



The Lillian

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MARCH 2022

Lillian, AL 36549
Volume 26, Number 3

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The Lillian Offering \$500 Scholarship

The Lillian Action Committee and the staff of *The Lillian* are again offering a \$500 tuition grant scholarship for a Lillian high school senior.

The award will be given to a student who plans to continue their education in fall 2022 at a trade school, two-year or four-year college or university.

Eligible students must have a 36549/Lillian address on file at their high school and must be a 2022 high school graduate from an area school or home school.

All applications should be mailed to *The Lillian*, P.O. Box 1088, Lillian, and must be postmarked by May 15, 2022. Entries received after that date will not be considered.

Committee members will verify the residency of each candidate and all those eligible will be entered into a drawing.

The name of one student will be drawn during the Action Committee's quarterly meeting in July.

The \$500 grant will then be paid directly to the school after the student has enrolled for the fall term. The application form is in this issue of *The Lillian* on Page 8 and is also available for download on the newspaper's web site.

To access the paper online, go to www.lilliancommunityclub.com then click on *The Lillian* link at the top of the page.

Zachary Paul was the 2021 scholarship winner and he attended Coastal Alabama Community College, studying to become an aviation technician with the school's Aviation Center.

Lillian and a License to Wine

Editor's Note: This information was provided to us by local historian Curry Weber. He has provided us with several stories in the past and has been delving into this piece about a well known restaurant that was never meant to be a dining place. He also shares stories and photographs on Facebook on a page called Historic Lillian.

While the "Noble Experiment" of Prohibition occurred across the United States from 1919-1933, Alabama had enacted its own ban in November 1907. The idea was the restrictions could eliminate a host of societal problems thought to be caused by alcohol such as domestic violence, workplace accidents and the general absence of morality.

Though it outlawed sales and production, the 18th Amendment continued to permit the consumption of alcohol which ended up creating more problems than it ended up solving.

Following the failed experiment, states were given the authority to individually regulate alcohol within their borders and in February 1937, the Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board was established to "maintain a safe, reliable, and efficient network of controlled products, ...to ensure responsibility in the distribution, possession, and consumption of alcoholic products."

By mid-July, the ABC Board would hand out the first permit to manufacture wine in the state of Alabama to a gentleman in Lillian.

Descendants of German winemakers going back to the 13th century, Johann Herman Heinrich Bartels, born in Hanover, and Christine Theresa Mueller, born in Aus-



The Bartels family composed of Herman, his wife Christine, and their daughters, Anna, age 5, and Elise, age 3, posed for a photograph in 1918. Their home in Lillian was known for several decades as the place for diners to go for fine wine and fried chicken. (Photo courtesy of the Baldwin County Heritage Museum)

tria-Hungary, were married on Nov. 7, 1912 at Swift Church in Miflin.

They would soon erect a home and establish a small

■ See Wine, continued on Page 9

Newspaper Welcomes Monaghan as New Managing Editor

The Lillian Action Committee has named David Monaghan as the managing editor of *The Lillian* newspaper. He will be taking the position over from Janel Smith, who has served in the role since 2018.

Monaghan lives in Lillian and has an extensive background in the newspaper industry. With a master's degree in print and broadcast journalism, his experience includes serving as managing editor of *The Herald News* in Joliet, Ill., and for the *Ottumwa Courier* in Ottumwa, Iowa. He

was also a zone editor with *The Times* in northwest Indiana and publisher and editor-in-chief of *Transport Fleet News*.

After leaving the newspaper business, Monaghan was elected Wheatland Township property tax assessor in Illinois until he retired and moved to Lillian.

The Lillian Action Committee oversees the newspaper which began producing monthly publications in September 1995.

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Masons Sponsoring Community Breakfast March 5

The Lillian Community Club will be the site for a community breakfast on March 5 from 8 to 9:30 a.m. Lillian Masonic Lodge #925 will prepare and serve the breakfast at no charge. Donations will be accepted.

Worshipful Master Joseph Taylor will present a certificate of appreciation to the LCC board of directors during the event to recognize their service to the community, and will share many examples of how the club has made a positive difference in Lillian.

The menu will include pancakes, sausage, coffee, milk and orange juice.

In early December, the lodge had a pipe burst and the building suffered water damage. Although

the building is now useable for meetings, the kitchen area will remain idle until repairs and improvements have been completed. LCC allowed the lodge to hold its annual Christmas party at the club and offered its meeting space through this time.

The beginnings of the Lillian Masonic Lodge #925 can be traced back to planning meetings held at the LCC. The facility also hosted some of the early lodge meetings prior to the current building being erected in 1985-86. The list of involvement by the LCC is extensive.

For more information, please contact Jeff Keener at 251-210-9081 or 859-991-4619 or email jeffreyaakeener@gmail.com.

Bayside Baptist Offering Grief Support Program

Bayside Baptist Church on Highway 98 in Lillian will be offering GriefShare starting in March. This is a worldwide grief support program for anyone grieving the loss of a spouse, child, relative or friend.

This is a 13-week program meeting on Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. at the church. The meetings will be approximately 90

minutes. Each participant will need to purchase their own personal workbook for \$20 that will be needed at the meetings and for reference at home.

