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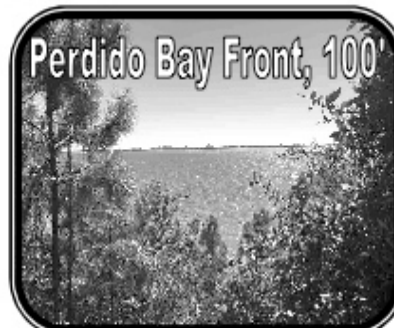
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## Normal Can Be Highly Overrated

Vincent van Gogh is best remembered as a troubled but highly talented post-impressionist painter who died at 37. Let me share some things about van Gogh that you may not know.

He was drawn toward the Christian ministry at an early age. In the winter of 1878, he volunteered to move to an impoverished coal mine in south Belgium, a place where pastors were usually sent as punishment. He preached and ministered to the sick and drew pictures of miners and their families, who called him the “Christ of the Coal Mines.” He identified with them in a powerful way.

He lived as simply as they did. He gave away his good clothes to the poor and dressed in shabby clothing.


One day, a baker’s wife with whom he had boarded, asked why he had given away his good clothing. He replied, “I am a friend of the poor like Jesus was.” Not impressed, she told him, “You are no longer normal.”

The governing body in the church agreed with her. They disagreed with his lifestyle and refused to renew his contract. He was forced to find another occupation. I suppose it was then he devoted himself to art.

That baker’s wife was correct, though. He was not normal. But what does it mean to be normal? She said he wasn’t normal because he tried to follow Jesus. Is that bad? Well, if you truly try to be all that Christ calls you to be, I suspect she was right, you will be anything but normal or ordinary.

Isn’t this basically what the majority of us seek? We want to be considered normal, to fit in, to be accepted. Perhaps the meanest thing you can say to another in our super-conformist culture is, “You are not normal.” I wonder, however, if the world will ever be changed for the better by people whose greatest ambition is to fit in.

Being abnormal is not always bad, normal is highly overrated! Do you think Mother Teresa was normal? I think most of us agree that no normal person would make the sacrifices that she made. That’s why she is a saint.



### The Methodist Message

By Rev. Daniel Randall

So is it bad to be abnormal? Not if you’re willing to pay the price. Would you agree it’s all right to be abnormal if in doing so you change and change the world for Christ? Would you agree that it would be all right to be abnormal if it meant you left your little part of the world a better place? Let me ask again - is it so bad to be abnormal?

In the Epistle of James he proclaims, “My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, ‘Here’s a good seat for you,’ but say to the poor man, ‘You stand there’ or ‘Sit on the floor by my feet,’ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?”

The author of James isn’t writing to the government about its attitudes toward the poor. He isn’t writing to the poor to chastise them about how they use their money.

He’s writing to us in the church and asking us if we pass judgment on people according to their economic status, a practice that, regrettably, is quite normal.

What James is saying to us is that following Jesus calls us to an abnormal attitude toward people.

We are to see all people as Jesus sees them - as loved, as worthy, as important in the Kingdom of God. That’s an abnormal way of looking at life, but that is the Jesus way. How normal is it for the son of God to give his life for our sins.

Thank God, Jesus was abnormal. If he wasn’t we wouldn’t have a chance. Why would any normal being give their life on a cross for a sinful world?

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# The Lillian

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**SWEET & SMOKY RUB**

- 2 tsp kosher salt
- 2 tsp garlic powder
- 2 tsp smoked paprika
- 1 tsp onion powder
- 1 tsp ground mustard
- 1/2 tsp black pepper
- 1/2 tsp chili powder
- 1/8 tsp cayenne pepper

**BOURBON PEACH GLAZE**

- 18 oz peach preserves
- 1/2 cup bourbon
- 2 T apple cider vinegar
- 1 tsp kosher salt

**PREPARATION**

- Mix all of the rub ingredients together in a bowl. Use a fork to make sure all the brown sugar is broken up and all spices combined well.
- Remove the membrane from backside of ribs. Begin in one corner by running a knife between membrane and rib. Grip the loosened membrane with a paper towel and pull away from rib. Rinse ribs under cool water and pat dry.
- Pour some of the rub on both sides of the ribs and ensure the entire slab is well coated. Refrigerate for up to 24 hours before grilling.
- Combine ingredients of glaze together in a sauce pot. Bring to a boil and cook for 5 minutes, whisking often. Allow to cool.
- Prepare a grill using indirect heat, with coals on only one side of the grill. Keep the temperature between 300-325 degrees. Place the ribs on opposite side of the grill away from flames. Cook ribs for 1 hour. Remove ribs and wrap in foil. Return wrapped ribs to grill and cook another 2 hours. Remove ribs from foil and return to grill for 1 hour. Begin to baste ribs during the last 30 minutes of cooking. Total cook time is 4 hours. Meat should be pulling away from the bones.
- Serve any remaining glaze along side the cooked ribs.



