

# The Lillian

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**MAY 2024**

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Volume 28, Number 5

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## Sprawl Battle Continues; Baldwin Officials to Hear Bid for 80-Home Subdivision Served by CR 99 May 21

It seemed like a good idea in 1973.

That's when early planners of Spanish Cove slotted 23 acres off Ridgewood Drive for future development. At the time, proposed uses included an on-site medical facility, an adult day care center, recreational space or an extra pool or clubhouse. A revised plan in 2012 called for a zoning of "General Commercial Use."

Fast forward to 2024. The land, extending off the neighboring Perdido Pines neighborhood and opening on three sides onto open meadow and woods, is zoned for rural and agricultural use. The parcel has changed ownership several times and now belongs to Hamm Enterprises. All access from those neighborhoods is CR 99.

Hamm isn't interested in building a medical complex or a volleyball court for Spanish Cove. It's asking the county to change the zoning to RSF 4 to allow for 80 lots at a little over a quarter acre each for housing. Hamm is asking for R-4 Zoning which would allow single family dwelling including manufactured lots no smaller than 7500 square feet.

And that has people who live nearby saying "not so fast."

Jean and Dante Bennett are among many Lillian residents who were shocked and upset as they saw trees clear cut to make way for two new neighborhoods off North Spanish Cove Drive.

"When these new subdivisions went in, people were late in complaining," Jean Bennett said. "This time we have the opportunity to do something as Lillian residents to protect our infrastructure and way of life."

But this is not a Spanish Cove issue, surrounding landowners say. It's an area land use matter, affecting the lives of everyone who lives between Perdido Bay and Elberta.

At an April 4 Planning and Zoning meeting, the commission, which weighs whether or not Planning and Zoning staff recommendations should be passed for final approval by county commissioners, voted 9-1 to deny recommending the proposed rezoning. That vote flew in the face of P and Z staff recommendation to approve on the grounds that the development would be "compatible with the existing subdivision." Planning and Zoning staff reports show the proposal did not meet four of 11 criteria, including change of conditions, conforming with

the county master land use plan, adverse effect on traffic and consistency with development patterns.

At that meeting, Spanish Cove Operations Manager Pete Garafalo laid out the case for supporting Hamm's request.

"This plot has always been part of Spanish Cove," he said.

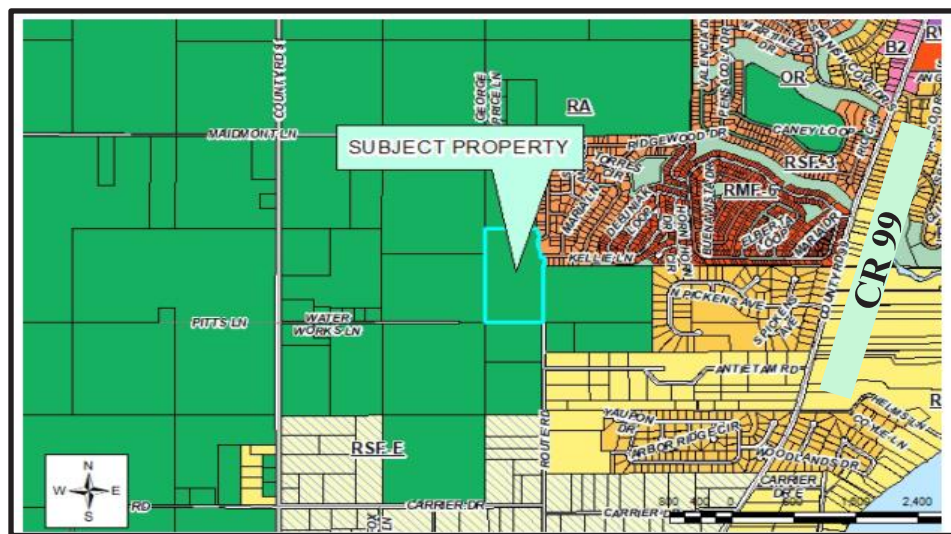
It was in the plans in 1973 and it was in the updated plan in 2012, cited for "future development," Garafalo said, despite the revised plan calling for "General Commercial Use," sources said. Because Hamm has been paying assessment to the Cove (\$166 quarterly on 23 acres at the one lot rate) for many years, he said, the landowner's rezoning bid should be approved.

Zoning commission members pushed back, Just because it was a plan in 1973 doesn't make it a good plan they should approve today, they argued. Those opposing the change say turning open land

off the ant hill for the next development that wants to come in," said Commission member Greg Seibert. "This is a significant leap from wooded land to 7,500 square foot lots,"

"That's the rationale that leads to urban sprawl, eating up acre after acre of open land, he said.

'It's the domino effect,' Keep it Country found-



*A public hearing on the matter is scheduled for 10 a.m. Tues., May 21 at the Baldwin County Fairhope Satellite Courthouse, 1100 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope.*

into a subdivision is not compatible with trends because it is bordered on three sides by undeveloped wooded land. Commission members, before it's denial, said it was traditionally adverse to linking rural zoned lands, with a minimum lot size of 40,000 sq feet to residential with a minimum of 7500 sq. feet.

"I'm deeply concerned... this is kicking the top

er Tracey Gambill told officials at the April meeting. Lillian area residents and landowners neighboring the Hamm parcel echo infrastructure concerns that have become a recurring refrain in several development issues that have made local news over the past year. People entered public comments highlighting stresses on public sewer and water systems, drainage and flooding, police and fire department, schools and traffic and environmental damage.

Fred Lurwig's family farm joins the Hamm property and serves as a watershed for the area. The development will cause runoff issues that will likely cause flooding issues and ultimately pose further threats to Perdido Bay, he told commissioners. Because the only two entrances to the parcel are on narrow and slow-speed Spanish Cove arteries, residents are speculating there may be a need to create another entrance from County Road 91 not to mention increased traffic on CR99 and eventually U.S 98.

Fred Cassabuam who owns land in that area said he is opposed to the rezoning bid and may not be inclined to grant egress if a new road is planned.

## Park Welcomes, Thanks Patrons

Thanks to all of you who come out and support the vendors at the Market in the Park on a monthly basis. You may have noticed a few changes from last year. Our Market Coordinator, Nickie Robson, [lillianrecreational-park@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianrecreational-park@yahoo.com), is setting the schedule going forward. The times are changing to allow for food trucks. Yes, more than one! They will be announced prior to the event. Put these dates and times on your calendar so you don't miss anything!

April, June, and September on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month are craft markets from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**May 18 will be Arts and Crafts** 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Juried and non-juried on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month. **Applications are still being accepted.** Food trucks scheduled in May include: Flipn Donuts, Cousins Maine Lobster, B & T Island Roots LLC, Jo's Wings, and Pelican Snowballs. The Spanish Cove Garden Club will be selling plants.

No markets will be scheduled in July and August.

October 12 craft market will be in conjunction with the annual Fall Fest 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday.

November 16 is the Holiday Market 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. which is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday.

This all takes a village to organize, so if you want to help with just a portion of these events, connect with us and let us know your preferences.

Movie and Music starts again May 3<sup>rd</sup> (always the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month) with music by Jimmy Smith starting at 5:30. Lucy Smith, [lra28west@aol.com](mailto:lra28west@aol.com), coordinated the movie line-up from the votes made by the community on the Park's Facebook page. The movie (WONKA) will start at dusk. Fun for everyone!

The remainder of the Movies for 2024 are: UP, Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire, Barbie, and Indiana Jones-Dial of Destiny. No Movies will be scheduled in July and August. Plans for kids' summer camps are in the works. Art camps, environmental or sports. With all the goings on, the maintenance of the grounds is paramount, so when you see Tauris Hart (and family) please let him know how much you appreciate his (their) efforts.



### Eagle Scout Cade Kichler's Park Project Captures Wildlife Award

*Cade Kichler receives the Environmental Stewardship Award today at the Baldwin County Board of Commissioners meeting for his Eagle Scout wildlife viewing area project at the Lillian Recreational Park.*



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## Mother's Day: A Most Important Day for Our Families



**Moving Forward**  
By Rev. Tina Lockett

The month of May contains that wonderful event we called Mother's Day. The day when we honor the woman who gave birth to us or adopted us or in some way carried for us in our childhood. A mother figure would be the one who worried about us, cheered and cried with us and most of all prayed for us. Saint Monica of the early church is remembered on May 4<sup>th</sup>, dying in the year 387, and most remembered as the mother of Saint Augustine of Hippo. Out of her prayers for her son, Augustine became one of the most important figures in the development of Christian theology. Monica was married to a pagan man named Patricius, who was known for his temper and unfaithfulness. Despite the challenges of her marriage, Monica was known for her great faith and her prayers and Christian example which eventually led to her husband's conversion before his death. Monica had three children but it was her relationship with her son Augustine that was particularly significant.

suffer for the sake of her loved ones has made her an inspiration to countless women throughout history. And her story continues to be celebrated as a model of Christian motherhood and intercession. Certainly 17 years of prayer for a child is something many parents and grandparents can understand. We grieve when we see those in our family walk in dangerous territory, away from God's best for them. We may even wonder how long we should continue to cry out to the Lord in prayer.

she prayed. We can only imagine what the son said to her of the feelings he had in response to the prayers said on his behalf.

