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OCTOBER 2023

Lillian, AL 3654
Volume 27, Number 10

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PROTECTING THE GIFT

Ground Swell Gets Serious About Restoring Perdido Bay Watershed

By Robyn Monaghan

Water quality.
Fish and wildlife.
Environmental health and resilience.

Restoring these gifts of Perdido Bay drew more than 50 to the first public input meeting about a new effort to clean up the ailing Perdido Bay.

“What a jewel we have over here in Lillian,” said Ashley Campbell, Baldwin County Natural Resources Planner.

“Ya’ll live here. Ya’ll love it. Ya’ll can protect it.”

Campbell is among a team of area environmentalists who has been working over the past year to launch the new Western Perdido Bay Watershed Action Committee. A three-member committee of locals - Lucy Smith, Lani Cameron and Mike Cleveland - has been working with the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program to commission a study analyzing the condition of the bay and how to restore it.

“We were very excited about the

turnout,” Cameron said. “Clearly, the people of our community care about our bay.”

Two Lillian neighbors who came out for the Aug. 28 meeting say they hope Perdido Bay can be made clean again so younger generations can en-

joy its water in the future the way they did in the past.

“It used to feel refreshing and good when you got in the water and now it just doesn’t,” she said.

She doesn’t swim in Perdido Bay anymore.

“That’s a major concern getting the water back to a healthy spot my grandchildren can enjoy,” she said.

Ron Robson is thinking about the generations to come too. He sees more and more young couples with children living in Spanish Cove.

“I don’t know if it can happen in my lifetime, but I hope we can restore the bay for our grandchildren and their children,” he said.

The MBNEP awarded the new Western Perdido Bay group \$250,000 of its \$4.3 million grant to commission a study analyzing the ecological health of the bay and to design ways to restore it.

The report, being conducted by engineering firms 5020 Engineering of Foley and Geosyntec, a multi-state corporation, will lay out a strategy for conserving and restoring coastal plants

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



joy its water in the future the way they did in the past.

For Tracy Leitner, it comes down to the feel of it. Her family vacationed in the area for decades before she moved permanently to Lillian. Now her kids and grandkids vacation here with them several times a year.

Zone Ruling Win Goes to Final Vote Oct. 17; Lillian Voters Urged to Attend

Public hearing local ordinances to help prevent higher density was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission on September 7, thanks to the efforts of Lillian activists.

Baldwin County Planning Commission heard our voices and unanimously recommended approval to the Baldwin County Commissioners for final vote. The two most important items we presented for consideration were establishing a new zoning category, RSF-1.5, 0.5 acre minimum lot size for Lillian and Unincorporated Elberta, excluding activity nodes, and reducing manufactured homes maximum from 4 per acre to 3 per acre.

There were many other significant provisions that were also recommended for approval.

Public hearing on local ordinances to help prevent higher density - final vote Tuesday, October 17 at 8:30 a.m. at Fairhope satellite courthouse on the second floor, 1100 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope AL 36532.

* COMPLETE MULLET FEST RESULTS ARE IN! SEE P. 12.

* LETTER TO THE EDITOR: LCC TO VOTE ON SMOKING. SEE P. 17

Membership Drive in Full Swing at Lillian American Legion Post 48

We would like to report that the membership is at 65 percent for the 2024 Fiscal Year. Three months of the membership dues has passed already. Now that the 2024 membership year is upon us we offer a reminder to all Post 48 Legionnaires, if you have not renewed it yet – please do not forget. **WE NEED YOU!**

Post 48 would like to encourage all 1983 Legionnaires (those in the American Legion but do not have a home Post) to consider joining with us. For more information, please contact Wayne Lavallee, Adjutant, at the following email: legionpost48@aol.com **POST 48 WOULD BE HONORED TO HAVE YOU AS PART OF OUR MEMBERSHIP.**

Along with the arrival of new residents in Lillian, and all the returning snowbirds, there are questions regarding the Post 48's Medical Closet, which is maintained by the American Legion, Post 48. One frequently asked question is "what are the costs relative to needed items." The answer is very simple - there is **NO** cost for any requested item. The other question is, "Is this available only to veterans?" Again, the answer is very simple, **NO**. These items can be used by any member of the Lillian community. The Medical Closet contains many items for use by the Lillian community: wheelchairs, hospital beds, raised toilet stools, shower stools, canes and more.

The individuals to contact are as follows: Bill Burns at 251 978-3440 and Darrel Ochs at 251-269-9084. We are very fortunate to have this much needed service and we invite everyone to use it.

Membership applications may be picked up at the American Legion Building next to the Lillian Community Club on Wednesday mornings



Lillian American Legion Post 48

By Wayne B. Lavallee,

between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. from any member, or at any American Legion meeting.

Every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11 a.m. many of our members "drop by" the American Legion Building 48. The building is located next door to the Lillian Community Club, adjacent to the POW/MIA flag. Drop by and join us!

MEDICAL CLOSET: ‘

Post 48 would like to reaffirm to the Lillian Community that the Medical Closet is for all Lillian citizens and there is absolutely no charge. Many items are available for use, such as walkers, hospital beds, toilet items and walkers. The only requirement is the return of said items when no longer needed. Donations are accepted to assist in the maintenance of this valuable commodity’

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Perdido Bay Residents,



Your bay is being used as a dump. International Paper is dumping chemicals into our bay. The water is toxic to larvae and is herbicidal. Testing by Friends of Perdido Bay has demonstrated the toxicity. Our government has not only allowed this to happen but has supported it. No longer do we see shrimp boats or crabbers in our beautiful bay. This million dollar fishery is gone. Paper mills are the problem. Restore Perdido Bay to its once prolific past. Join Friends of Perdido Bay with a \$30.00 annual membership. Send your membership (Name, Address and Telephone Number) to: Friends of Perdido Bay, 38 S. Blue Angel Parkway, PMB 350, Pensacola, FL

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Are You Living in Fear?

The Apostle Paul states for Christians in Romans 8:15, "You did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the spirit of sonship." Yet so many who have accepted Christ as their Lord and Savior live in fear. Anti-ulcer medicines' annual sales are over \$800 million, and one-third of Americans have problems sleeping. Too many live in fear of something tragic happening to them, or worse, someone they love. So, what is the fix for this? The only way to not fear is to know that we can trust Jesus and lean upon His everlasting arms. The Rev. Fulton J. Sheen rightfully stated, "Anxiety increases in direct ratio and proportion as we depart from God." Yes, as we grow in our relationship with Jesus, we learn some important truths. We learn



The Methodist Message

By Rev. Daniel Randall

that we must focus on today and not tomorrow or yesterday. Some of us 'live' crippled by the mistakes of our past. We lay awake at night, reliving past humiliations, anticipating the consequences of past misdeeds, and regretting the tragedy of missed opportunities. Take heart! If you have sincerely confessed your sin to Christ, then trust Him when he says, "Though your sins may be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow." Paul advises us in Philippians 3:13 to "Forget those things that are past." We also learn to forget those things that are yet to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 16



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and animals critical to Perdido Bay's ecosystems that are most threatened by environmental change specifically caused by people. It will focus on freshwater, wetlands, streams, rivers, marshes and flats. These are the types of waterways identified by environmentalists as most at risk from activities like dredging and filling, fragmentation, and sedimentation - all related to urbanization, according to the list of qualifications for the West Perdido Watershed Management.