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Local Caring Sharing Hope!

Lillian  
Recreational  
Park News

By Monica Leonard



We all know that the Lillian Recreational Park runs on donations and volunteers. And here are a few easy and free ways to support the park:

- You can recycle your unwanted electronics. Just bring them every third Saturday of the month to Market in the Park. Please note we are unable to accept TVs.

- Since so many park users also bring their aluminum cans for us to recycle (which we greatly appreciate) we’ve decided to have a regular day for you to drop off those cans. That will also be at the monthly Market

in the Park.

- We all love Amazon. But did you know that you can sign onto AmazonSmile and choose the Lillian Recreational Park as your charity of choice at no cost to you? Amazon will donate .05% of the purchase price to the park. AmazonSmile has a charitable foundation that funds the donation. Check it out the next time you order something from Amazon.
- The next way to support your park isn’t free. It will cost you your time. We love our volunteers! Whether you want to help in the gardens, at Movies and Music in the Park, help out with a community build or just pick up any trash you may find while visiting the park, it all is very much appreciated.

### LRP Earns Another Grant For Gazebo/Bandshell


Lillian Recreational Park has been awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Hearin-Chandler Foundation.

Plans are to use \$15,000 of the grant to build a bandshell/gazebo at the park and \$10,000 will be used to make improvements to the kiddie park, including installing new fencing and a shade structure.

Once the gazebo is finished this fall, it will be available for community and private events such as weddings and birthdays. It is expected one of the inaugural events in the gazebo will be “Hot Chocolate with Santa” at the park’s new Christmas in the Park celebration to be held Dec. 7.

The park anticipates holding regular concerts and other musical events in the bandshell beginning next year.


Earlier this year, the park received a \$3,000 grant from the National Association of Realtors as initial funding for the bandshell. The Hearin-Chandler grant and other community donations received will fund the balance. Construction is expected to start later this month.



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Morning Worship 10:30am

Church Training 5:00pm

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)

Kids had a blast at “Beat the Heat” night at Lillian Recreational Park’s Movie in the Park in August. Children of all ages enjoyed the movie “Christopher Robin.” This month’s movie on Sept. 6 will be the original “Back to the Future,” starring Michael J. Fox. There will be a real DeLorean for you to check out, too!

### Organizers Planning Christmas in the Park

The Lillian Recreational Park will host its first-ever, community-wide Christmas tree lighting and Christmas in the Park celebration on Saturday, Dec. 7.

The fun will begin at 6 p.m. with the Lillian Christmas tree lighting slated at 7 p.m.

Lucy Smith, LRP volunteer and Christmas in the Park organizer, said, “The park will be transformed into a holiday wonderland with light displays and luminaries, Christmas trees and many decorations. We hope it becomes an annual Christmas tradition everyone in the community will enjoy for years to come.”

There will also be a variety of activities, including caroling and hot chocolate with Santa.

Santa will be available for photos, too.

The park is looking for volunteers to help organize the event, as well as decorate.

The park is also looking for large outdoor decorations, so if you have any large outdoor displays or Christmas inflatables you would like to donate, the park would be happy to put them to good use.

If you would like to volunteer or donate, email Lucy Smith at ChristmasInThePark@LillianRecreationalPark.org or leave a message on the park’s facebook page. You may also leave a message for her at 962-2129.

It will be a fun, free community Christmas event for everyone to enjoy, so save the date.

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## Speaker Focuses on Membership



*Members of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay and Foley Optimist Club met recently to hear Optimist International Director of Strategic Growth Jim Boyd talk about increasing club membership locally and around the world. From left are Foley President Clark Cathey, Boyd and OCPB President Jeff Keener who also serves as the Optimist Club Zone 6 Lt. Governor. Zone 6 covers all Optimist Clubs in Baldwin County.*



### Bits and Pieces

By Jacqueline Reid

It's been six years since my husband died and I thought by now when the anniversary rolled around that it would get easier or maybe less memorable. It hasn't.