Augustine later said in his book, Confessions, "We proceeded step by step through all bodily things up to that heaven whence shine the sun and the moon and the stars down upon the earth. We ascended higher yet by means of inward thought and discourse and admiration of your works, and we came up to our own mind. We transcended them, so that we attained to the region of abundance that never fails."

Later Augustine describes a dream that he had shortly after Monica's death, in which she appears to him as a figure of great beauty and comfort. Here Augustine said in his book, "In this time of grief, I fell asleep one night and had a dream that I shall never forget. I saw my mother standing by a wooden beam, and she was looking very happy. When she saw me, she called out to me and asked me to come over. Without hesitation, I ran over to her, and she gave me a loving embrace. I woke up with my eyes filled with tears, and I realized that it was you, Lord, who had comforted me through my mother's memory." The love of a mother for her child. The memories a mother can leave on a child. The life a child can have from the impact of a mother. As we celebrate Mother's Day this month, remember your own mother.

Augustine was known for his wild lifestyle and intellectual skepticism regarding Christianity which caused his mother great anguish and sorrow. Monica, however, never gave up on her son through her constant prayers. She left her home and followed her son to Rome and then to Milan. Ultimately she saw her son converted to Christianity and baptized by Bishop Ambrose. Seventeen years of resistance by Augustine and consistent prayer by his mother was the time that had passed.

There is no limit in days or years. While there is life, there is hope.

Shortly before Saint Monica died and after Augustine's baptism, they shared a conversation and talked of the things of God. We can only imagine what Augustine's mother said to him of the prayers

If she is living contact her. If she is no longer living or if you cannot connect, say a prayer of thanksgiving for her. If you want to know about other saints of the Church or any aspect of the Christian faith, come visit us at Episcopal Church of the Advent. Sunday Service is 10am. Everyone is welcome.



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# Pine Perpetuates Pollen Plague as Spring Brings New Growth

A friend recently said, “Spring is kind of aggressive in Alabama.” We all had a good laugh! From Alabama to California to Maine, Pollen – The Great Yellow Dust - is being released. It turns your vehicles into yellow-powdered sugar donuts. When it rains, yellow film turns puddles into ink-blot tests as they linger along driveways, sidewalks, and roadways.

Pollen happens when trees and flowers can't keep it in their plants! Alabama covers 50,633 square miles, 71% of that is Forest! The most common tree species found in North America include the Eastern White Pine, the Red Pine, the Loblolly Pine, the Ponderosa Pine, and the Douglas Fir. The Loblolly Pine is the most common tree in Alabama.

Pine trees are in a group of plants called “Gymnosperms”, a term shaped by the Greek phrase for “naked seed.” That is because, unlike a flowering plant, the seeds of pine trees are not inside a protective, fleshy fruit. Imagine a mango. A mango protects its seed inside its fruity body. A gymnosperm does not have that outer, fruity coating. Gymnosperm seeds develop either on the surface of leaves, which are often modified to form cones.

Speaking of cones, most conifers are “monoecious”, meaning they produce both male and female cones on the same tree. A single tree shouldn't pollinate its own seed cones! Cross pollination is a big deal! No one wants inbred trees! The only thing *in bread* should be food!

Mother Nature has developed her own strategies to minimize self-pollination. Pollen cones can be positioned lower on the tree than the seed cones. This allows the wind to take the pollen to another tree rather than upward to its own seed cones. Sometimes, Nature staggers when the pollen cones and seed cones mature.

Pine trees are unique in that they are the only species of trees that have separate male and female reproductive structures. The male cones, also known as “strobili”, are the parts of the pine tree that produce and release pollen. Grains of pollen are composed of two different types of cells - the generative cell and the vegetative cell. The generative cell contains the genetic material needed for fertilization while the vegetative cell provides the nutrients needed for it to survive the journey. The pollen released from the male cones is also quite resilient!

The female cones are typically much larger than the male cones, and they are typically a light green color. The female cones also have a sticky coating,

which helps them to catch the pollen and hold it in place until it is fertilized. Once fertilized, the female cones will produce a seed that can be used to grow a new pine tree.

Pine trees are also unique in that they produce a tremendous amount of pollen. Up to 10 million pollen grains can be released from a single male cone.



## Know Your Critters

By Celeste Hadley-



**This may look like smoke but it's pine pollen aloft in the breeze.**

The amount of pollen produced by a pine tree can vary depending on the species of tree and the environmental conditions. Generally, pine trees tend to produce more pollen when the weather is warm and dry, as this type of weather encourages the male cones to open and release their pollen grains.

The pollen released by the pine tree is a source of nutrition for many species of insects, birds, and other animals.

Pollen grains are small and lightweight, helping them be able to disperse nutrients throughout the environment, aiding in the growth of other plants and trees in the area. Smaller pollen grains can travel farther than larger ones, so the pollen of some species of pine tree can travel up to several miles away.

Without pollen, pine trees could not reproduce. No more pine trees would be bad since most of the trees we depend on for the building of our homes and other daily uses of wood come from pine trees. Alabama has the third largest commercial forestland base in lower 48 U.S. states with over 23 million acres of trees. Forest products exports were valued over \$1.3 billion in 2020.

That's all well and good but it does nothing to relieve a dripping nose and watery eyes. In pollen season, remember to keep windows and doors shut as often as you can, and run an air purifier. Replace or clean the filter on your air-conditioner. Wipe your feet before coming indoors. Avoid hanging clothes outside to dry during peak pollen season.

While it is the most often blamed, pine trees are not the only ones spreading their pollen at this time of the year. Oak, olive and palm trees are also spreading their genetic material hither and yon.

Why was the pine tree in trouble? It was knot-ty.

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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.

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*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:

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■ Email to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com)

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## 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 June issue of *The Lillian* will be May 22.

Anyone may send an email to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com) for information on articles and news.

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

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# More Than Likey, There Will Come a Time to Sell Your Home

America is on the move, or so it seems. Many of my tax clients have decided to move to be closer to one or more of their children as they advance in age. That's a good thing, because as we get older we need help, either with everyday tasks or with emotional support, and who is better than one's children?

So in this article, I want to tell you about selling your main home and what the tax consequences may be. There is a little history that you may find interesting. The first tax benefit on gains from a home sale came in 1951 when Congress began allowing taxpayers to avoid tax on gain from the sale of a principal residence if they bought a new principal residence of equal or greater value within a year from the sale of the old one. The idea was that most home sales were in response to family or employment changes and were more likely an "involuntary conversion" than a sale for profit. The second benefit came in 1964 when Congress created Section 121 as a one-time exclusion, for those who lived in their home five of the past eight years prior to the sale. The exclusion was limited to \$20,000, eventually rising to \$125,000, and the time requirement was shortened to three of the prior eight years. But it was a lifetime exclusion.

Congress did a major overhaul of the exclusion in 1997. Then and now, a single taxpayer may exclude a gain on the sale of a personal residence of up to \$250,000 if they lived in the home for two of the last five years prior to its sale. For married couples, the exclusion is \$500,000. There is no longer a lifetime exclusion. You may take the exclusion as often as you can as long as you meet the three basic rules.

You must own the home. Look back five years from the date sold. You must have owned the property for at least two of those two years. Married taxpayers can get the exclusion if only one spouse meets the ownership test, but both spouses have had to live in the property for two years.

This is more complex. Generally, a taxpayer must have used the property

as a principal residence for a period aggregating two years or more of the five-year period. What makes this complex is when the taxpayer has more than one residence, or has regular temporary absences, or becomes physically or mentally incapable of self-care and has to go to a hospital, nursing home or similar facility.

The exclusion can be used often, subject to the "anti-flipping" restriction that limits the exclusion to only one sale every two years. A "house flip" is when you buy a home, fix it up and sell it, hoping for a profit. This is a very common practice and Congress wants to limit the exclusion in these instances. The rule of one sale every two years means that you have to extend the time



## Let's Talk Taxes

By Carol Kovacs  
CPA, EA

between sales and must still live in the home for two of the last five years.

There is an Unforeseen Circumstances Rule that can be used if the "time of use requirement" cannot be met. This is often when taxpayers have to sell a principal residence, before the use and ownership during the five-year period is met, because of a change of employment, health, or other critical and unforeseen circumstances.