At the meeting, environmental leaders invited members of the community to rate the importance of six facets of Perdido Bay restoration that concern them most. Those attending placed stickers on pages on the wall to represent their priorities. Here is the way the results break down:

1. Water quality - The coastal community wants water that is drinkable, swimmable, and able to support aquatic and marine life.
2. Fish and wildlife- Fishery resources are val-

ued as an industry, a primary recreational pastime, and a staple of the diets of residents and visitors.

3. Beaches and shorelines - They provide critical edge habitat for aquatic and terrestrial animals and recreational opportunities for people who live here as well as visitors.

4. Environmental health and resilience- The coastal community relies upon coordinated actions to reduce vulnerability to and recover from the range of hazards we face, natural and otherwise.

5. Access- Having access to coastal waters and natural resources is something about which people care deeply.

6. Heritage and culture - Preserving heritage and culture is important to ensure the bountiful waters that have provided such pleasure through our lifetimes will still be available to our grandchildren.

The next community meeting will be at the Lillian Community Club Hall, Lillian, at 6:00 p.m. Oct. 23.

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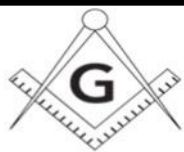
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Masonic Lodge Taking Orders for Boston Butts



Lillian Masonic Lodge is taking orders for 5 to 10 lb Boston Butts effective October 1 for delivery later in the month. Call Jeff Keener at 859-991-4619, or Joe Taylor at 251-753-6225.

OBITUARIES

Gordon Wayne Tumlin, 77, Lillian

It is always difficult saying goodbye to someone we love and cherish. Family and friends must say goodbye to their beloved Gordon Wayne Tumlin of Lillian, Alabama, born in Chelsea, Alabama, who passed away at the age of 77, on August 20, 2023. He was predeceased by his parents, Curtis Tumlin and Louise Tumlin; and his siblings, Lamar Tumlin, Mark Tumlin, Faye Tumlin and Sheila Tumlin Scott.

He is survived by his wife Elizabeth; his daughters, Leslie Tumlin Morgan (John), Christy Tumlin Kiley and Stephanie Tumlin Phillips (Craig); his grandchildren, Gavin Haynes, John Dakota Morgan (Kyndall), Dalton Morgan, Madison Kiley Reynolds (Will), Anna Grace Morgan, Lauren Phillips, Emma Phillips and Olivia Phillips; and his great grandchildren, Kamryn Morgan, Kennedy Morgan, Declan Morgan, Demi Morgan and Camden Reynolds.

Florence Wabnitz, 90, Lillian AL

Florence Wabnitz of Lillian, Alabama, born in Fayetteville, Ohio, passed away Aug. 15, 2023, at the age of 90.

She was predeceased by her parents, Eunice Louiso and Julius Louiso and her husband Eugene Wabnitz. She is survived by her children, Teresa (Ed), Jason (late Patty) and Dale (Holly); and her sisters, Priscilla and Patricia. She is also survived by grandchildren, great grandchildren, extended family and friends. Memorial donations may be made to St. Maria Goretti in Florence's name.

Steven J. Robert, 77, Lillian AL

Steven J. Robert, 77, of Lillian, Alabama, died on July 30, 2023, at home. He was the husband of Dolores Gonzales, his wife of 4 years. He was preceded in death by his wife of 48 years, Andree (Garceau) Robert, and daughter Lisa Ann Robert. Born in 1946 in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, he was the son of the late Eugene and Leona (Thibodeau) Robert.

Steve is a Veteran of the Vietnam War. He was drafted in 1965 and served honorably in the Army for two years. After the war, Steve returned to Woonsocket and married his high school sweetheart, Andree, in 1967. Steve and Andree had two children together. In 1981, Steve and his family moved to Huntington Beach, California where he enjoyed a successful career as a Financial Advisor and Insurance Salesman.

Later in life, Steve discovered a passion for Harley-Davidson motorcycles and boating. He loved the open road, traveling in his RV, and visiting friends and loved ones across the country. Steve's winning smile and sense of humor endeared him to many, and he cherished the numerous friendships he formed throughout his life.

Besides his wife, Steve is survived by his son, Steven M. Robert and his wife Zoe Robert of Los Angeles, California. He is also survived by his brother, Richard Robert of Hartford, Wisconsin, and two sisters, Claire Nadeau of North Kingstown, Rhode Island, and Julie Chasse of Franklin, Tennessee. He was the brother of the late David, James, and John Robert. Steve is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and extended family members. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him.

**Margo Koelling Painter, 71, Lillian AL**

Margo Koelling Painter, 71, of Lillian, Alabama, born in Des Plaines, Illinois passed away Aug. 14, 2023. Family and friends are welcome to leave their condolences on this memorial page and share them

with the family. She is survived by : her son James S. Painter, III; her daughter-in-law Ashley Painter; her grandson James Hawkins Painter; her sisters, Cheryl Skinner (Stephen Zullo) and Samantha Skin-

ner (Evan Faulkner); and her son Bryan Skinner.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Pink Butterfly Foundation, Inc. <https://funraise.org>.

DEATH NOTCES**BILL HAYDEN**

2673 Pine Ridge Dr., Lillian,
AL 36549
Passed away
Thursday, August 24

SHEILA CLEMENS

Formerly of Spanish Oak Drive
passed away Friday, Sept.
in Wisconsin.

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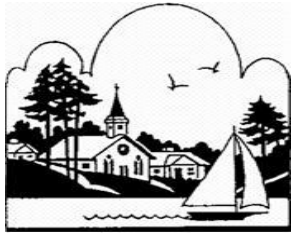
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The Lillian

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ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The Lillian newspaper is a monthly publication. Advertisements may be dropped off at the Lillian Perdido Bay Library, mailed to *The Lillian* at PO Box 1088, Lillian, AL 36549 or emailed to lillianeditor@yahoo.com

Advertisement inquiries can be directed to Julie McManus at 703-217-2874 (cell) during the business hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ADVERTISING SIZES

Full page = 10" wide x 11.5" tall
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 1/4 Page = 5" wide x 5.5" tall
 1/8 Page = 5" wide x 2.75" tall

Business Card = 3.5" wide x 2" tall

Classified = maximum of 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 our staff have any questions.

No letters will be accepted regarding property owner associations' problems. All letters must be legible and limited to 300 words or less.

ARTICLE OR OBITUARY INFORMATION

We gladly accept news and information from the community. Please

submit by:

- Mail to PO Box 1088, Lillian, AL 36549
- Email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com
- Drop off at Lillian Perdido Bay Library

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.

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

DEADLINES AND CONTACTS

The deadline for the November issue of *The Lillian* will be October 18.

Anyone may send an email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com for information on articles and news.

Call Julie McManus at 703-217-2874 or email chewlatta@yahoo.com for advertising information.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Executive Editor: Sally McKinney
 Managing Editor: David Monaghan
 Board Members: Nancy Scott, Gloria Cramp, Jackie Reid, Florence McLendon, Tammy Robinson.

