds, potty chairs, etc. Please contact Glen Gandy at 251-979-6005 or Darrell Ochs at 251-269-9084. Check here before you buy or rent. Donations may be dropped off at Twice Upon A Time thrift shop and the Lillian Community Club. THANK YOU! ~ Individuals who have items borrowed from the closet and no longer have a need, please call and return the items to the Legion. ~ Individuals willing to donate unused items can call and we will pick them up.



Researching Healthy Personalities

Ever wonder if your personality is healthy? Research into what constitutes a healthy personality began in England in the 1880’s when a group of sociologists began studying the subject. After the turn of the century research shifted to the United States where Harvard psychology professor Dr. Gordon Allport broke new ground in the field.

Over the course of the 20th century, researchers determined that the healthy personality exhibits five primary traits. If an individual possesses these traits, he or she is said to have a healthy personality. According to clinical psychologist Dr. Les Carter, the absence of these five traits may indicate a less-than-healthy personality.

First, individuals with a healthy personality exhibit a sense of openness and curiosity. They engage with the world around them and look for a variety of life experiences. They’re creative and make use of their imagination. They’re also willing to entertain opinions and ways of thinking that differ from their own.

By contrast, individuals with an unhealthy, or disordered, personality exhibit rigidity in their thinking. Unable to see nuances, individuals with an unhealthy personality view life in terms of good/bad, either/or, us/them. These persons are usually close-minded and uptight. They don’t like for anyone to challenge their opinions or worldview.

Second, individuals with a healthy personality are conscientious. They score high in reliability. Their word is their bond; when they say they’re going to do something, you can mark it down as done.

Conscientious individuals are trustworthy and courteous. They’re

Maintaining Your Privacy Online

Privacy. Is there really such a thing? Perhaps before technology took hold of our lives.

Invasion of privacy has really gone beyond binoculars, listening devices and other devices and methods.

The smartphone is a handy gadget for communication, but it is more than that.

Have you ever installed an application (app) on your device and to use it, you have to agree to allow it to access your contacts, pictures, camera, microphone, calendar, and anything else you might want to keep private?

Why does it require access your stuff?

Sadly it has become part of our computers, especially the new version of Windows 10, (versions 1607, 1809, 1903).

Here’s how to look at privacy default settings in Windows 10: Left mouse click on the start button, left click on settings, left click on Privacy.

This window shows what infor-

The Other Side

By Jim Belcher

tuned in to the world around them and are aware of the impact their decisions make on other individuals.

Third, individuals with a healthy personality exhibit extroversion. In this context, extroversion doesn’t imply that introversion is negative or undesirable; some of us are naturally introverted. In the context of a healthy personality, extroversion means the individual makes an effort to engage with people. There is a desire to connect with others, a sense of sociability and friendliness. A healthy personality is concerned with the needs and interests of other people.

Fourth, individuals with a healthy personality exhibit agreeableness. Even when they disagree with others’ opinions or ways of doing and being, they don’t do so in a disagreeable manner. They’re cooperative with and affirming of persons who’re different from them. They anticipate the needs of others. They aren’t stubborn, pushy or argumentative.

Fifth, individuals with a healthy personality are emotionally stable, calm and possess impulse control. They’re fair-minded and steady. They move through life with a minimum of tension, anxiety, and agitation. They aren’t easily bothered or annoyed.

Researchers conclude that of these five traits, the one that stands out as most important is conscientiousness.

Dr. Carter states that the first step to developing a healthy personality is to accept responsibility for the less-than-healthy aspects of our personality.

“Don’t blame others for who you are,” he advises. “The mark of maturity is remaining healthy even when those around us don’t cooperate with us nor give us what we want.”



The Mouse  
By Joseph Oakley

mation is available by the apps on your computer. Take the time to read what is open and can infringe upon your privacy.

You may decide to make some changes and can do so here by changing some selections.

Maintaining one’s privacy will take more than keeping the shades drawn.

I hope to accomplish that you know you are smarter than your computer, that the computer is a tool, and you are the master of that tool.

If you have any questions you would like answered in this column please send them to mouse@pc-s4u.com

Until next time, safe computing.



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## What Are You Looking For in 2020?