There are also a few surprises in the exclusion rules. If you used your home partly for business, took a home office deduction or rented out a room, you cannot use any depreciated areas as part of the exclusion. There are worksheets in the Publication to help determine the amounts applicable to each.

Remember, you calculate profit by determining net proceeds less basis in the home sold. Net proceeds are the selling price less the cost of sale, except property taxes paid at settlement. The cost of sale is "spruce-up" costs, realtor commissions, home warranty and transfer costs you paid at settlement. Basis is the cost of purchase, transfer costs you paid at settlement, and major improvements over the years you owned the property – like an additional room, new roof, and the like.

IRS Publication 523 *Selling Your Home* details the requirements and restrictions. If you are planning to sell your home, I suggest you read over this publication. There are some pitfalls of which you may not be aware. Remember the exclusion applies only to your main home, your principal residence, it does not apply to second or vacation homes. You can only have one main home. Where you have established your residency is typically where you have applied for your driver's license and where you vote.

Any home sales not eligible for the exclusion are subject to capital gains tax. For a Married Couple, the capital gains tax rate is 0% if taxable income is \$89,250 (including the profit on the sale), Head of Household less than \$59,750 and Single less than \$44,625. The 15% tax rates are less than \$553,850 for couples, \$523,050 for Head of Household and \$492,300 for Singles. After those amounts, the 20% capital gains rate applies.

I hope you found this information interesting and helpful. If you have any specific questions or areas of interest that you would like addressed in future columns (leave out your personal information), my email is carolpkovacs@aol.com. Use "Let's Talk Taxes" as the Subject



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LILLIAN RECREATIONAL PARK

## Movie & Music in the Park Returns!

Friday, May 3

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*Music and fun begin at 5:30. Movie begins at dusk.*

## Art in the Park

Saturday, May 18

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

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[www.LillianRecreationalPark.org](http://www.LillianRecreationalPark.org) (251) 962-2129

## Western Perdido Bay Watershed Action Committee News

You may have noticed the new Palmetto Creek Watershed signs the Mobile Bay National Estuary Program provided to the Western Perdido Bay Watershed Action Committee. As you pass these signs, which were installed by Baldwin County Planning and Zoning Staff, you may have wondered what they mean. While many people have heard of the term "watershed", they are often unable to define it.

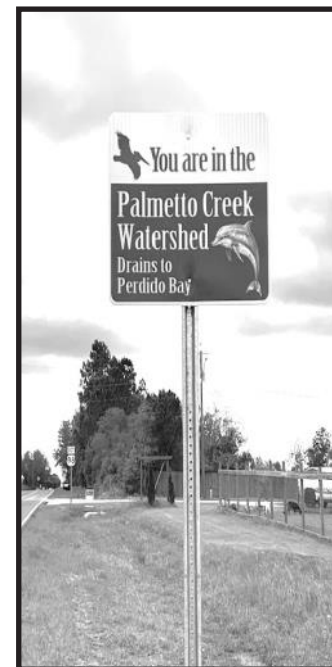
A watershed is an area of land that water flows across, through, or under on its way to a stream, river, lake, bay or other body of water. Sometimes called a drainage basin, the water in that area flows down to a common low point.

Alabama has 132,000 miles of streams and rivers; all of them are part of a watershed. As our signs proclaim, we are part of the Palmetto Creek watershed.

A healthy watershed is a wonderful thing. It reduces erosion and stabilizes streambanks, traps sediment, stores water, improves flood water retention, and improves groundwater.

Ten percent of the freshwater in the United States either originates or flows through Alabama. Our waters are a habitat for over 450 species of fish, with 350 of them being freshwater. We are fortunate to be able to live in such a diverse ecosystem.

Activities upstream can affect the health of our watershed, so our actions and our neighbors' actions can play an important role in the protection of our waters. In our next article we will discuss the things that individuals can do to protect our watershed health so we can continue to enjoy our waters. If you have any questions please email [wpbwac@gmail.com](mailto:wpbwac@gmail.com)



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## Post 48 Lists Local Fundraising Recipients

Legion Post 48 says, "Thank you. For all who attended our ham dinner fundraisers, we did have a disappointing turnout in March, we don't know if it was the power outage that day or because it was Palm Sunday. We ended up only serving 98 meals when normally we serve 150 meals. That's approximately \$600 less we will have this year for funds. The post took all the leftover food to the mission for the needy.

The following are areas your contribution helps accomplish: 1) Support two students from Robertsdale High School for Alabama Boys State Program. 2) Presents the Veteran's Day program, 3) Support the Medical Closet, 4) Sponsorship of Elberta JROTC and JROTC Rifle Team, 5) Recognize 2 Students with awards, one for Scholastic and one for Military Excellence.

Commander Youngs and Adjutant Lavallee attended the JROTC Awards program in Robertsdale on April 25<sup>th</sup> and presented two awards, one for Military Excellence to Haley Wheelers of Elberta High School and one for Scholastic Excellence to Molly Krajewski of Robertsdale High School.

**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.

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

**Every Wednesday** morning from 9 a.m. to 11 am, Legion 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. Come and join us for a cup of coffee! Meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at

7 p.m. in the Lillian Community Club Hall. Come and join us and become one of the millions of Legionnaires still serving.



**Lillian American Legion Post 48**

By Wayne B. Lavallee  
Adjutant



The Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall will be in Robertsdale AL from May 9 to May 12. The wall bears the names of 58,281 Americans that were killed in the Vietnam War, including the 175 casualties from Mobile and Baldwin County. This wall also serves as a way to honor the more than 3 million who served in the military during the war.

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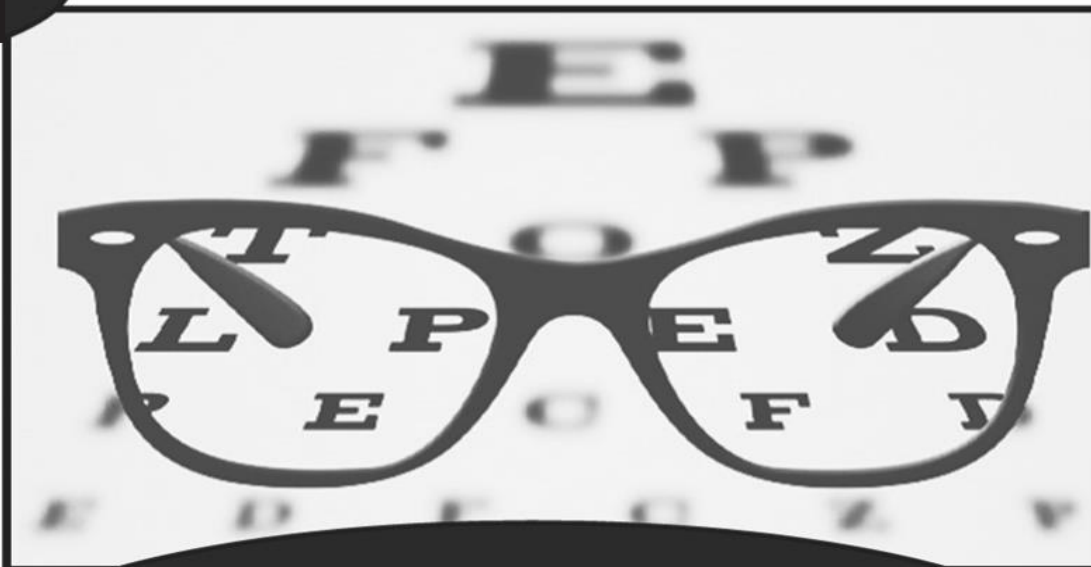


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## SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

### Jack Hammond Receives Lifetime Achievement Award For Volunteer Work

From his karaoke skills to Christmas set design at the park, to his life-saving activities with LASAR and helping organize Methodist Church activities, Jack Hammond is someone you want to know – especially if you have a project that you want done and want it done right.

Jack was recently awarded the “Lifetime Achievement Award” by President Joe Biden in recognition of Jack’s volunteer work. In presenting this award, President Biden said, “The American story depends not on anyone us, not on some of us, but on all of us... and I’m proud to present you with the President’s Lifetime Achievement award in recognition of your 4,000 hours of service to this great Nation.”

President Biden went on to say, “I know I’m not alone in recognizing those who are willing to step up and volunteer in service of community... By sharing your time and passion, you are helping discover and deliver solutions to the changes we face... We are living in a moment that calls for

hope and light and love. Hope for our futures, light to see our way forward, and love for one another. Through your service, you are providing all three.”

Jack is currently serving on the boards of the Lillian Recreational Park, LASAR and the Lillian Community Club. Lucy Smith, LRP board member, says that Jack’s recognition is well-deserved. “Jack is always, and I mean always – willing to help. No matter if it’s movies in the park, Christmas in the Park or just normal, day-to-day volunteer activities, Jack is always there. I would imagine he easily puts in more than 4,000 hours each year.”