LILLIAN ACTION COMMITTEE

President: Sally McKinney, Vice President Jackie Reid, Secretary: Nancy Scott, Treasurer: Florence McLendon, Board Members Gloria Cramp, Tammy Robinson and David Monaghan.

The Happiness Project

LILLIAN PERDIDO BAY LIBRARY

In this installment of the HAPPINESS PROJECT series, we continue exploring some of the community organizations that use volunteers. This month we are focusing on the Lillian Perdido Bay Library, a volunteer-run library located at 34081 Ickler Avenue.

Remember, volunteering is one of the most powerful ways you can make a difference, help others, and, as research studies show, even make yourself happier! Join us each month as we explore the benefits of voluntarism, spotlight area volunteers, and highlight local organizations that could use your help

Snuggled at the corner of Ickler and Library Streets, just southeast of the Lillian Community Center, sits the Lillian Perdido Bay Library. Known as "the little library with big small town hospitality," the Library houses over 18,000 books and has 5 computers and 2 printers available for public use.

Volunteers are an important piece of the library. "We currently have 17 volunteers who work two hours a week, checking books in and out, making sure the shelves are straightened and that books are in their proper place," said Betty Bovat, Library board president.

She commented that volunteering at the Library would be a great experience for anyone who is looking for an excuse to get out of the house and get involved in the community. The two-hour shifts are easy, and some don't require standing. Computer expertise isn't necessary, either.

The Library is more than just a hub of information with lots of books and computers. It is also a place where people can gather to explore subjects of interest and interact with each other.

To this end, Betty and the board would love to expand the Library's programming and consider adding programs like a children's or other special interest program. If this concept intrigues you, Betty would love to talk with you about it.

2023 marks the 30th anniversary of the Library. They will host an anniversary celebration on October 1, from 2:00 to 4:00. Come for refreshments and a tour and stay to explore how you can become involved at the Library.

The Library is open 5 days a week, 10-2 Tuesday through Thursday, and 10-12 on Friday and Saturday. Call Betty Bovat, 251-962-4700, if you would like more information or to volunteer.





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When you get a bunch of guys together, chances are the conversation turns to either sports or cars. Today we're going to talk about cars and it's not just for guys. We gals like those hunky cars, too, especially if one of our loved ones is driving.



**Just a
Thought or
Two**

By Sally McKinney

When I was much younger, we had an Austin Healey Sprite. Even though we had two small kids and another on the way, we were able to pack us all in. What fun! After we moved to Lillian we got an MG Midget. Almost a twin of the Austin, it was still a thrill to put the top down and breeze along the beach highway, free as birds!

This month you'll have an opportunity to see all kinds of special cars at the annual Lillian Methodist Men's "Best of Class" Car Show on Saturday, Oct. 28. It won't just be those minis we had, but all kinds of special favorites from the past.

Last year's winner was Cleo Conn's 1939 Cadillac. You could probably put our two oldie but goodies in that one. Maybe they'll have one of those beautiful Packards my Dad used to prefer. I remember tooling around Colorado Springs with him in his 1950 model.

It's amazing how things have changed in the car field. Can you imagine what it will look like in the future with the electric cars coming on the market? No more talk about miles per gallon, but how many hours to the charge.

Well, we don't have to worry about EVs yet. This month you can concentrate on the past, not what might happen in the future. The show will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the beautiful pecan grove at Lillian Methodist Church on Perdido Street at the corner of US Highway 98.

Trophies will be given to the top three cars in each class, Pre-1939, 1950-59, 1960-73, 1974-89, 1990-2005, 2006-23 and imports. Other awards include Best of Show, Pastor's Choice, Best GM, Best Ford, Best Truck, Best Interior, Best Engine, Best Paint and Most Unusual.

Of course, it's not all about the cars because a delicious barbeque meal will be available from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. It will include a whopper sized pulled pork sandwich, baked beans, home-made potato salad and a beverage for only \$10! In addition, there will be music and vendors, a 50/50 drawing, Spark Plug Toss and door prizes.

Sounds like another very special day in Lillian. See y'all there. I hope I won't drip BBQ sauce all over everything. Yummmmm!

Masonic Lodge 925 Hosts Fundraisers

Worshipful Master Joseph Taylor announced a Boston Butt Fundraiser for the Lillian Masonic Lodge #925 for the month of October. Orders for the Boston Butt's will be taken over the course of the month with the delivery of butts on November 8. A second Boston Butt October fundraiser is also being planned and advertised in The Lillian monthly newspaper (see page 3).

The typical 8 to 10 pound Boston Butt will be delivered de-boned and pulled ready for serving. The cost to purchase will be \$40.

To order a Boston Butt, please call Jeff Keener at 251-210-9081 or 251-210-9081. Payment is required in advance. Payment may be in cash, check or online. The Boston Butts will be available for pick-up on Wednesday, November 8 at 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Lodge (12600 South Perdido Street, Lillian, AL 36549). Delivery of the order may be arranged for a \$5 delivery fee.

The Lillian Masonic Lodge #925 meets the first and third Tuesday monthly at the Lodge in Lillian. Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m. Local Masons and those interested in learning more about becoming a Mason are encouraged to join us. For more info call Worshipful Master Joseph Taylor at 251-753-6225 or 251-962-4301.

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Community Calendar

October 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 7:00 PM - ALANON meeting in the conference room, at Lillian Methodist Church, located at 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL.

October 5, 12 & 19 at 10:00 AM - Ageless Grace (Exercise for the Body & Brain), at Lillian Methodist Church, located at 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL. For more information contact Sharyon Miller at 850-221-8630. (No class on 10/26)

October 14 at 8:00 AM - Join Perdido Bay Optimist Club for a Free Breakfast at the Lillian Community Club and help us Induct our New leadership for the 2023/2024 Year! (No Reservation Needed & Guests eat for Free!)

October 19 from 1:00 -3:00 PM - Dementia Education Forum & Caregiver Support Group with guest speaker Leslie D. Provis, Social Worker, Clinic Coordinator at West Florida Memory Disorder Clinic, at Lillian Methodist Church, located at 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL. For more information contact Sharyon Miller at 850-221-8630.

October 26 -28 from 8 AM -2 PM - Trash & Treasure Sale at Lillian Methodist Church, located at 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL.

October 28 at 8:00 AM - Join Perdido Bay Optimist Club for a Free Breakfast at the Lillian Community Club and hear Baldwin County Sheriff Hoss Mack share an update on the Baldwin County Sheriff's Department. (No Reservation Needed & Guests eat for Free!)

October 28 from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM – Annual Car Show and BBQ at Lillian Methodist Church, located at 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL. BBQ sold from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

October 31 – Community Trunk-R-Treat at the Lillian Recreational Park, 5:30 – 6:30 PM, Tons of Treats, Hotdog, chips & drinks, Sponsored by The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay & Lillian Recreational Park. If you are willing to bring your vehicle and pass out candy, please call/text 251-234-1122 to register your vehicle. We will park and set up vehicles by 4:45 PM.