This low mood begins in June around our wedding anniversary and continues through August, the month he died.

I asked my friend who has been a widow longer than I have if this should still be hard and she told me that she still goes through a sad period at that time of the year and so do many of her friends.

A paragraph from the novel *To a Tea* by Vera Dodge expressed exactly what my thoughts are at these times. The main character has been a widow for three years when she thinks on what she feels of her loss: *She missed him. It wasn't their conversations, which she also loved, or even the sight of his handsome face.... Instead, what she'd really missed... was just the simple feeling of knowing that he was there in the room with her quietly keeping her company.*

**Propaganda and censorship** are alive and well in the United States and you may be surprised where you'll find it. According to findings from a group called Project Veritas, Pinterest and YouTube were banning pro-life and conservative sites by falsely labeling them as "nudity." This is after finding Facebook siding with left-wing views while censoring the opposite opinions.

The Veritas hasn't stopped there because this sort of thing is widespread. Google has trended the same way. You may find it hard to find certain conservative subjects in your Google search. Shame, shame. Very un-American.

Oh, for the 17th century stocks.

We'd have to line these people up for miles for their turn to receive a face full of rotten tomatoes while locked up in these contraptions in the middle of town. You'd never see that on propaganda news. But I'd like to throw the first pitch.

And speaking of New York news stations and their self-important reporters, if we can dare call them reporters, because it is quite evident that national news media withhold the truth or misreport it if it doesn't meet with their left-wing, un-American viewpoints.

If you are a true patriot and/or a Christian, you are under scrutiny and there are groups who will harass you. Many college students are ostracized and afraid of violent repercussions from the left-view student body.

How many of you know that this administration has brought unemployment from a Depression-era percentage from last administration to an all-time low. You all want your Social Security and Medicare.

Well, to keep it coming you need people working to pay into it. Now they are. Or that this administration has done more for the VA than any other president. No, the propaganda folks won't tell you that.

Oh, and that Medicare you fed into while you were working so you'd have it when you turned 65, a certain group of politicians want everyone in this country, whether a citizen or not, to have it now.

Coverage won't last long unless they tax you until you bleed. We aren't and shouldn't be a socialist country.

We are a republic. It is fair. But some people want everything given to them while they sit on their you-know-whats and do nothing.


And the truth about human nature, once you give them something free, they want more and more and they are never grateful or satisfied.

"This world is going bonkers." How do you like that for a quote of the month?

Until next month....

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## OBITUARIES


### Henry "Hank" Alonzo Wilson III

Henry "Hank" Alonzo Wilson III passed away August 6, 2019, in Pensacola, while surrounded by the people he loved.

Hank was born July 2, 1963, in Mobile. He went to Baker High School and graduated from the University of South Alabama. He worked with FedEx for 25 years before retiring and then pursued opening the Front Porch Café in Lillian with his spouse, Dawn.

Hank was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Bea Wilson. He is survived by a son, Cooper Wilson; his spouse, Dawn Stephenson; four sisters, Linda W. Leslie, Brenda W. Parker, Glenda W. Shoemaker and Donna W. Sample; two stepdaughters, Kayla Stephenson and Heather Stephenson; a grandson, Janthony Grover; three nephews; four nieces and one great-nephew.

His family and friends knew him for being fun-loving, family-oriented and the life of the party. He loved camping, sitting around a campfire, boating, relaxing on the water, Bama football and other sports. Hank was a proud and devoted father, spouse, brother, uncle, poppie and friend. We will miss his quick wit, sense of humor, and contagious smile.



**Wilson**

### Jerry "Buddy" Mickelsen

Jerry "Buddy" Mickelsen, 44, passed away Aug. 16, 2019, in Lillian.

A resident of Lillian, he worked at Woerner Turff. Survivors include his father, Gerald Mickelsen; two sisters, Brenda Dabbs and Carolyn Cole, all of Lillian; and a number of nieces, nephews and cousins.


Visitation was held Aug. 19 at the Bayside Baptist Church in Lillian. Graveside services were held Aug. 20 at Gilley Cemetery in Lillian.

Cason Funeral Service, Foley, was in charge of arrangements.

### Another Great Year for Bunco Bash

The 10th Annual Bunco Bash fundraiser for Making Strides against Breast Cancer Walk for the American Society was a great success.