Debbie Lindsay, LASAR volunteer, agrees. “Jack is always ready to jump in and help any way he can. He is not a certified diver, but he acts as a diver tender, making sure all the equipment is ready to go and that divers remember to turn on their oxygen. Whatever he can do, he will.”

Lucy concluded, “Congratulations, Jack, on a well-deserved honor.”



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Sunday School (all ages) 9:15am  
 Worship Service: 10:30 am  
 Evangelism Study and Dinner 5:00 pm

### 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 & Activites  
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Pastor: Josh Thompson  
 Worship Leader: Beverly Thompson  
 Children's Director: Debbie Sweppenhiser  
 Youth Director/ Pianist: Erin LeAnne

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## This Month There Are Several Exciting Celestial Events... Here's a Quick Summary

**Eta Aquariid Meteor Shower Peak (May 5):** Keep an eye out for shooting stars as the Eta Aquariid meteor shower reaches its peak. These meteors originate from debris left behind by Halley's Comet

**Moon Near Mars (May 5):** On the same day, the Moon will be in close proximity to Mars. Look toward the pre-dawn sky to witness this celestial pairing

**New Moon (May 8):** The New Moon marks the beginning of a lunar cycle. It won't be visible in the sky, but it's an essential phase for stargazers

**Mercury at Greatest Elongation West (May 9):** Mercury will be at its farthest point from the Sun in the evening sky. Look westward after sunset to catch a glimpse of this elusive planet

**Full Moon (May 23):** The Full Moon illuminates the night sky, casting its bright glow. It's an excellent time for lunar observations

**Mercury Near Uranus (May 31):** Toward the end of the month, Mercury will be close to Uranus. Use binoculars or a telescope to spot these distant planets

**Moon Near Saturn (May 31):** The Moon will also be near Saturn, and there will be a lunar occultation of Saturn. Keep an eye out for this captivating event

Remember to find a dark spot away from city lights for the best stargazing experience. Enjoy exploring the wonders of the cosmos!

— SOURCE: NOAA



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ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*(Applicant MUST have a 36549 zip code on their school records for their senior year of high school to apply)*

HIGH SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Applicant MUST be a 2024 high school or home school graduate)*

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ADDRESS OF ABOVE SCHOOL:  
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PLANNED MAJOR/COURSE OF STUDY:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Signature authorizes the Lillian Action Committee to verify residency and graduation records with the graduating school.)*

### Follow these instructions to apply:

~ Completed application MUST be returned and postmarked to *The Lillian* by May 15, 2024. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

~ Application MUST be submitted by mail to *The Lillian*, PO Box 1088, Lillian, AL 36549.

~ Applicant should submit a clear, current photo headshot by email to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com). We will publish the winner's photo when the award is announced.

~ Questions may be directed by email to [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com).

~ All eligible applications will be placed in a drawing to win the grant.

**The \$500 award will be paid directly to the school once the student's enrollment has been verified.**

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# Impactful Community-Based Programs Highlight April

The theme for my year as Governor of the Alabama Mississippi Optimist District #29 has been "How can I help"? This month was a great example of what it means to be an Optimist. Each Club is different and has the ability to offer programs and services that fit their community. The unifying factor is all Optimist improve the lives of young people, their community and themselves.

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay supported the Baldwin County Special Olympics by providing over 455 lunches to the participants and their support team. The one-day event was hosted at the Fairhope Football Stadium. This year the menu featured a choice of barbeque or hot dogs, baked beans, potato salad, chips, cookies and drinks. The event started early and was tiring, but it was very satisfying in watching the students compete.

The second oldest Optimist International program is the essay contest. Fourteen clubs participated this year. The most participants came from the Pleasure Island Optimist Club (Orange Beach/Gulf Shores), a club that started in 2019, with 65 entries.

The winner of the contest will be announced at the third Quarter District meeting in Pearl, Mississippi on May 4. The winner receives a \$2,500 scholarship. Governor Keener reported that the District is in the process of attempting to raise an additional \$2,500 to put the Essay contest on a level playing field with the \$5,000 awarded in the District Oratorical contest. Being successful will result in the second and third place essays earning \$1,500 and \$1,000 in college scholarship.

Another great program was conducted by the Alfred G. Adams Optimist Club of Perry County. The event is focused on creating awareness and is called the Autism Awareness Walk in Perry County. The event targeted creating awareness of the effects autism has on the children touched

by the disease and their families. As Governor, I was honored to be one of the speakers and I also got to lead the downtown Marion walk with Zone 4 Lt. Governor Rose Jackson. The featured speakers included the Mayor of Marion, Dexter Hinton; Juvenile Court Judge, Robert Bryant; County Commissioner Albert Turner; Alfred G. Adams Club Past Immediate Past President, Marsha Ford; and Event Co-Chair Francis Ford.

Several agencies dealing with autism and our improved health were on hand to assist in the education of those in attendance. Michelle McDaniel, Director, USA Regional Autism Network and representatives of the Children's Policy Council of Perry County distributed information from the Alabama Disabilities Advocacy Program.

"The key take-away from the educational process was that those with autism need a variety of services and these services exist in Alabama", said Keener. "We need to do a better job of making sure people are aware of these resources and through expanded awareness we can improve the lives of these children dealing with autism. This help extends to their families that also deal with autism every day. The materials provided laid out a road map for a family to navigate through the various agencies and organizations that help to provide the best level of care for the autistic child and their family, Keener said."

The event also featured a diversity of students. College students from the Samford University School of Pharmacy took part in the educational component of the event, while the Junior Optimist Clubs in Perry County assisted in the set-up and the autism walk.

Locally, we had good news. The Lillian Methodist Church was the site of the Zone 6 Oratorical contest on April 6 and Allie Hollingsworth, from Elber-

ta High School, earned the top honor and advanced to the Regional Contest in Mobile. The winners of Zone 4 (Montgomery), Zone 5 (Mobile) and Zone 6 (Baldwin County) moved up to the Regional contest April 20 in Mobile for a chance to compete in the District contest and the \$5,000 in scholarship funds.

Plans are unfolding for the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter District meeting. Optimist Club of Perdido Bay President Robin Newell will deliver a presentation on her success in signing up new members. Newell has earned the distinction of signing up more new members this year than any other Optimist in the Alabama and Mississippi District. The OCPB also has top honors for Club growth thru the 2023-24 year. She will provide a



## Optimist Club

By Jeff Keener, Optimist District Governor

presentation on her approach to sharing the values of being an Optimist Club member.

This year's Optimist International Junior Golf Championship & Qualifier for the Alabama Mississippi Optimist District #29 is being hosted in Baldwin County at the Foley Golf Club on Monday, June 10.

This is the first time that the annual event has been held in Baldwin County.

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay has provided \$1,000 as a sponsorship, while Perdido Bay Water has chipped in with a \$500 sponsorship.

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## LASAR Members Honored on Volunteer Day for Lifetime Achievement

Eleven members of the local LASAR squad accepted an invitation to visit the Alabama Statehouse on April 3 in Montgomery.

It was Volunteer Day, which LASAR qualified for because it consists of all volunteers.

Four tables were filled with the tools needed to perform the duties the volunteers do.

The group provides CPR training, drone coverage, dive training and water rescues, searches for missing persons, and can use repelling gear when needed.

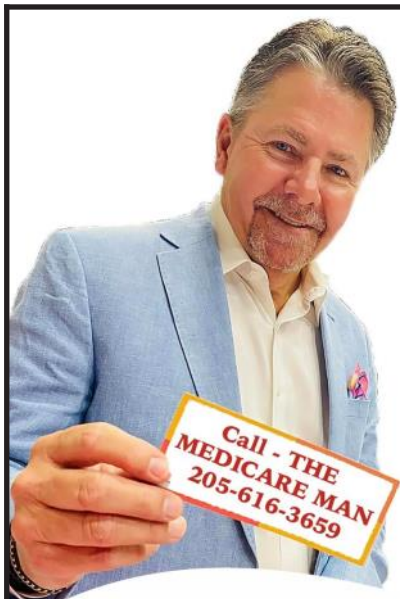
Some members visited law makers to help them understand the necessity for LASAR's services.

Several members attended a committee hearing where a motion was passed to allow education for Emergency Management Training to be taught in specific classes which only cover EMT issues



Lifetime Achievement Awards were recently presented to three LASAR volunteers. Those receiving the awards were: Mike Kovacs for 4,200 hours

of service, Jorge [J.R.] Costa for 12,000 hours, and John "Jack" Hammond for 4,000 hours of volunteer service.