At the beginning of a new year, a high school principal decided to post his teachers’ resolutions on the bulletin board. As the teachers gathered around the board, a commotion started.

One of the teachers was complaining. “Why weren’t my resolutions posted?” She was throwing such a tantrum, the principal hurried to his office to see if he had overlooked her resolutions. Sure enough, he had mislaid them on his desk.

As he read her resolutions, he was astounded. Her first resolution was to not let little things upset her.

I don’t know how you are doing on your resolutions. I do know something more important than resolutions, though. How do you see this new year? Is it one that you approach

with anxiety or anticipation?

In 1922 archaeologist Howard Carter was completing nearly 15 years of digging in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt. He was hoping to find the tomb of Pharaoh Tutankhamen. His days of digging were coming to an end and money was running out.

Then workers discovered sixteen stairs leading into the earth. Thousands of baskets filled with rocks and sand had to be carried away, but eventually a door was found. Carter drilled a small hole in the door and stuck an iron-testing rod into a dark, blank space. He then inserted a candle into the hole and peered in.

As his eyes grew accustomed to the light, details emerged into view, and he saw strange animals, statues



### The Methodist Message

By Rev. Daniel Randall

and everywhere the glint of gold. A partner asked, “Can you see anything?” And Carter’s reply was, “Yes, wonderful things.”

We, too, can look into this new year and see wonderful things if we are looking for them.

A king had two servants. To one he said, “I want you to travel for six months through my kingdom and bring back a sample of every weed you can find.” To the other he said, “I

want you to travel through my kingdom for six months and bring back a sample of every flower you can find.”

Six months later, both servants stood before the king. To the first, he asked, “Have you carried out my command?” The first servant answered, “I have, and I was amazed to find there were so many weeds in the kingdom. In fact, there is nothing but weeds in this kingdom!” The second servant also answered, “I have, and I am amazed how many beautiful flowers there are in the kingdom. In fact, there is nothing but beautiful flowers in this kingdom!”

These two each found what they were looking for and so do we. As we look ahead into this new year, why shouldn’t we see great and wonderful things? We have been blessed to be children of the most high God.



### Bits and Pieces

By Jackie Reid

I’ve built walls/ A fortress deep and mighty/ That none may penetrate/ I have no need of friendship, friendship causes pain/ It’s laughter and it’s loving I disdain/ I am a rock/ I am an island.

If you associate with these words from the Simon and Garfunkel song “I Am a Rock,” perhaps the new year of 2020 would be the perfect time for you to let go of these negative sentiments and come to the realization that we are not alone in this world.

We are not islands. We can be strong like rocks but not unto ourselves like a rock, hard and unyielding and unseeing.

Life comes to us through our families, our friends, our acquaintances, the caring and love that we share and faith. If you think that it is best to relate to that song, you miss the greatness of what life offers. Yes, love and relationships can cause pain, but the true pain is to not experience it at all.

People who know me know I have the tendency to be a loner, but they also know that I eventually have to come out of my cave and connect to

my great family and friends. If I didn’t I’d wither away to nothing.

I enjoy and savor my quiet times, but just as much, I enjoy and savor my connections because it is those connections that allow life and love to flow through me.

No one needs to be alone. You only have to reach out. I know, I am not a rock, I am not an island. I am human, after all.

A new year gives us a chance to a fresh start to our lives. A chance to connect to all the things we have wanted to do but never got done. The things we wanted to accomplish but kept putting on the back burner but are once again on our resolution list. Nah, we won’t scratch everything off our list, but maybe, just maybe, we will have the satisfaction of checking off at least one item.

Spring is a fresh start as well but spring is about sprucing up and freshening after a long, cold winter. The fresh start of a new year is all about us.

It’s about new hopes and dreams and a chance to look deeper into our psyche. How can I better myself and my relationships? And it’s a time to look around us and really SEE.

“Life is a gift every day. No one knows the number of his days, but we have charge over the quality of the days we’re given.” - Heather Burch from Along the Broken Road.

Have a safe and happy new year! Until next month...