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High-Density Battle Wages On

Tuesday, October 17, 2023, at 8:30am, Local Ordinances Text Amendments TA-23001 for Lillian and Unincorporated Elberta. The public hearing will be conducted during the regular meeting of the Baldwin County Commission, scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2023, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at the Baldwin County Fairhope Satellite Courthouse, County Commission Meeting Chambers-2nd Floor, 1100 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope, AL 36532. Now entering the final stretch! Significant impact to the future of our community, preventing sprawl/improving drainage requirements/setting minimum lot size ... Rural Character!

Utmost importance to have a *large turnout of our residents at this meeting to influence the County Commissioners that we want a new zoning category, RSF-1.5, 0.5-acre minimum lot size, 2 houses per acre and no more!* Mark your calendars, attend, bring others, PLEASE! Email me with your vote of support for Amendments TA23-001!

CRAIN RV PARK CSP23-28

Postponed by applicant request to October 17, 8:30 am, same location in Fairhope as stated above for TA23-0001.

Application Z23-31 Rezone from Rural Agricultural to RSF-4, 7,500 sq. ft. lots, at Barclay and 98 was recommended for denial to the County Commissioners.

Complete Construction Car Wash/Retail Space was approved with conditions at the August meeting. The commission site plan is good for 1-year, meaning they have 1-year to obtain the building permit. B-4 is



Keeping it Country

By Tracey
Gambill

current zoning for this location ... car wash/retail space is allowed in that category at 29914 U.S. Highway 98, Elberta, AL 36530, Wally's Wash World.

ALDOT Traffic study results coming soon at US 98 and CR 91 to determine if reduced speed limit advisory signs are appropriate or other options as necessary.

Flashing beacon for the **Lillian Volunteer Fire Department** at the entrance of US Hwy 98 from Santa Pedro Street remains in progress.

FLOODING ISSUES ongoing examination.

WONDERS: Now forming a committee of local citizens to volunteer to begin addressing our **infrastructure** needs. Please submit your number one issue. Please contact me if you wish to be on the committee. So far we have two volunteers and need an additional four.

Wonder who they will be?

NATURAL WONDERS: A cat's purr is the sound of love. I, for one, am grateful to be here. I will keep you updated in The Lillian each month ... please consider subscribing! Do you have a natural wonder you would like to share? Please submit your natural wonders to my email below

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Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Slates Yard Sale

If you are feeling that fall air, it means the annual yard sale at Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church is right around the corner.

This year the sale will be a one-day event on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 7 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The yard sale will offer a variety of items, including, clothes, furniture, bedding, tools, household items, pictures, picture frames, shoes, purses, and many other assorted items.

The public is invited to the church fellowship room to shop, and purchase items at a very reasonable rate.

A donation box for non-perishable food items to help stock our community food pantry will be provided. Please consider bringing an item or two to help fill the box.

Proceeds from the sale supports our outreach missions.

Please contact Sally Smith at 850-293-7914 if you need additional information regarding the article.

LILLIAN METHODIST MEN'S 2023 'BEST OF CLASS' CAR SHOW SATURDAY OCT. 28-8 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Event held in the beautiful pecan grove of Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 South Perdido St., Lillian AL 36549



2022 'BEST OF SHOW': 1939 CADDY, CLEO CONN, LILLIAN

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Weekly Bible Study Opportunities:

Wed. 5:30 pm: Dinner

Adult prayer meeting in the FLC

Children Grades: K-5 Bible Activities

Youth Grades 6-12 Bible Study & Activities

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Worship Leader: Beverly Thompson

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The Baldwin County Council on Aging offers a FREE service called the Vial of Life Program that may be particularly helpful for those with a complex medical history. Through the Vial of Life program, first responders will have all critical and essential information at their fingertips. A red Vial of Life decal is placed on the front door of the residence making it visible to first responders.

A second Vial of Life decal is placed on a Ziploc bag, containing complete medical information. The bag is then placed on the refrigerator door for easy access and viewing. Information First Responders need to know: • What is your name? • What medications are you currently taking? • What illnesses do you have? • Who is your emergency contact? • What is your normal blood pressure? • Are you wearing any hearing or seeing devices? • Additionally, hospital staff will need information related to insurance coverage. For more information, or to schedule a presentation for a group or organization about the Vial of Life Program please call the Baldwin County Council on Aging at 251-972-8506

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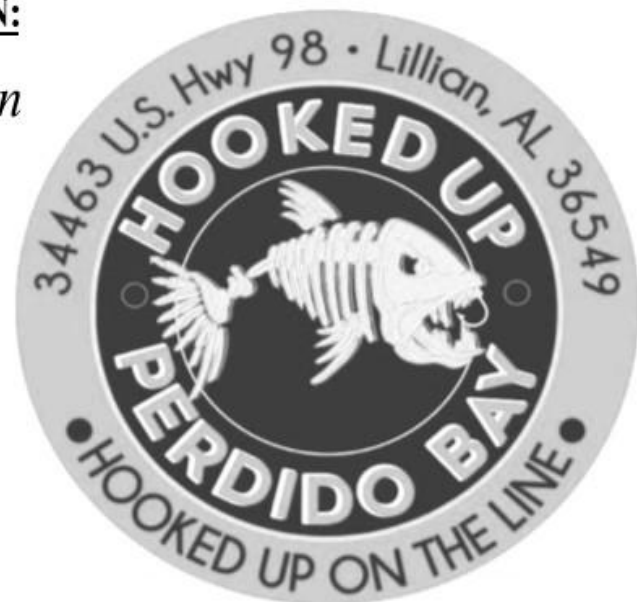
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Another Mullet Fest in the Books!

The 37th Annual Mullet Festival on Labor Day presented by the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay is just a memory. For some it meant traveling home with medals from competitions or cash from raffles.

John Horner was the winner of the \$500 raffle, Patty Veal gained \$100 and Kathy Keener, \$50. Carol Haley was the 50/50 winner.

Ninety-four participated in the 5K Run/Walk. Male Overall Winners were First Place John Parson; second Tony Ferguson and third, Mark Carroll. Female Overall Winners were First Place Natalie Toellner, second Haven Spruiell and third, Sabrina Scotter.

Masters Award winners were Male Overall winner, Brad Davis and Female Overall, Kelly Wallace. Grand Masters winners were Ken Cameron and Cynda Fickert. Senior Grand Masters were David Toellner and Joycelyn Craig.

Male winners in the 15-19 age group were Ben Anthony, first place and Will Anthony, second place. Female winner in the 20-24 age group was Kathryn Armstrong and 30-34 age group were Taylor Smith, first place; Kelley Miller, second place and Crystal King Wallner, third place.

Age Group 29-34 Female winners were Sara Jane Nisewonger, first place and Shannon Booker, second place. Male winners were Stephen Smith, first place and Ricky Gale, second place. Male winners in the 45-49 age group were Stuart Bolen, first; Aaron Fund, second and Chris Manley, third.

In the Female Age Group 50-54, Cathy Mickelson took first place. In the men's 50-54, Phillip Anthony was first. Winners in the Female Age Group 55-59 were Paula Gonzales, first; Ann Marie Sutter, second and Linda Odom, third. Men's winners 55-59 were Mack Cuttita, first; William Armstrong, second and Pete Meyer, third.