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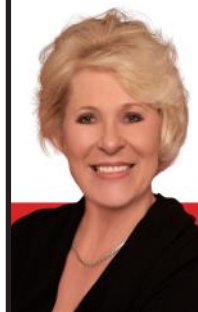
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**Easter Service is 10 am Sunday, March 31, 2024**

All are welcome to worship with us  
Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m.  
The Rev. Tina Lockett, Vicar  
[churchoffice@adventlillian.org](mailto:churchoffice@adventlillian.org)  
251-961-2505 & [www/AdventLillian.org](http://www/AdventLillian.org)

## Library Boasts Flowers From Showers

Hello! We had a lot of rain in April but I'm sure everyone knows that April showers bring May flowers! All of the staff love flowers and we are very fortunate to have an area in front of the porch where Robin Newell, the president of the Spanish Cove Garden Club, has planted some nice plants, also she has put a big tub on the porch and has it decorated with lovely plants and a couple of little gnomes popping up. So cute! Many thanks to Robin for improving our front porch! Robin also has collected the container of Greer's Cash saver receipts which goes to the Elberta Elementary School for them to participate in the Apples for Teachers Program. She is a great patron!



**Lillian Perdido  
Bay Library  
Corner  
By Nancy  
Barnett**

I just want to mention again that we have an awesome library! We have an area for the fiction books, large and regular, a section for children and young adults, a non-fiction area where there are biography books, books about the civil war and WWI and WWII, encyclopedias and a section all about Alabama, also we have newer DVD's and Audio books, all of the items mentioned can be checked out for three weeks and more if needed. And don't forget our computer room, this is very popular because we have five computers along with two printers so there is always room for anyone who needs a computer.

Our library is open 10 to 2 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and 10 to 12 on Fridays and Saturdays and anyone can ask for a library card at no cost.

Enjoy this beautiful month of May!

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**PASTOR: Rev. Daniel W. Randall**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:00 & 10:00 AM**

Children's Church and Nursery are provided during  
10:00 AM Worship for children birth to second grade.

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**9:00 AM**

**ONLINE WORSHIP [www.LillianMC.org](http://www.LillianMC.org)**

(Click on the Worship tab to view.)

**DEMENTIA EDUCATION FORUM  
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**May 16 1:00 PM**

The support group meets in the Fellowship Hall  
on the third Thursday of each month.

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**JUNE 10-14 5:30 - 8:30 PM**

Rising Kindergarten -5th Grade (5-12 yrs.)

There is no cost, and you may preregister on our website.

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## Are You Ready for Christ to Return?



### The Methodist Message

By Rev. Daniel Randall

A pastor who one day visited a dear elderly member of the church. He decided to check on her salvation. He said, "Aunt Susie, do you believe in the hereafter?" She replied, "All the time, preacher, all the time. I go to the kitchen and think to myself, 'Now, what am I here after?'"

We must be specific about what kind of hereafter we're talking about, and we all need to be ready. I'm talking about the long-term future of our world. The primary Greek word used in the Bible for this subject is "Parousia." It means "the coming of the King." The Bible teaches that at some unknown future time, Christ the King will return in glory and bring earth's history to a close. Christians believe this because Jesus said it. "If I go and prepare a place for you," said Jesus, "I will come again..." He also said, "...and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds..." (Matt. 24:30-31) In both the Nicene and Apostles Creeds, we affirm that "Christ shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead." Jesus' second coming is mentioned more than 300 times in the New Testament. This doctrine directly contradicts the secular view that as we educate and liberate people the world over, things are going to just get better and better until paradise breaks out and everyone is singing "Give Peace a Chance".

The Bible contradicts that view. It says that things are going to get worse. The world will finally be changed when God intervenes dramatically and cataclysmically at the end of time. The universe will be shaken to its foundations. Jesus said, "Therefore, as the tares are gathered and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of this age." (Matt. 13:40) I declare to you, Christ Shall Return and we need to live every day ready! Unfortunately, many don't want to believe in the return of Christ. That was true even in the First Century. Listen to Peter's warning: "...in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing, and indulging their lusts and saying, 'Where is the promise of his coming?'" We still have plenty of those scoffers around. Many ask, "Why has the return of Christ been delayed?"

The Apostle Peter gives two answers to that question. First, God doesn't compute time as we do. Peter quotes the Psalmist who wrote, "For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night." (Ps. 90:04) What seems a long time to us does not necessarily seem so to God. The second reason that Christ has not yet returned is to give more people time to repent and find salvation.

We have no guarantee of even one more day. Therefore, it is urgent that people respond to the Gospel while there is still time. Those who accept by faith the sacrificial death of Christ on the cross and receive him as Lord will receive the gift of eternal life. But those who in this life have rejected or postponed his gracious offer will have their decision honored for all eternity, totally separated from God is sheer hell, just as they have chosen. Please do not put off God's gracious offer until it is too late.

I pray you have accepted Christ and are ready for your death or His return, whichever comes first. As we wait for the Lord follow the Apostle John's instructions, in First John 3:3, "Everyone who has this hope before him purifies himself, as Christ is pure." The most important preparation we can make for Christ's return is to repent, believe the gospel, and share the gospel.

The Lord is patient, "not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance." I'm so thankful that God has not written off any person as outside His saving reach. The Apostle Paul declared, "Our Savior... desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth." Are you ready for Christ's return? If you are less than sure, don't let this day pass without whispering this prayer to our gracious God. "Lord, here I am, your child, a sinner in need of a Savior. I believe that because of your great love, you died for me on the cross. I believe you are alive now, and able to transform my life and save my soul. I trust you as Savior and pledge to follow you as Lord."

The challenge of the Gospel is for us to live so faithfully and obediently that we will be ready when the Lord returns. What a great day that will be! Evil will be destroyed, and worldwide justice will be established. And every knee shall bow, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord!

Are you ready for the return of Christ?

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## Time to Start Thinking About 'H' Word

Well, it looks like summer will be arriving on schedule. I know that because Christmas was here and then Mardi Gras and then Easter, all in about three weeks, I think. Yes, I know, as we get older, time goes faster, but it seems this year the months are just flying by.



### Just a Thought or Two

By Sally McKinney

So, this brings me to not only the fun beach days and summertime visits from friends, and you know, also the Big H events. Now, we know the weather forecasters don't always know what they are talking about. However, this year they are predicting a very active season.

I hope this proves to be wrong, but unfortunately, sometimes their predictions become reality.

Colorado State University's tropical meteorology project team is forecasting 23 storms, 11 of which will become hurricanes and five will reach Cate-



gory 3 or stronger.

Yikes! With fingers crossed, I think it's time to be prepared. This means get your plans together NOW! Depending on the track of the storm, damage to the area can vary. Sometimes a storm can be headed to the east or west and all of a sudden decide to take a turn and bingo! There it is in your face. We must prepare for all possibilities and keep abreast of the news. A NOAA weather radio is always good to have, as well as weather apps on your phone.

Make a decision if or when you will evacuate. Start a list now of what you will need to take with you. Don't forget the medications. Make your decision on where to go early so you know how to get there. Thank goodness for GPS in cars and phones. If you are not equipped with those, gather some maps that will take you east, west or north. One time we were headed north when the radio informed us the path of the hurricane had changed and would be traveling north by way of Highway 65. We made a quick left turn and settled in Mississippi until the storm headed out of the area.

Before you leave, check around the outside of your house and secure potted plants, flags, furniture, grills.

Gather together important papers that you may need, such as home insurance. Gas up the car and keep the tank full. You might want to get some cash just in case.

Remember, even if you evacuate, when you return, home may not be as you left it. Electricity and water may not be available.

Don't wait until you return to get supplies together. Local stores may not be open or be out of the supplies that you need.

One gallon of water per person a day is suggested for drinking and sanitation. Get together a supply of non-perishable foods. Don't forget to bring out the old manual can opener just in case the cans don't have one of those little pully things. Be sure to have a supply of batteries of different sizes for flashlights and other useful items.

These are just a few thoughts I have before Alberto, Debby or Isaac may decide to take a quick trip to the Gulf Coast. Thank goodness Sally isn't on the list any more. Please plan ahead and be safe.



Optimist Daniel Randall gathered with the 2023 winners of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Fishing Rodeo. This year's event will be held on Saturday, May 4 at Schaff Pond for boys and girls two to 12 years of age.

## Save the Date: Fish Rodeo May 4

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo will be held Saturday, May 4 at Schaff Pond. The event is held from 9 a.m. to noon. A hot dog lunch is provided for those attending.

The event is open to boys and girls aged two to 12. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Awards are given in a variety of categories. Participants are asked to bring their own chairs, buckets, poles and bait. A few poles and bait will be available, however. Catch and release all catfish, but bass and bream may be kept. Permission forms will be available at the pond.

Schaff Pond is located at 32695 Bartel Street, Elberta. From Lillian turn north on County Road 93 for one mile. Go west on Bartel Road four tenths of a mile and the pond is on the right. For additional information call 251-234-1122.