### Perdido Bay Residents

International Paper is using your bay as their treatment pond and saving millions. In 1970, the paper mill was ordered to go to a “closed system”. It didn’t happen. The paper mill has never complied with state laws. For the past 30 years, the paper mill has been operating on a promise to clean up. IP’s effluent has been continuously toxic since 2012, but Florida’s DEP does nothing. After IP’s explosion in January, 2017 we saw how beautiful Perdido Bay could be. It was full of baby crabs, shrimp and fish. Now it is again lifeless. IP is taking the sulfur and carbon dioxide out of the air and putting it in the bay along with dioxin, PCB’s and heavy metals. IP is trying to make the bay look better, but life in the bay has all but disappeared. Let your politicians know that this is unacceptable. Perdido Bay is not a dump. We must save our bay for future generations.

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OBITUARIES

Cecelia O'Donnell Campbell

Cecelia O'Donnell Campbell ("Ceil"), 85, passed away Nov. 21, 2019, in Temple, Texas.

Ceil was born and raised in Holyoke, Mass., the daughter of John and Alice (Keough) O'Donnell. She met Edmond at confession in the chapel at UMass-Amherst where she earned a bachelor's degree in Medical Technology. She worked full-time in a hospital laboratory for over 20 years while she and Ed raised six children in Royal Oak and Waterford Township, Mich. She led her daughter's Camp Fire Girls troop, and had a home-cooked dinner ready every evening.

She was a devout Catholic and spent countless hours helping others. She was especially kind to many elderly neighbors and after retiring to Lillian, was responsible for starting a "CareForce" telephone chain that provided elders with a friendly daily check-in call.

Ceil and her husband were active members of St Joseph Catholic Church in Lillian and enjoyed many happy years at Spanish Cove.

She was preceded in death by her husband Edmond ("Buster") Campbell and is survived by one brother, John O'Donnell of Milford, N.H.; six children, Anne (Charles) Brunson of Temple, Texas, Christopher Campbell of Houston, Texas, Timothy Campbell (Dung Vu) of East Lansing, Mich., Matt (Dawn Turnbull) Campbell of White Lake, Mich., John Campbell of Safety Harbor, Fla., and Pete Campbell of Clarkston, Mich.; four granddaughters, Stephanie Campbell of Grand Rapids, Mich., Jacquelynn (Joe) D'Agostino of Rome, Italy, Cecelia ("Cece") Campbell of Lansing, Mich., and Samantha Liedtke of Austin, Texas; a sister-in law, Jane (Ron) Harrigan of Sparta, N.J.; and a niece, Alice (Dan) Lochman and family of San Marcos, Texas.

Mass of Christian burial was held Dec. 6 at Saint Joseph Parish in Lillian. Donations to Special Olympics, St. Jude's children's hospital or alzheimer's research would be appreciated.

Wolfe-Bayview Funeral Home, Fairhope, was in charge of arrangements.



Campbell

Paul Stoddard Kreamer

Paul Stoddard Kreamer died Nov. 28, 2019, with his wife of 53 years, Rev. Martha Hutchison Kreamer, by his side. Also with him were his children, Paul Stoddard "Todd" Kreamer Jr. and his wife, Heather Allison Kreamer, Mary Agnes "Maggie" Kreamer, and grandchildren, Marshall Anthony Kreamer and Ava Grace Kreamer. He is also survived by his brother, John "Jack" Calvin Kreamer, nieces, Mary Camp and Beth West, and nephew, Ross G. Kreamer, and a number of great-nieces and great-nephews.

He was preceded in death by his daughter, Sarah Marshall Kreamer in 2002, a brother, Ross Glanton Kreamer, and his parents, Anthony Ross Kreamer and Louise Pattie Glanton Kreamer, and two nephews, John C Kreamer Jr. and Bill Kreamer.

Paul was born in Burnside, Ky., in 1943, and raised in Danville, Ky. He graduated from the University of Memphis, and went into the plywood and veneer business with his father, then with two other companies in Morehead City, N.C., and Cuthbert, Ga., before starting Kreamer Forest Products with his wife in 1995.

He thrived in the role of clergy spouse from 2001 on, bringing his own unique brand of resourcefulness and good cheer as a full partner in ministry. He had an active role in the every level of the Episcopal church, singing in the choir, serving on Cursillo staff for three weekends in North Carolina and three at Beckwith, and as a volunteer at general conventions of the Episcopal church in 2009, 2012 and 2015. Paul was known for his quiet service behind the scenes, from picking up trash along the roadway in front of the church, to helping the elderly, to maintaining church grounds and arranging chairs in the parish hall.