Female Age Group 60-64 winners were Jody Horner, first and Joann Milford, second. Male winners were Ron Renfro, first; Tracey S. Levins, second and Danny Fischer, third. Female Age Group 65-69 winner was Maureen Higgins and Male winners were Michael Bailey, first; Ricky Martin, second and Mike Pate, third.

Female Age Group 70-74 winners were Lynn Ruehl, first and Lucille Willis, second. Male winners were Norman Thomas, first, Dominick Vaccaro, second and Theodore L. Haley, third. Age Group 75-79 winners were Sandra Meyers and John McCabe, both first place winners. Winners in the 80-89 Male Age Group were Robert Hall, first; Lee Echols, second and Phil Bohan, third.

Walker awards winners were Male Overall, Bob Bath, first; Bob Matheson, second and Scott Russell, third. Women winners were Bonnie Ketterman, first; Mary Morton, second and Dawn Trecartin, third. Age Group winners were Female 50-64 Sherry Smith, first; Roxanne Gregory, second and Stacey Haley, third. Age Group 65-99 Jeanne Baxter, first and Jamie Klein, second. Male walkers 65-99 Bob Rieser, first.

Fun Run winners were Brantley Becker, first; Patricia Veal, second and Gemma Becker, third.

Mullet Toss Female Overall winner was Sarah Jane Nisewonger and male winner was Nick Smith. Female Age Level winners, 4 year olds, Serenity Boling; 6 year olds, Lilly Nisewonger; 7 year olds, Gemma Becker; 9 year olds, Joan Price; 11 year olds, Maleia Mixon; 12 year olds, Addison Colvard; 15 year olds, Kaileah Baker; 16 year olds Hartley Gunderson; 17 year olds, Maiya Gause.

Also 28 to 37 year olds, Sarah Jane Nisewonger; 38 to 47 year olds, Myranda Rogers; 48 to 57 year olds, Wendy Godwin; 58 to 67 year olds, Patricia McVeal and 68 to 77 year olds, Kay Kay.

Male Age Level winners were 5 year olds, Alex Blocker; 6 year olds, Tobias Davis; 8



year olds, Lleyton Spivey; 9 year olds, Cooper Mixon; 11 year olds, Keon Mullins; 13 year olds, Brycen McDonald; 14 year olds, Terrance West; 15 year olds, John Zirlott; 16 year olds, Kevin Jones; 17 year olds, Nick Smith.

And 18 to 27 year olds, Benny Woods; 28 -37 year olds, Doug. C.; 38 to 47 year olds, Gene Spivey; 48 to 57 year olds, Jessie Baker; 58 to 67 year olds, David Toellner; 46 to 77 year olds, Doug Hudman and Dennis Hammer.

The Optimist Club thanks all who made this important event successful, especially the sponsors: This year's sponsors are DIAMOND LEVEL: Floors 2000; PLATINUM LEVEL: Baldwin County Sewer Service, Elberta Animal Hospital, Hadley Termite & Pest Control, Johnson Communications, Lillian Methodist Church, Moore Fasteners & More, Perdido Grading & Paving, Pirates Cove; GOLD LEVEL: Perdido Bay Water, S&FPD; SILVER LEVEL: Allen Turner HYUNDAI, Evans Automotive Service Center, FASTSIGNS, Greer's Cash Saver #6, Lillian Family Dentistry, Lillian Veterinary Hospital, M.B. Bill Jones Tax & Bookkeeping Service; BRONZE LEVEL: Acentria Insurance, Alabama Container Company LLC, Alabama Credit Union, Baldwin Optical, Bobe's Garage, Sheila & Dodd Bouchillon, Cason Funeral Service, Chubby's Pizzeria, Coldwell Banker Coastal Realty, Dans3DPrintShop, Elberta Pharmacy, Elberta Pump Repair Inc., Episcopal Church of the Advent, Betty & Dick Erwin, Fisherman's Corner, Florida Title, Freeman Collision LLC, Gene's Dozer Service, Gruenloh Hardy & Associates PC, Gulf Shores Title Company Inc., Kammer Chiropractic, Lillian Pharmacy, Pine Rest Funeral Home, Riviera Utilities, Schoen Heating & Air, Scott's Marine Inc., Nancy & Doug Scott, Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church, Sheriff Hoss Mack, Tom Sweetser, United Bank, Wolf-Bayview Funeral Homes; FRIENDSHIP LEVEL: ACE Hardware of West Pensacola, Bay RV Sales, Crazy Horse Café, Judge Harry D'Olive, Jr., Elberta Clinic PC, Garnet & Al Eubanks, G & J's Power Equipment Inc., Hamby's Kitchen Center, Kaechele Motor Co, KANE-9 Pet Supplies & Training, Kovacs Accounting Service, Lillian Pet Lodge, Lillian Chevron & Mini Storage, Lillian Fellowship Church, Lillian Tire Shop, Vickie & Kendall Loper, Mack Funeral Home Inc., New Mt. Marriah Baptist Church, Property Owners of Spanish Cove, Sharper Knives 4U, South Baldwin Podiatry, St. Joseph Catholic Church, Sterling Tree Services Inc., Wendy Vix CRNP, Warner Realty, Lamar Wiggins Builders, LLC and District Attorney Robert Wilters.

To learn more about the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay and all the services and programs provided for are children, teens, schools and community check out our website at: www.OptimistClubPB.org

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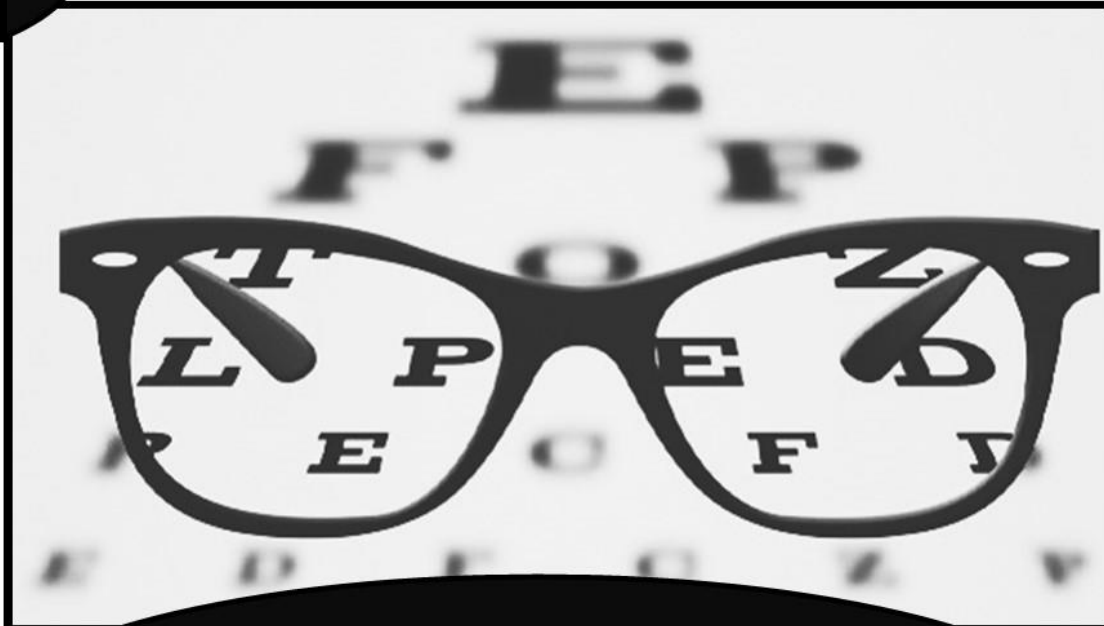


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Oct. Marks Anniversary for Library

Sometimes this paper gets to you before the beginning of the month, so if it reaches you before October 1, you are invited to our 30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION at the Lillian Perdido Bay Library from 2 to 4 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. In any case, we will be celebrating our 30th Anniversary on Oct. 1, 2023, from 2 a.m. to 4 p.m. The update on that will be in the November paper.