## Masons Honor Blankenship for Service



The Masonic Lodge had a Past Master's Night and pictured are Mike Blankenship receiving an award for his service as immediate Past Master of the Lillian Masonic Lodge while Worshipful Master Joe Taylor is on the right and Junior Deacon Cliff Collier is on the left as Mike Blankenship receives his recognition of service award..

## The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Invites Boys & Girls Age 2 to 12 To Our Twenty First Annual Kids Fishing Rodeo

**Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 9 AM - NOON  
at SCHAFF POND**

**LOCATED: 32695 Bartel Street / Elberta, AL 36530**

### GENERAL INFORMATION

There is no charge and no preregistering required. Awards will be given for the longest fish and the most fish caught overall and in age groups. Participants must bring their own chairs, buckets, poles, and bait; worms will be available. Catch and release all catfish but you may keep bass and bream. The required permission forms will be available at the pond.



**ATTENTION PARENTS**  
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## Lillian Volunteer Firefighters Begin Electric Vehicle Training

The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department responded to 61 calls dispatched by the 911 operators in March: 35 Medical Assistance; 5 Public Assists; 3 Motor Vehicle Accidents/Clean up; 1 Brush Fire; 1 Structure Fire; 4 Cancelled en route; 9 False Alarm/Miscellaneous and 3 Aircraft standby.

While our firefighters have long been adept at battling standard structure fires or those involving combustion engines, the proliferation of Electrical Vehicles with lithium-ion batteries presents new challenges. Consequently, it's imperative we, as a fire department, ensure all our volunteers are well versed and skilled in how to tackle these situations when, and if, they occur. In saying this, we are extremely grateful to Perdido Beach FD for inviting LVFD for an enlightening Electric Vehicle Fire Safety Training session. The training was very informative and crucial for our community's safety. We would also like to thank them for going above and beyond by treating us to a delicious dinner before training.

LVFD recently took possession of the Stryker AED. This medical device can analyze the heart's rhythm and, if necessary, deliver an electrical shock, or defibrillation, to help the heart re-establish an effective rhythm. This device is instrumental on cardiac calls. In addition, we are now able to provide the paramedics with printouts of any irregular heart rhythms which can be critical when time is of the essence. I would also like to add that your annual donation to the department helps us appropriate essential equipment like this. Thank you all very much for making this possible and helping the community.

It's that time of the year again; the Burn Ban starts May 1 and will continue till October 31.

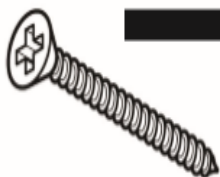


**Lillian Volunteer Fire Department**

By Goretta Lysek



Firefighters train on Electrical Vehicles at Perdido Beach FD



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The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department

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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 May go out to Ben and Will McNeill, Marge Whittle, Julie Mauer, Eddie Hoggle, Jeff Jordan, Johnny Barbato, Enid Cooper, Barbara Hinson, Connie

Synco, Ben Williams, Nick Lichliter, Wilma Spivey, Earl Dickson, Lee Hoffman, Carmen Greene, Samantha Lichliter, Dylan Curl, Adele Hartman, Jerry Langford, Charlie Spivey, Tina Kociban, Jim Vargo, Karen Messerli, Dottie Weaver, Terry Armit, Bob Carmichael, Sharoyne Linde, Luellen Sutton, Ruby Del Cox, Jacob Paul, Lind Harrison, James Eldredge Jr., Norman Tay-

lor, Sandy Cowie, Sandra Lyon, Donna Hinds, Jean Champagne, Blanch Crandall, Charles Bingle, Tracy Brown and David Mitchell

Celebrating wedding anniversaries in May are Joanie and Ed Saunders 52 years, Ron and Pat Morris 1965, Bruce and Virginia Allen 1971, Traci and Shannon Price 2000, Celeste and Richard Champion 2005, Jennifer and Chuck

Canaday 2008.

If you would like to add or delete information from the Chit Chat column, please email [lillianeditor@yahoo.com](mailto:lillianeditor@yahoo.com), mail it to The Lillian, P.O. Box 1088, Lillian, 36549. You may also place a note in our folder at Lillian Perdido Bay Library, 34081 Ickler Ave., Lillian, AL 36549. The deadline for the June 2024 issue is May 22.



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## OBITUARIES

## Leobardo Dionisio Ramos, Jr., Supported Wolf Bay Watershed Watch

With the heaviest of hearts, we bid farewell to Leobardo Dionisio Ramos, Jr. Known to many as Leo, some as Denny, a few as Daddy, and to one as the love of her life.

Leo's delight in life was infectious, his heart generous, and his passion for the outdoors unmatched. You could find him on the black waters of Baldwin County, catching snapper in the great expanse of the Gulf of Mexico, or hunting deer in the sandhills of Apalachicola.

Leo's culinary skills were the stuff of legend. His seafood feasts, with Wanda and Debbie as his sous chefs, were expressions of love. Friends and family would gather around the dining table, filling their plates with golden-fried shrimp, hush puppies, and cornmeal-fried snapper. After everyone was stuffed, there was always a game of cards late into the night, where he delighted in calling everyone's bluff.

He was born to Leobardo Dionisio Ramos and Oveida Dollie Strickland in Gainesville, Florida, attended Stark High School, and, after graduating, started college at the University of Florida. Before he finished there, he fell head over heels with his first and only True Love, Wanda Lee Godwin. Before long they had their first child, John, and moved to Pensacola, Florida, where he worked at the Pensacola Navy Base as a civil engineer.

After retiring early, Leo returned to school, earning a degree in accounting and then building a marina at the home he and Wanda renovated on Mifflin Creek. Always curious about the world, he devoured every issue of National Geographic and the Smithsonian, while watching news shows and nature documentaries. His latest fascination was rereading Shelby Foote's three-volume series of the Civil War.

Leo was an unwitting teacher as well. He instilled in his children the ability to name the constellations, to bait a hook, to carry a gun as if it was always loaded, and if you are going to do something, do it right the first time. His principles of fairness, kindness, and truth remain indelibly imprinted on those who were fortunate enough to learn from him.

And we cannot forget Saturday football. Always Florida Gators and Alabama Crimson Tide on the widescreen, a big pot of chili on the stove, as well as a cooler full of Bush beer. But above everything, though, Leo was a family man, deeply cherished by his people. His love story with Wanda was one for the ages - a testament to devotion, partnership, and romance. Their journey to-



gether was filled with joy, challenges overcome with unwavering support, and moments of blissful togetherness that many dream of but few attain.

Leo is survived by his devoted wife, Wanda Godwin Ramos, and sister-in-law, Debbie Godwin. His son, John Ramos, and wife Terrie, his eldest daughter, Rwandalee Ramos, her partner, Eric Gill, and his youngest daughter, Rebecca Ramos and their combined grandchildren John, Shawn, Braxton, Cameron, Hunter, William, Brandie, Brittany, Johnathan, Jessica, Courtney, Cenia, and Rose and six great-grandchildren.

His siblings, Sally Plance and her husband George, along with Edie, and brother and sister-in-law, Chip and Beth Hague, mourn his passing as deeply as his numerous nieces and nephews.

And not to be forgotten, his two cats, Boots and Patches, who, against all odds, found a special place in his heart, reminding us of Leo's capacity for love in all its forms.

## Joanne Marie Bold, 85, Lillian

Joanne Marie Bold, 85, of Lillian Alabama, passed away Easter Sunday, March 31, 2024, at her Spanish Cove home after struggling with bladder cancer. Her final moments were spent with her loving daughter by her side.



She grew up in Wisconsin, with her childhood spent in Green Bay before moving to Janesville to raise her family. She was preceded in death by her mother; her husband, James Bold; and her beloved cat, "Kitty". After James's retirement, they traveled and fell in love with the pristine beaches and charming area communities, so decided to make Lillian their new permanent home in 1992. They spent many a day relaxing on the sunny white sands of Johnson's Beach or browsing nearby antique shops. She would seldom turn down a chance to try her luck at the Biloxi casino slot machines.

Joanne loved sharing her home and entertaining, throwing small get togethers and luncheons for friends and neighbors. Her close friends knew her to be a very loving and giving person. She always thought about the needs of others and would share a smile and kind word with anyone she met. She is survived by her daughters, Jeanne Treder of Lillian, and Sherry Howse of Lewisburg, TN; two grandchildren; and loving friends.

## Billy Bonner, 83, Spanish Cove

Billy Bonner, beloved husband of Patsy Bonner, and 14-year resident of the Spanish Cove Community, went to be with his Lord and Savior (age 83) on April 10, 2024.

A Celebration of Life and Memorial Service will be held at Lillian Methodist Church on May 18, 2024 at 1:00 pm with Pastor Dan Randall officiating.