This year's bash was held Aug. 3 at the Lillian Community Club. Event organizer and cancer survivor Kay Kay participated in a variety of programs for cancer awareness, but she decided to do a bit more. A long-time bunco player, she thought this would be a great, fun way to help. The first group of 25 raised about \$250; the 2019 group of 120 contributed \$2,700.



*Enjoying the afternoon were from left, Chris Schuster, Nate McGinnis, Taylor Waid, Stevie Kay and Amy Kay. In the photo below are event organizer Kay Kay and JoAnn Gerety.*



OBITUARIES

Frank Gerald Fox

Frank Gerald Fox, 81, of Lillian, died July 22, 2019, at South Baldwin Regional Medical Center in Foley following a brief illness.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Frank and Violet Fox; three sisters, Violet Gray, Pearl Murphy and Ethel Jones; six brothers, Buddy Lewis, Norman Lewis, Robert Lewis, Ronald Fox, Leon Fox and Bruce Fox; a daughter, Lisa Marie Fox; spouses, Reba Stringer and Catherine Fox; and a son-in-law, Ron Griffin.

He is survived by his wife, Sally Fox; six daughters, Sandy Griffin, Debbie Smith (Tommy), Debra Lavin-Martin (Fenton), Dortha Mong, Lisa Smith (David) and Niwana Campbell (Jon); two sons, Frank G. Fox Jr. and Monty Ezell (Brandi); a sister, Jacqueline Johnston (Bill); a brother, Robert Fox (Anita); grandchildren, Phillip Favero (Wendy), Jeffrey Griffin (Rachel), Andrew Lavin (Lindsey), Melinda Smith (Donald), Jennifer Belnap (Steve), Alison Galeski (Tim), Alexander Mong (Olwyn), Brandon Fox, Sabrina Smith (Todd), Jeremy Smith, Tiffany and Peyton Campbell, Vincente Ezell, Alyssa Davis (Jeremy), Emma Ezell and William Blackburn (April); and many great-grandchildren.

He was born August 28, 1937, in Philadelphia, Penn. He attended Ardmore High School and played football there. He served in the United States Navy. He was also a steel worker manager for over 30 years. He was a son, husband, father, bonus dad, brother, PopPop, friend, veteran, and most importantly, a child of God. He loved his family and traveled often to see them. He loved golf, and had other hobbies including bowling, going to movies, reading, helping Sally with gardening and going on cruises with Sally, Jackie and Bill. He brought a lot of love and joy to all and will forever be missed and cherished.

There will be a celebration of life service at 1 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at Lillian United Methodist Church with Rev. Daniel Randall officiating. Interment will be at Barrancas National Cemetery with honors at the Naval Station in Pensacola.

Patricia Koontz

Patricia Lynn Koontz was born Aug. 29, 1946, in New Orleans, La., and passed away Aug. 11, 2019, in Biloxi, Miss.

She was a housewife, a member of the Ladies Auxiliary Post 5658 and loved to play bingo, read, play slots, loved to talk to people and be with her family.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Jessie Lou Cotton; her father, George Elvin Behrends; and her sisters, Michele J. Kern and Christina Smith. Survivors include her soulmate and husband of 40 years, Donald W. Koontz Sr.; two daughters, Cynthia H. Adams (Timothy E. Adams) and Barbara Hilton; two stepdaughters, Donna Woerner (Robert Hall) and Diedre Cowart (Al Cowart); two stepsons, Donald Koontz Jr. and David Koontz (Judy); 15 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held Aug. 25 at the VFW in Elberta. In lieu of flowers, the family is asking donations be made in her name to Autism Society of Alabama, 4260 Cahaba Heights Court, Suite 188, Birmingham 35243.

Stephen Sas Jr.

Stephen Sas Jr. passed away Aug. 17, 2019, at his home in Lillian. He was born in Saginaw, Mich., to Stephen and Anna Kockan Sas. He attended Hess and Webber Schools, received his GED in the military and later took a two -year college study.

He joined the Marine Corp in August 1945. His enlistment took him from Parris Island in South Carolina, a tour of duty in China, then on to Ewa, Hawaii. He later was sent back to Cherry Pointe, N.C., as a staff sergeant. He later went on duty in Detroit, Mich., at the beginning of the Korean War. At this time he met and married his wife Ruth C. Makl in October 1950 and they immediately started their family. In 1953 he was reassigned to Squadron 533 at Cherry Pointe, where he was promoted to technical sergeant and later master sergeant. In 1955 he was assigned as sergeant major in Portsmouth, Va.