Lillian Perdido
Bay Library
Corner
By Betty

The vinyl sign, Lillian Perdido Bay Library, is up on our front lawn. Our plans are to replace it with a large significant sign. We have asked for public donations for help and have received some generous donations. Our mailing address is: Lillian Perdido Bay Library, P.O. Box 237, Lillian, AL 36549.

This library is a total donation library. We do not receive any monies from the state, county or federal government. We are also a total volunteer library. Please call the library at: 251-962-4700 if you are at all interested in volunteering. Our thanks to our newest young volunteer, Annabelle Martin, an eighth grader, honor student and doing community work.

Our opening hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Several new members, new to the community, have had a tour of the library, received a library card and even used it to check out some books and other materials. We look forward to many new members this fall.

We have a lovely map of Baldwin County included in a special spot with books that may be checked out, along with magazines and pamphlets that can be taken home. There is a computer room with five computers and two printers, for public use, for a small donation. We do have a larger printer that copies, scans and faxes and a volunteer will help you there.

We truly do appreciate each and every one of you, and feel so fortunate to be able to provide services to our community.

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Surprising How Much We Don't Know

Do most of us think that Earth is the most important orb in the sky, strutting along in the universe like a proud peacock?

You might have changed your tune if you saw the photo taken by a European Space Agency craft from the surface of Mars. Our planet, located 186 million miles from Mars, appeared as a small white dot in black space with our moon a blur next to it.

Our closest planet is Venus, located 162 million miles from Earth. It is considered Earth's twin because of its proximity, close in size, weight about the same and is made of the same stuff as our planet. Unfortunately, that is where the similarities stop. Venus lacks the ocean water and life that Earth has and the atmosphere is 100 percent thicker which holds in the heat of the sun to unbearable degrees. Because of this heavy atmosphere the second planet from the sun is even hotter than the planet closest to the sun, Mercury. Being in third place, in Earth's case, seems to be the best placement.

Our sun won't last forever but it may have about eight or so billion years of life left to go. A star explodes into a supernova at its death knell because of changes in its core. Then its light goes out forever.

Did you know the planet names come from Greek and Roman gods of mythology? Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Neptune and our dwarf planet, Pluto are Roman. Uranus is Greek and Earth's name is derived from English and German meaning ground. Now, if you get this question in a trivia game, you'll be a winner.

Did you know that the prefrontal cortex is not fully developed in children until they are in their mid-twenties? Why is this an important fact to know, especially for teenagers who think they know everything? Because this cortex is responsible for rational decision-making. Kids react to emotion rather than rationalization because they don't have enough life experience to make a connection between cause and effect. Perhaps society shouldn't expect kids to make life changing decisions until they are at least 25. Even then, I'm not sure it is long enough with some people. Nowadays common sense is not encouraged but non-sense is. Acting on emotion only has become the norm. If this trend continues, we are all going to be sorry.

Much of the violent crime is done by individuals who flare to their anger and act on it like psychotic two-year-olds. They don't have the first clue about rationalization because they never were taught and they don't know how to deal with their emotions. Is their prefrontal cortex stunted?

A bit of FYI: New Orleans sinks over eight feet every fifty years. The city is already below sea level. Maybe someday it will disappear under the sea like Atlantis. You never know.

"Observe how system into system runs, / What other planets circle other suns." Alexander Pope, An Essay on Man.

Cancer Victim's Benefit Slated For October 21 at Johnny B's Front Porch

Cancer, that ugly disease that's very destructive, and hard to eradicate. This community has been an important blessing to Ronnie Williams. Ronnie is a young male 14 years old who has already had his leg and hip amputated and now battling areas in both of his lungs. He has just returned from Vanderbilt after having surgery to remove several spots on his lungs. He is now going to be having more chemo on those areas that could not be removed. This young man has a heart of gold and an attitude that is simply amazing with what he's having to go through. We wanted to update you on his progress and ask for your continued prayers for Ronnie and also for all people who are having to deal with this terrible disease called cancer. Cancer affects not only the individual but also the family and friends. There will be a benefit for Ronnie and his family on October 21 at The Front Porch. Any business or individual that would like to donate auction items or volunteer to help that day would be greatly appreciated. More info at 251-223-4014.



Bits and Pieces

By Jackie Reid





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OCTOBER EVENTS:

**Dementia Education Forum & Caregiver
Support Group October 19 at 1 PM**

**Trash-&-Treasure Yard Sale
October 26-28 8 AM - 2 PM
Hotdogs, Chips & Drinks October 26 & 27**

**Annual Car Show & BBQ Sale
October 28 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
BBQ from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

REACHING OUT WITH GOD'S LOVE
SINCE 1980

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

come. There are so many of us who are missing the joy of living in the present because mentally we are stranded in the past or occasionally lost in the future. Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount: "Do not be anxious about tomorrow...each day has enough trouble of its own." Who knows what tomorrow may bring? Jesus also teaches us to focus on the things we can control rather than those we can't. Instead of obsessing over what we have no control over, we should focus on the legitimate responsibilities that we do have, and that we do have some control over. It is impossible to do constructive work and have destructive worry at the same time. When faced with those things beyond our control, we should relax and say, "I've done all I can do. The rest is beyond my control! I'm giving it to you God! Then we must supply faith, by trusting God, knowing that He holds each of our lives in the palm of His hand. God is faithful! Decide to focus on your trust in Him, and not on your fear! Corrie Ten Boom and her sister Betsie were imprisoned and brutally treated in the Nazi concentration camp 'Ravensbrook' during WW2. Before dying there, Betsie said to Corrie, "If ever you get out of this place, go and tell the world that no matter how deep the pit, Christ is deeper still." If your trust is in the Lord Jesus Christ, and your eternity is secured in heaven, then you have nothing to fear! Dear reader, if you are not saved and you have not accepted Christ Jesus as Lord and Savior, you can settle this today. Confess now to Jesus that you are a sinner and ask Him to save you from your sin. Then commit your life to Him and get involved in a local church that follows God's Word. This will help you grow in Christ. Decide to focus on faith and not fear! Forget about yesterday, and tomorrow, and focus on today. Work on those things that you can control, not those you can't. Do the best you can and entrust the rest to God. Think of God's goodness and His power rather than the frailties of your own flesh. You do not have to be enslaved to your fears any longer. You do not have to be afraid. Let God help you break those chains with a new spirit of love, peace, trust, hope, and joy!