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## DEATH NOTICES

### RON HAFER

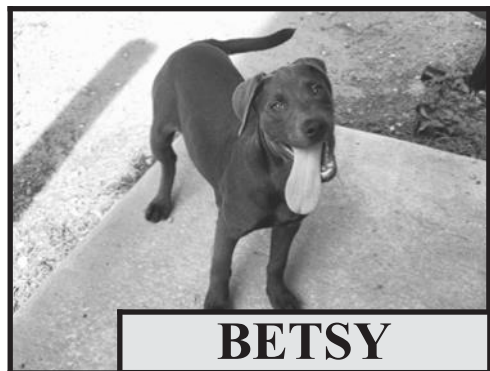
1133 Ridgewood Drive, US Army 83rd Airborne passed away Saturday, April 13. Preceded in death by his wife, Caryl and his son, Michael.

### SHARON GRAY

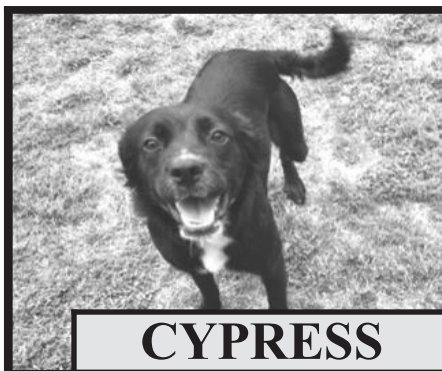
2800 Pine Ridge Dr. passed away Sunday, April 14

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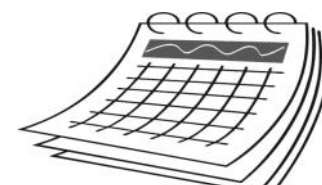
**TOBASCO**



**TAFFY**

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## The Lillian Calendar



May 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 at 10:00 AM and May 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 1 p.m. & Ageless Grace, Brain Fitness at Lillian Methodist Church, located at 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL. For more information contact Sharyon Miller at 850-221-8630.

May 4 from 9 a.m. to Noon - Annual Kid's Fishing Rodeo at Schaff Pond located at 32695 Bartell Street, Elberta, AL 36530. Sponsored by the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay for children 2- 12 years of age. Responsible adults must accompany children. Download the flyer at OptimistClubPB.org. For more information call 251-234-1122.

May 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 7 p.m.: ALANON Support Group Meeting at the Lillian Methodist Church located at 12770 S. Perdido Street, Lillian, AL 36549. Discover more about ALANON at <https://al-anon.org/>.

May 11 at 8 a.m.: Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Community Breakfast with this year's College & Technical School Scholarship Recipients at the Lillian Community Club located at 34148 Widell Ave., Lillian AL 36549. Discover more about the Perdido Bay Optimist Club at [www.OptimistClubPB.org](http://www.OptimistClubPB.org).

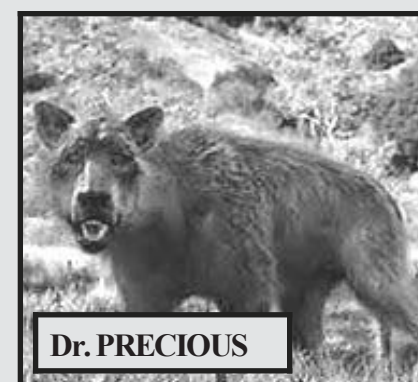
May 16 at 1 p.m.: Dementia Education Forum & Caregiver Support Group at Lillian Methodist Church, located at 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL. For more information contact Sharyon Miller at 850-221-8630.

May 25 at 8 a.m.: Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Community Breakfast with this year's Heart of Optimism Elberta High School Recipient at the Lillian Community Club located at 34148 Widell Ave., Lillian AL 36549. Discover more about the Perdido Bay Optimist Club at [www.OptimistClubPB.org](http://www.OptimistClubPB.org).

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT



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# On The Importance of Work-Life Integration and Health

To be able to work is essential in today's economy and can be a protective factor for maintaining health and giving us a sense of meaning and purpose. Look up the definition of work; you will usually find work referred to as an activity whether it is physical or mental. Gaspard-Gustave Coriolis, a French mathematician coined the term work in 1830 referring to "weight lifted through a height". However, work in the 21st century means different things to an ever-changing world and workforce. No longer are people just wanting a place that offers them a paycheck, but instead, they are seeking a place that facilitates their development and promotes overall well-being.

Work that is meaningful and engaging to a person lends itself to a sense of fulfillment and brings about a positive state of mind. Another aspect of a healthy work-life is an organizational culture that promotes fairness, develops employees' growth, and protects employees' overall health and well-being. Simply put, employers want a healthy workforce that comes to work motivated and productive; likewise, employees want to go to work where they can thrive personally and professionally. So, who is responsible for this type of work experience?

The answer is that both the organization and the employee are respon-

sible. An organization should continually assess its policies, programs, and practices to determine how well they align with what employees find valuable to thrive and flourish at work. A work-life perspective that caters to various employee needs and family situations in different cultural contexts offers a framework to build interventions that promote an employee's health and wellness and improve employee engagement. This includes protecting an employee's social, mental, and physical health. For example, leaders can support an



organization's social health by building a culture of connection starting with getting to know their team members and creating a culture of habits and norms that support a sense of purpose and social sensitivity both at the individual and team level. Managers are the biggest drivers of

individual development and should provide support and accountability in helping employees work toward personal and professional development.

Also, building an environment that supports mental health by creating psychological safety is essential to an employee's well-being. Psychological safety happens when team members feel safe expressing themselves, disagreeing with each other constructively, speaking to their manager with questions or concerns, and making mistakes. Managers must also lead by example and work on developing a relationship of trust. Organizations should also focus on the physical safety of their employees by providing science-based health interventions that can be built into an employee's work and family life and meet the different health needs of employees.

Employees are also responsible for their health and well-being and should take the time to learn more about ways to stay healthy and develop personalized individual wellness plans. This should include a plan that includes several areas of wellness such as personal growth. Employees can also make suggestions on health programs and practices that are meaningful to them and are practical for all team members. One size does not fit all.

How someone perceives their



## Health Corner

By Donna Chetta, RN

work experience determines whether or not a person decides to stay with a company.

Everyone has the right to have a safe work environment. However, organizations that create an environment that helps employees flourish and thrive in many areas of their lives are the companies that minimize stressors and maintain good employees.

This results in low turnover and health costs.

Disclaimer: Disclaimer: Medical Disclaimer:

The information provided in this article is for educational and informational purposes only and solely as a self-help tool for your use.

Talk to your doctor before starting any new diet or exercise program.

If you would like to receive tips on health and wellness or employee wellness, email me at [wellnessd@wellnessdimensions-c.com](mailto:wellnessd@wellnessdimensions-c.com)

## EGG HUNT LANDS 5,000 EGGS INTO EASTER BASKETS

### Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Annual Event Turns Lillian Recreational Park into Field of Fun



The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay helps children enjoy the Easter season by inviting the Easter Bunny to join them for an Easter Egg Hunt. Approximately 5,000 eggs

were distributed in the fields at the Lillian Recreational Park. Boys and girls and their families were treated to lunch after the big event.

*Thanks For Making Us Sparkle!*

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## Life's Too Short To be a Boor

Basically, you could call Bits and Pieces a trivia column. In previous issues I've mentioned that this column was called Lillian News. In 1997, I was asked to write about events happening at the Lillian Community Club. If I had room, I would add a bit of this and a bit of that.



**Bits and Pieces**

By Jackie Reid

When LCC produced their own newsletter, Lillian News was no longer needed. As they say, when one door closes another one opens, thus begins Bits and Pieces.

A couple of weeks ago I received a multi-person family text that got me side-splitting laughing. This is nothing new for my kids and their kids to join into these communications and I love it. But this last text and the fun of our written conversation got me thinking how lucky I am.

It is not luck at all, is it? It is how we were raised - with love, laughter, and nurturing. Each generation passes it on to the next.

This is how families should be. How they could be, but the reality is too many people carry nothing but anger inside of them. Anger begets anger. Like I've said a million times, 'what you sow is what you reap'. Why anyone wants to feel miserable all the time is beyond my comprehension. To each their own but the world would be a much better place to live in if humans could be kind, loving, and caring.

'Stop and smell the roses' means to see the beauty and godness around you and stop being a jerk. Life is short.

If you saw the solar eclipse last month you were not in Lower Alabama. Cloud cover ruined the day in Lillian. The next solar eclipse will be August 23, 2044, and will only be seen in Montana, South Dakota and North Dakota. I guess I can scratch that experience off of my list.

"Laughter is the closest thing to the grace of God." Karl Barth.