Services were held Dec. 4 at Episcopal Church of the Advent in Lillian. Memorials may be designated for the memorial garden at the church.

Wolfe-Bayview Funeral Home, Foley, was in charge of arrangements.



Kreamer

Lillian Man Charged in Teen Captivity

A Lillian man has been charged with one count of second degree kidnapping and four counts of first degree rape after allegedly holding a Florida teen captive.

Jonathan Andrew Gibson, 30, of Lillian, was jailed in Alexandria, La., on Dec. 5.

The victim had been reported missing through a Florida Sheriff's office.

A statement from authorities said a tip concerning a 14-year-old being held against her will led them to a

Louisiana motel where she was being held by Gibson.

He allegedly threatened to kill the girl if police became involved.

Police found her in a room and Gibson surrendered while on a balcony.

Gibson's cousin and her child were also reportedly at the motel.

Police were able to make contact with them first and move them to safety.

Gibson was placed in the Rapides Parish Jail without bond.

BLOTTER

• Officers responded to a theft report at 11:25 a.m. Nov. 11 in the 33700 block of US Hwy. 98 in Lillian.

• Theft was reported at 6:56 a.m. Nov. 20 in the 32000 block of Highway 98 in Lillian.

• Officers responded to an assault report at 12:05 a.m. Nov. 23 in the 300 block of Buena Vista Drive, Lillian.

• Officers responded to an assault report at 12:53 a.m. Nov. 23 in the 300 block of Buena Vista Drive, Lillian.

• Theft was reported at 4:22 p.m. Nov. 24 in the 1300 block of Caney Loop in Lillian.

• Officers responded to an assault report at 2:55 p.m. Nov. 25 in the 12700 block of Sixth Street in Lillian.

• Officers responded to a report of assault with no weapon at 3:23 a.m. Nov. 29 in the 13200 block of Sixth Street, Lillian.

• Theft was reported at 12:29 a.m. Dec. 4 in the 13000 block of Sixth Street in Lillian.

• Theft was reported at 8:28 a.m. Dec. 4 in the 600 block of Escambia Loop, Lillian.

• Officers responded to a theft report at 8:45 a.m. Dec. 8 in the 32600 block of Rosalia Avenue, Lillian.

• Officers responded to a report of residential burglary at 2:38 p.m. Dec. 9 in the 34100 block of US Hwy. 98 in Lillian.

• A report of assault was received at 3:39 p.m. Dec. 11 in the 300 block of Buena Vista Drive in Lillian.

• Officers responded to an assault report at 12:56 a.m. Dec. 12 in the 33000 block of Zeena Drive in Lillian.

• Officers responded to a report of assault at 1:10 p.m. Dec. 15 in the 14300 block of CR 93, Lillian.

• A vehicle was reported stolen at 8:30 a.m. Dec. 17 in the 1500 block of Valencia Drive, Lillian.

Advertise Here  
and Reach More  
Customers!  
The Lillian  
Call Julie McManus at  
703-217-2874

Classified Ads

Do you have something to sell or a business to promote? Consider advertising in The Lillian classifieds! \$9 a month for 35-40 words. Discounts offered for ads running 3, 6 or 12 months. Must adhere to our classified ad format and no pictures. Ads also appear in our online edition of the paper. Contact Julie McManus at 703-217-2874 or by email at [chewlatta@yahoo.com](mailto:chewlatta@yahoo.com)

Services

**DIVERSIFIED CLEANING SERVICE** - A+ rating w/ the Better Business Bureau (25 yrs). Residential, commercial, carpets, windows, pressure washing, etc. Serving Baldwin & Escambia Counties (Lic. 107840). Low overhead customer savings. For more info, text or call 850-712-7191.

**PET SITTER:** Dependable, responsible and loves all animals. Years of experience. Will provide pet references upon request. Call Susan at 850-281-5557 or 251-962-3523. I look forward to loving and taking care of your pets.