Trunk or Treat



OCTOBER 31

5:30-6:30 PM

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RECREATIONAL PARK

33914 Widell Avenue, Lillian, AL 36549

HOT DOGS, CHIPS & DRINK

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Your Vote Can Help Our Community Become Healthier

The Lillian Community Club (LCC) allows smoking in the Lounge (bar) side but not in the Hall side. Unfortunately, even in the Hall side you can smell smoke. Smoking cigarettes causes health problems. If folks want to make themselves sick in their own home that is their business. However, these secondhand smoke facts from the Center from Disease Control don't lie:

of exposure to secondhand smoke.

In adults who do not smoke, secondhand smoke exposure can cause coronary heart disease, stroke, lung cancer, and other diseases.

The effects of secondhand smoke exposure on the body are immediate and can produce harmful inflammatory and respiratory effects with 60 minutes of exposure that can last for at least three hours after ex-

posure.

Many people in the community don't go to the club anymore and have dropped their membership because of the smell of smoke in the Lounge and the Hall.

There will be an important SMOKE/NO SMOKE vote of the members at the LCC general membership meeting on October 12, 7:00 p.m.

The vote requires a two thirds majority of those members "in good stand-

ing" in attendance at the meeting, which means if you want to vote you must have joined the LCC before September 26. If you are a member, do something good for your community, join the LCC and VOTE NO SMOKING.

It is time to vote for a healthier community for all.

Robin Newell
Member, LCC



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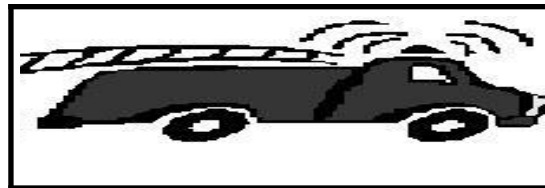
DAVID ABERCROMBIE
REALTOR
251-424-5305

Lillian Volunteers Rally for Annual Meet Oct. 2; Launch Donor Mailing

The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department responded to 82 calls dispatched by the 911 operators in August: 46 Medical Assistance; 7 Public Assists; 8 Motor Vehicle Accidents/Clean up; 0 Brush Fire; 0 Structure Fire; 7 Cancelled en route; 11 False Alarm/Miscellaneous; and 3 Aircraft Standby.

Just a reminder - the fiscal year for LVFD ended September 30. Once again we will be having our Annual General Membership and Election of the LVFD Board of Directors. Some of the board member's current terms are expiring and up for renewal and vote. This meeting is open to all Lillian residents and we would appreciate your attendance to vote in new board members. At this time, we are looking for possibly one or two new members to participate on the board. This is a great way to be involved in the community and give the board a new prospective in handling many of the decision/objectives and to help provide a positive direction for the future of the department. You do not need any previous experience just an open mind and a positive outlook. The Annual meeting will take place at: 11331 Co. Rd. S on October, 2 at 6:30 p.m. and the general board meeting will follow at the usual time of 7 p.m.

We would also like to mention, October 1 is the beginning of our 2024 fiscal year and our annual solicitation letters will be mailed out during the month of October. The mailing addresses will be provided by Baldwin 911. However, as of previous years, some of the addresses may not be accurate due to residents moving. The envelopes will read the name provided and 'Current Resident'. In the situation that you don't receive a letter, we will provide a mailing form each month through the Lillian Paper-as provided (right), or you can go on line to 'Lillian Fire Rescue' and make a payment on line. The amount requested will be the same as previous years: Residents \$75 and Businesses \$150. All your



Lillian Volunteer Fire Department

By Goretta Lysek

contributions are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

These donations go toward the acquisition of medical equipment, fuel and the upkeep of the stations.

Last year we hit an all time record and we want to sincerely thank each of you for your generous donations.

LVFD would like to remind all Lillian residents and surrounding areas that the BURN BAN starts May 1 and ends October 31.

Membership Registration Form 2023-2024

Please Print

Name _____

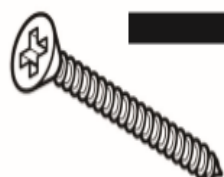
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Mailing Address _____

If Different from your 911 Address)

Phone # _____

The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department 11331 County Road 91 S Lillian, AL 36549



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CHIT CHAT

Chit Chat is a column for you. Take this opportunity to brag a little, share a little, and have fun with birthdays, anniversaries, vacations, grandchildren and family visits.

Happy birthday wishes in October go out to: Sally McKinney, Florence McLendon, Elsie Bailey, Barbara Parks, Ward Jensen, Stan

Fertig, Jeylin Showers, Kailey Scott, Jean Dean, Diana Hartley, Frances Campbell, Mike Russell, Dave Westwood III, Darrell Williams, Karen Tobey, Bill Sepac, Ted Chapman, Marc Willard, Tom Canaday, Chuck Estes, Pat Kupferer, Marvin Cain, Bill Weaver, Jim Crandall, Don Simmons, Barbara Gengerke, Freda Bass, Mar-

sha Morrissey, Roland Kasper, Diane Willard, Paulette Joffrion, Bob Tobey, Mary Beth Majesty, Judy Cain, Keith Brown, Jayke Pell, Jerry Garner, Ruth Moreland and Billy Bonner.

Celebrating wedding anniversaries in October are Mike and Donna Cobb, Art and Joan Schuck, Earl and Helen Paschke

1958, Charlie and Wilma Spivey 1975 and Ed and Faith Dowd 1997.

If you would like to add or delete information from the Chit Chat column, please email lillianeditor@yahoo.com, mail it to The Lillian, P.O. Box 1088, Lillian, 36549 or place a note in our folder at Lillian Perdido Bay Library.

The deadline for the November issue of The Lillian is October 18.

FRIENDS of ZION



Bible Verses

But these are written, that you might believe that Yeshua is the Anointed One the Son of God
John 20-31

OCTOBER 2023
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Wanted - Looking for community residents that see the positive side of things, expect things to turn out well and believe they have the skill and ability to make good things happen. Must be able to work with others. Contact robinnewell3@gmail.com.

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The Lillian

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Entertainment, Travelers & Tourist Visitors Guide



of Lillian, Alabama

Reservations are now on-going for the
Spanish Cove Annual Craft Fair,
 sponsored by the
POASC Activities Committee.

The Craft Fair will be held
 November 4 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

In the main clubhouse.

The cost is still \$5 per table.

**You may request inside or outside,
 and if you are outside then you may
 place a tent over your table.**

**If you have questions, please call
 Denise Porter, Activities Coordinator
 251-961-1130**

Blessing of the Animals



Episcopal Church of the Advent
 Annual Blessing of the Animals
 Sunday, October 15 at 3:00pm

12099 County Road 99 Lillian, AL 36549

This is in honor of St. Francis, patron saint of animals. Each year we
 bring our animals for a blessing.

You are invited to bring your pet for blessing at 3 p.m.
 on Sunday, October 15 to the area outside Hovde Hall.