After leaving the military, he sold insurance for Mutual of New Portland. He later became manager of Singer Sewing Machine Co. in Traverse City. Later he began working for the State Liquor Control Commission. He retired from there in 1989 with 33 years of service. He and his wife traveled, settling in Lillian, where they built a home in Spanish Cove.

Preceding in death were his wife, Ruth; his parents, Steve and Anna; their first granddaughter, Melissa Miller; five sisters and two brothers. Surviving are his children, Susan Miller and her daughter, Sara; Ruth and Wendall Goldman and their daughters, Brittany and Jona; Stephanie Arch and Steve and Tracy Sas and their children, Taylor and Drew.

A private funeral service was held for immediate family. Burial was at Fort Barrancas Cemetery at the Naval Air Force Station in Pensacola. Wolfe-Bayview Funeral Home, Foley, was in charge of arrangements.



Fox



Koontz



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 Mark Smith at 601-508-0219 or by email at marksmith0824@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**

Miscellaneous

**FOR SALE: Mobile home, 3 bed, 2 full bath, 2 decks, paved driveway, carport, storage building and well, new wood floor, central great room, new carpet in bedrooms, lots of windows, great schools, Elberta school bus pickup 3 houses away. 9535 Redfish Dr., corner of Redfish and CR 20, Plantation Park of Wolf Bay. \$69,000. Rent to own. 251-987-1195 or 251-752-0415.**

**FOR SALE: Tree and lawn sprayer, 100-gallon tank with Hydra-cell pump and 5 hp Briggs motor. 300' of hose with Hanay 12-V retractable reel. Chem-Lawn gun and tree and shrub gun. Skid mounted, fits on pickup truck. 1-251-961-2006. \$750.**

**FOR SALE: 3 cleared lots, 1391-1393 Ridgewood Dr. in Spanish Cove. Woods on 3 sides, all utility connections, storage shed, well plus city water, concrete drive, partially fenced yard. Each lot is 40x80. Ready for mobile or stick built home. No RV or campers. Great amenities, low property taxes and dues. 205-719-9041.**

**FOR SALE: Spear gun, magnum sawed off. New elastics and string. \$150. Call 251-978-2734.**

**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.**

**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.**



Optimist Club Hosts Annual Fashion Show

The women of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay held their annual Luncheon and Fashion Show on July 27 at the Lillian Community Club.

Women's clothing was provided by Cato's in Foley while the men were outfitted by Polo Ralph Lauren in the Tanger Outlet Mall.



The audience as well as the models had fun at the recent Optimist Club fashion show. Going clockwise from the upper left photo are Lorraine Standish, Steve Duckworth, Willie Nell Evans, Kishiia Woodyard, Connie Synco and Julia Stephens and Joyce Pottle and Nena Frias.



Photos by Sally McKinney

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

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 Waide
- 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

(Paid in Advance in Lounge)  
Members: \$10/DAY  
Guest: \$20/DAY  
Located behind LCC



DARTS  
TOURNAMENT  
SATURDAYS 7 P.M.

RUMMAGE SALE

Sale will be  
October 17, 18 & 19

All proceeds from the sale will go to local charities.  
Drop off dates are Wednesday, Sept. 11, 18 & 25 AND  
Wednesday, Oct. 2, 9 & 16 from 9 A.M. to Noon  
No mattresses, TVs or electronic equipment.

Saturday,  
Oct. 5

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.



A good time to shop for Christmas gifts!



It's football time again!  
So come on out on Saturdays  
and watch the games

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

BANDS:

- Gary Story Band - Sept. 1
- Beach Billys - Sept. 6
- Jay Hawkins - Sept. 8
- Big Jake - Sept. 13
- Southern Star - Sept. 15
- Johnny Barbatos - Sept. 20
- Mac Walter & T-Bone - Sept. 22
- Southern Breeze - Sept. 27
- Rock Bottom w/ Rick Carter - Sept. 29

\$5 COVER CHARGE FOR NON-MEMBERS WHEN IN THE HALL

TACO TUESDAY

Sept. 10 & 24  
5 to 6 p.m.

This is the last month

Check our web page for updates to upcoming events.

Also, please like us on our Facebook page.

www.LillianCommunityClub.com  
Prepared by Sandy Fuller