**KNIFE SHARPENING SERVICE:** Kitchen Cutlery, Pocketknives, Fillet/Skinning, Scissors & Tools. Free Pickup/Return. On Site or Greer's CashSaver 2nd Sat. each month. 850-572-5254 [sharperknives4U@gmail.com](mailto:sharperknives4U@gmail.com)

Miscellaneous

**RV SITE FOR LEASE:** Almost A Park Senior RV Park, 10351 Co. Rd. 83, Elberta. Only one site available, must sign year lease. Large site, full hook ups, free laundry, mailbox with key. 85 ft x 45 ft lot plus shed. \$225 per month plus power. Lots of trees and flowers, seniors only. 251-987-1195 or 251-752-0415.

**FOR RENT:** Fully furnished home for rent on Perdido Bay, Florida side, by the week, month or season. Located one mile from the Lillian Bridge. Credit check and background check required, non-refundable fee. Call 419-576-7385.



# Christmas Parade Award Winners

The People’s Choice Awards from the Dec. 14 Lillian Christmas parade have been announced for several categories.

• Church category: a tie between the Lillian United Methodist Church and the First Baptist Church

• Organization category: American Legion

• For-profit business category: Gulf Coast Dance won, narrowly edging KOA

• Non-profit business category: Lillian Community Club

The Optimist Club also recognizes a number of individuals and organizations including Optiman (Bob Pocreva) for his super-human performance; Cleo Conn, whose 1939 Cadillac was mentioned by each of the judges; the British Car Club for having the most participants; Brian Hotchkiss (two tractors, wagon and three horses) for the largest float; and Ken Frost and Paul Tanner and their South Alabama tractors (eight entrants).

The judges also recognize Optimist Club project chairs Judy and Paul Wargo for their dedication and effort in making the parade a success.



Photos by Sally McKinney and Janel Smith

## LILLIAN COMMUNITY CLUB

34148 Widell Avenue •• Lillian, Alabama 36549

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8 A.M. until 11 A.M. •• (251) 962-3366 & Lounge (251) 962-3966

Email: [lillianlcc@gulftel.com](mailto:lillianlcc@gulftel.com)

### LCC Officers & Board of Directors


- David Bergsland - President
- Elmer Covert - Vice President
- Lee Hoffman - Treasurer
- Joelle Pagel - Secretary
- Wayde Ulrich
- James Staton
- Randy Stapler
- Mark Carpenter
- Jennifer Waid
- Steve Duckworth

### LCC Banquet Facilities

BEST RATES IN THE AREA!  
The Grand Hall accommodates  
up to 250 people  
State-of-the-Art Full Kitchen  
Non-smoking

### RV CONVENIENCE SITES

(Pay in Lounge or Office)  
Members: \$10/DAY  
Guest: \$20/DAY  
Located behind LCC

 **DART  
TOURNAMENT**  
SATURDAYS 7 P.M.



**LCC Catfish Dinner ~ \$10**  
**Friday, Jan. 10 5-6:30 P.M.**

Catfish, french fries, grits, hushpuppies, baked  
beans, coleslaw, dessert and coffee or tea.  
**MUSIC: Big Jake in the Lounge**

*Happy New Year from all of us at  
Lillian Community Club!*



**American Legion**  
**Ham Dinner**  
**Sunday, Jan. 26**  
**11am-1pm \$10**

Ham with raisin sauce, green beans, yams, potatoes,  
salad, rolls, dessert and iced tea or coffee

Thank you to all who made the  
Christmas dinner a success.

**LOUNGE HOURS**  
Sunday thru Thursday  
11 A.M. - 10 P.M.

Friday and Saturday  
11 A.M. - 11 P.M.

Sunday  
Bloody Mary \$1.50

**JANUARY 1**  
**open at 1pm**

### BANDS:

- Dakota - Jan. 3
  - FL Yard Dogs - Jan. 5
  - Big Jake - Jan. 10
  - Southern Star - Jan. 12
  - Jeri Trio - Jan. 17
  - Rock Bottom with  
Rick Carter - Jan. 19
  - Gary Story Band - Jan. 24
  - Robert Broom - Jan. 26
  - Gear Heads - Jan. 31
- \$5 COVER CHARGE FOR NON-MEMBERS WHEN IN THE HALL**

Check our web page for updates to  
upcoming events. Also, please like us on  
our Facebook page.  
[www.LillianCommunityClub.com](http://www.LillianCommunityClub.com)  
Prepared by Sandy Fuller