All domestic pets are welcome.

Please be sure all pets are leashed or crated.
 Donations are encouraged for area shelters. We
 welcome pet food, blankets, towels, pillows, toys.

Lillian Methodist Church

12770 South Perdido Street, Lillian, AL 36549



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Entertainment, Travelers & Tourist Visitors Guide

Episcopal Church of the Advent Hosts Annual BBQ and Blues

Get ready for a beautiful fall day, and the best party of the year in Lillian! Located at the Episcopal Church of the Advent, the event is filled with music, outdoor entertainment, great food, and an exciting silent auction. It will be a great opportunity for fellowship with your neighbors! Come join

our church community on October 28 for the 21st annual celebration of BBQ and Blues. Bring your lawn chairs and stay the day! This year the Exit 105 Band will again be providing entertainment from 10 to 2 p.m., with an area in front of the band available for dancing. John Swift, renowned pit



master will be smoking the BBQ on site. If you bought a BBQ Butt for Labor Day, you know how delicious this is. Plates will include BBQ Sandwich, cole slaw donated by Crazy Horse restaurant, chips, drink and Advent's famous brownies. The cost is a mere \$15-per meal.

are arriving daily and so far, include a vintage guitar, jewelry, brand name purses, gift baskets, private massages. Also included in the auction will be a sunset cruise, a custom pet portrait, and gift certificates for local restaurants.

The proceeds from this event go to support charities both local and nationally. Last year, donations went to The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department, The Lillian Community Park, scholarships for local children to attend summer camp, hurricane relief, and help for Ukrainian refugees.

There are still slots available for vendors.

Anyone interested in advertising their services or selling their treasures, call Rachael at the church, 251-961-2505. Tables available if needed for a minimal charge. The event will take place at the church, 12099 Co. Rd. 99 in Lillian.



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October Fun

LILLIAN RECREATIONAL PARK

Movie & Music in the Park

October 6 - 6:00 pm

Movie: ELVIS

Music by Elvis Impersonators!

Fall Fest

October 14 - 10:00 to 7:00

Art in the Park

October 14 - 10:00 to 5:00

Lillian Recreational Park - 33914 Widell, Lillian
www.LillianRecreationalPark.org (251) 962-2129

Entertainment, Travelers & Tourist Visitors Guide

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For Events: blueskytradingcoal.com

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Entertainment, Travelers & Tourist Visitors Guide

Gearhead Shifts the Crowd at The Front Porch

They may be a bunch of Gearheads, but they sure know the mechanics of git-down blues rock n' roll.

This band was born in the dim oil-stained nest of Advantage Auto near Elberta about seven years ago. It's a place where guys do guy things with hoists and wrenches - and drumsticks and guitar picks.

Founder Keith Richardson is the only band member who still works on cars, but the band still practices in a big rehearsal room behind the shop.

"I guess you could call it a garage band," says Elberta native Keith Richardson, Gearheads founder and drummer.

It was a quiet night at Johnny B's - until the Gearheads took the stage. What let loose was a barrage of hard-hitting electric bayou blues that reverberated rhythms and riffs pounding through the pulse. And the feet. It is really hard to keep the cheeks in the seat.

Lead guitarists Baum takes center stage.

He casts his own twist on masters of Memphis soul, Southern rock and bayou blues for a trifecta of electric guitar ecstasy.

Through a menu of music by blues guitar greats like Stevie Ray Vaughan, Savoy Brown, Eric Clapton, and Irish guitarist Gary Moore, Baum leads us on an emotional journey from happy screaming guitar to sorrowful wailing slides.

Baum tosses in some pop rock staples for a nugget of familiarity, infusing the well-worn tunes with blues undertones that will not quit. *Long Tall Woman* grips the crowd

with a roller coaster of rifts and sliding tones. Artful volume fluctuations and rhythm syncopations keep the crowd on the edge of their seats - if they can stay in them at all. A striking lift of intensity and crescendo caps his take on Billy Joel's *I Might Be Crazy* and the Doobie Brother's *China Grove* lands with joy and passion, also spotlighting the drumming skills of Gearheads founder Keith Richardson.

"I've forgotten how to play more songs than I know," Baum said.

A retired auto parts dealer, Baum picked up a guitar when he was kid and started to strum tunes. His brother, a classically trained concert pianist who unsuccessfully took years of guitar lessons, was aghast.

"How do you do that?" His brother would ask.

Baum doesn't know. All he knows is he never took a lesson. He doesn't know how to read music on the page.

"I play from the heart," he said. "I play by ear. You can say it's a gift."

Baum grew up to the soundtrack of his dad's Chet Atkins records, along with soul and rock albums.

"But when I first heard the blues, the blues hooked me," he said. "I've been a blues addict most of my life."

That blues addiction was "always a hobby; I always had a day job," Baum said.

But it landed him in Memphis and Atlanta where he rose through the ranks of aspiring guitar pickers from an Elvis tribute band to blasting blues rifts in the best clubs in Atlanta.

Richardson too is a self-taught musician. As a boy

growing up on the same place Advantage Auto is now, he was always in trouble for "beating on stuff all around the house."

His parents bought him his first toy drums and later he saved his pennies to buy a professional set. He drummed to records until he thumped his way into popular local bands like the Dakotas and infiltrated area nightspots like Murphy's, where disc jockeys recorded weekly local radio shows.

Richardson's tempos shine in Gearheads' renditions of *Evil Ways*, *Two Tickets to Paradise*, and *China Grove*

"I played in so many different bands and clubs I can't begin to remember them all," he says.

He does remember that Gearheads plays at Johnny B's Front Porch one Saturday each month and can be seen regularly at Doc Holiday's in Foley.



AT JOHNNY B'S

GEARHEADS

LILLIAN COMMUNITY CLUB

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If you have items you need to have picked up please call Lynn 251-213-4170

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- Oct 20 - Knee Deep
- Oct 22 - Gary Story
- Oct 27 - Jeri Band



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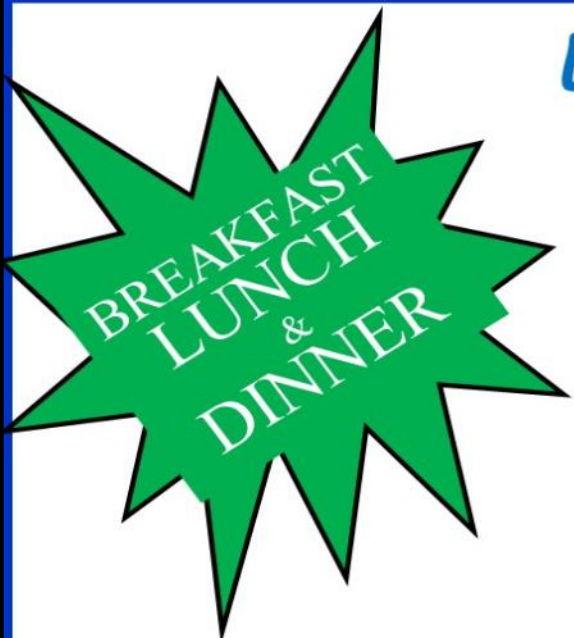
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