### 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.



## Lillian Veterinary Hospital

**Beth Williams, DVM**

**Small Animal Medicine & Surgery**

33940 US Hwy 98  
Lillian, AL 36549

251-962-2304

LVHclientinfo@gmail.com



### COUNTY COMMISSIONER CONTACT INFO

**COMMISSIONER GRUBER**

251-943-5061 x 2804

**COMMISSIONER UNDERWOOD**

251-937-0264

**COMMISSIONER MCKENZIE**

251-990-4620 x 4620

**COMMISSIONER BALL**

251-937-0330 x 2330

**CONGRESSMAN JERRY CARL**

251-677-6630

**The Lillian**

delivers custom-  
ers!

**Call Julie at 703-217-2874**

**to place your ad in**

***The Lillian!***

## Optimist Hear Oratorical Champs

## ORATORICAL WINNERS LISTED



Allie Hollingsworth, a Junior at Elberta High School, is the winner of the Alabama Mississippi Zone 6 Oratorical Contest. She is a representative of the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay and serves as president of the Junior Optimist (JOI) Club. She will now compete in the Regional contest in Mobile and if successful there, she will compete in the District event in Pearl, Mississippi.

Second Place winner is Thomas Hopkins, Elberta High School and Third Place was presented to Layla Green, a student at Foley High School.

Others competing in the Zone event are Preston Taylor, Foley High School and Mirabella Manson, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student in Gulf Shores.

The topic of this year's contest is "How to Change the World with Optimism." The event took place in the Lillian Methodist Church.

Optimist Club of Perdido Bay entrants in the annual Oratorical Contest visited the club meeting recently to present their speeches. From left are OCPB President Robin Newell, First Place winner Allie Hollingsworth, Second Place winner Thomas Hopkins, Elberta High School Counselor Laura Alms and OCPB Oratorical Committee Chairman Kate McGlynn



PRE-K ORATORS



ELBERTA HIGH ORATORS

MAY 2024

# LILLIAN COMMUNITY CLUB

34148 WIDELL AVENUE, LILLIAN, AL 36549

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8AM-11AM - OFFICE (251) 962-3366 / LOUNGE (251) 962-3966

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 9TH - 7:00 PM

CIVIC & LEGISLATION MEETING: MONDAY, MAY 13TH - 8:30 AM

NEW MEMBERS MEETING: SUNDAY, MAY 26TH - 3:00 PM

BOARD MEETING: THURSDAY, MAY 28TH - 7:00 PM

### 2024 Board of Directors



**150th Kentucky Derby**  
Saturday, May 4th - 3 pm  
Women's Hat Contest  
Classic Mint Juleps  
& Finger Foods

President: Jimmy Willis     Directors: Phil Graf  
Vice President: Larry Coots     Dave Bergsland  
Treasurer: Gail Meyers     Jack Hammond  
Secretary: Cindy Ulrich     Dana Harrelson  
   Michael Ballow  
   Bernie Garcia

**CINCO DE MAYO!**

Sunday, May 5th - 1 pm  
Costume Contest  
Variety of Mexican Foods

Happy Mother's Day

Sunday, May 12th - 1:30 pm  
Tami's Famous Bloody Mary & Mimosa Specials  
Fruit & Veggie Bar - Food will be available

## BANDS

Friday, May 3rd • Blackwater Country • 7-11 pm  
Friday, May 10th • T-Bird & the Fat Cats • 7-11 pm  
Sunday, May 12th • Big Jake & Paula K | Karaoke • 3-7 pm  
Friday, May 17th • Gary Story & Bad Habit • 7-11 pm  
Friday, May 24th • Riptide • 7-11 pm  
Sunday, May 26th • Gary Story • 3-7 pm  
Friday, May 31st • Jeri Band • 7-11 pm

\$5.00 cover for non-members

**Ladies Night Out Arts & Crafts**  
Friday, May 3rd • 4-8 pm • Hoffman Hall

**Friday Night Dinner**  
Friday, May 10th • 5-6 pm • Hoffman Hall



**Memorial Day**  
\*\*\* HONORING ALL WHO SERVED \*\*\*  
Monday, May 27th  
American Legion Post 48  
Flag Ceremony at Noon

**LOUNGE HOURS:**  
Sunday thru Thursday: 11:00 am - 10:00 pm  
Friday & Saturday: 11:00 am - 11:00 pm  
\$2.50 Bloody Mary Sundays: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

**BANQUET FACILITIES**  
Best rates in the area  
Hoffman Hall Accommodates up to 250 People  
State of the Art Full Kitchen / Non-Smoking

**RV CONVENIENCE SITES**  
(Pay in the Lounge or Office)  
Members \$15.00 a Day  
Located behind the LCC



## LUNCH SPECIALS MON - FRI

**MON : FRIED SHRIMP BASKET \$9.95**

**OR 2 FOR 1 \$14.95**

**TUE: 3 TACOS HARD OR SOFT \$9.95**  
**BEEF OR SHRIMP**

**WED : SHRIMP SPAGETTI \$9.95**  
**SERVED WITH TOMATO SAUCE**

**THUR : HAMBURGER & FRIES \$9.95**  
**BEST BURGER IN TOWN !**

**FRI : FISH , FRIED OR GRILLED \$9.95**  
**SERVED WITH FROES OR CHIPS**

**DINE IN ONLY !**

**LOWEST HAPPY HOUR PRICES ON HWY 98 !**  
**NOW SERVING RAW OYSTERS AND CHARGRILLED !**

**JUST ADDED. TUNA AND MAHI MAHI**

**LIVE MUSIC 7 DAYS A WEEK**

**APRIL**

MON 22 KARAOKE GARY & JACK (5-9)  
TUE 23 DAMIEN LAMB (2-5)  
TUE 23 BAT BENNET (6-9).  
WED 24 JAY / ERIC / MAC (2-5)  
WED 24 LEANNE CRESWELL DUO (5-9)  
THUR 25 WIRE / PA PA / AC. (3-6)  
THUR 25 OPEN MIC , GARY STORY 6-10  
FRI 26 DONNA SLATER (3-6)  
FRI 26 JOHNNYB & BRITT  
FRI 26. CHRIS BEVERLY (10:30)  
SAT 27 RONNIE WILLIAMS BENEFIT (12-6)  
SAT 27. GIRL CODE RHONDA / KIM / ELAINE (6-10)  
SUN 28 CRISTINA CHRISTIAN (1-4)  
SUN 28 JOHNNY & BRITT 4-8  
MON. 29. DADFIRE (2-5)  
MON 29 KARAOKE. GARY & JACK. (5-9)  
TUE 30 MIKE / ANITA (2-5)  
TUE 30 AL & CATHY (5-9)

**MAY**

WED 1. JAY/ ERIC / MAC ( 2-5)  
WED 1 T BONE / BO / CHRIS (5-9)  
THUR 2 WIRE / PA PA / AC ( 3-6)  
THUR 2 OPEN MIC , GARY (6-10)  
FRI 3 DONNA SLATER (3-6)  
FRI 3 BAT BENNET (5-8)  
FRI 3 SAUCY FUZZ (8:30 - till)  
SAT 4 JON JOINER (2-6)  
SAT 4 JUSTIN JEANSONNE BAND (6-10)  
SUN 5 DARREL ROBERTS. (1-4)  
SUN 5 LUCKY DOGGS (4-8)  
MON 6. DADFIRE. (2-4)  
MON 6 KARAOKE. GART & MIKE (5-9)  
TUE 7 DAMIEN LAMB (2-5)  
TUE. 7 TBA.  
WED 8 JAY - ERIC - MAC (2-5)  
WED 8 RYAN BALTHROP (5-9)  
THUR 9 WIRE - PA PA - AC (3-6)  
THUR 9 OPEN MIC , GARY (6-10)  
FRI 10 DONNA SLATER (3-6)  
FRI 10 MIDLIFE CRISIS (7-11)  
SAT 11 JON JOINER (2-6)  
SAT 11 BRANDON GILES (6-10)  
SUN. 12 JAY HAWKINS. (1-4)

SUN 12 JON JOINER-DARRELL-BOOM (4-8)  
MON 13 DADFIRE (2-4)  
MON13 KARAOKE , GARY & JACK (5-9)  
TUE 14 MIKE & ANITA (2-5)  
TUE 14 CHRIS BEVERLY (5-9)  
WED 15 JAY - ERIC & MAC (2-5)  
WED 15 TBONE - BO & CHRIS. (5-9)  
THUR 16 WIRE - PA PA - RC (3-6)  
THUR 16 OPEN MIC - GARY (6-10)  
FRI 17 DONNA SLATER. (3-6)  
FRI 17 BRIAN HILL & TONY (6-10)  
SAT 18 JON JOINER (2-6)  
SAT 18 LEA ANN CRESWELL TRIP (6-10)  
SUN 19. JUSTIN JEANSONNE (1-4)  
SUN 19 AMANDA PRUITT (4-8)

**JOHNNY Bs**  
**FRONT PORCH**  
**LILLIAN AL**