The meetings are DVD-based, hearing from world renowned grief experts. The facilitators for this group are Greg and Debbie Brown, who have lost a son, a brother and their

parents and were facilitators for several years in Texas.

More information can be found on the GriefShare website and to sign up to attend the sessions. The website is GriefShare.org.

You may also call Greg at 812-371-2323 or Debbie at 812-764-3695 for additional information.

Final Ham Dinner On March 27**Lillian American Legion Post 48**

By Wayne B. Lavalley, Adjutant

A big thank you to everyone who attended our ham dinners in January and February. We normally prepare 50 meals for takeout but with the addition of the drive through, we had to make about 75. Our attendance was down a little.

We had plenty of seating for everyone inside so please come out and join us for the final ham dinner of the on Sunday, March 27, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cost is \$12 for adults and these dinners are the only fundraisers held by Post 48 American Legion.

Proceeds are used for Lillian Little League, Boys State, Veterans Day, Memorial Day and ramps for veterans because of walkers or wheel chairs.

More information will be coming as it looks like Legion baseball will be returning to Lillian.

If you have served federal active duty in the

United States Armed Forces, and have been honorably discharged or are still serving, you are eligible to join the American Legion.

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

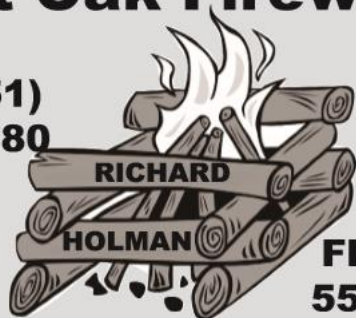
Meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. at the LCC. Come join us and become one of the millions of Legionnaires still serving. Or stop in for a cup of coffee on Wednesday mornings – we'd like to meet you.

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Red Hat Society Celebrates Valentine's Day



The Perdido Grande Dames Red Hat Society ladies enjoyed a February gathering at the Spanish Cove RV Clubhouse. Hostesses were Dottie Mau and Waynette Brown. Dottie made hand crafted earrings and car drink coasters for door prizes and Waynette made brownies, Valentine cupcakes and sweet tea. Birthday girls Este and Sandra received personalized Red Hat mugs. Attending were, front from left, Mary Margaret Ayres, Judy Wargo, Kay Lett, Gloria Pierson, Este Donnenwirth and Diane Gilbert. In back, Lorraine Standish, Kay Rose Stovall, Melissa Scott, Ann Cox, Dottie Mau, Lorri Roit, Priscilla Westgate, Kathy Brown, Karen Brady, Sandra Jurries, Vickey Massey, and Waynette Brown.

Shepherd of the Bay Offering Lent Services

Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church will be having Lent services starting Ash Wednesday with Holy Communion on March 2. Ash Wednesday is the first of weekly Wednesday services added during Lent to help strengthen our faith leading up to Easter.

Service starts at 9 a.m., followed by Bible class at 10 a.m. and a soup and sandwich lunch afterward.

Rev. Timothy Sowers will lead the service each Wednesday and Rev. Paul Wargo will lead the Bible classes.

Sessions will focus on familiar stories about Jesus, but see them in the order in which they happened. Scenes from three movies will be used.

The public is invited each Wednesday. More information is at www.facebook.com/shepherdofthebay and weekly sermons are available on the church's YouTube channel. The church website can be found at www.shepherdofthebaylillian.com.

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American Legion HAM DINNER

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Adams Earns Mason Promotion



Brother James Edward Adams met the requirements to be passed from Entered Apprentice to Fellow Craft on Feb. 15 at the Lillian Masonic Lodge. Pictured are, from left, Sr. Deacon Mike Blankenship, Fellow Craft James Edward Adams, Worshipful Master Joe Taylor Sr., Warden Bruce Falcon and District Lecturer Steve Williams.

Optimists Gearing Up for Mullet Festival

Optimist Club of Perdido Bay President Daniel Randall announced Dodd Buchillon as chair of the 2022 Mullet Festival. The event will be held on Monday, Sept. 5.

"The Mullet Festival is our largest fundraiser of the year," said Bouchillon. "This is a big project for the club and we want to get an early start. We are planning to have our best Mullet Festival ever."

Committee chairs for the event include Lee Hoffman, meal coordinator; Kathy Keener, silent auction; Jane Foster, deja vu sale; Jean Bennett, race coordinator; Jeff Keener, raffle; Doug Scott, 50/50; Betty Erwin, bake sale; Daniel Randall, sponsorship; and Jeff Keener, publicity.

The club is hoping to improve on the participation portions including the mullet toss and children's area.

Kim Warner agreed to serve in the role of committee chair.

The festival raised more than \$35,000 last year. The goal for this year should be announced soon.



Jessica Ware was guest speaker at a recent Optimist Club meeting, sharing information about the Care House Child Advocacy Center. Club President Daniel Randall presented her with a check to help in the mission to keep children safe.

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Mary's Shelter Hosts Draw Down Event

Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast recently hosted the 2nd Annual Be My Valentine event. Gina Rogers was the winner of the \$10,000 draw down prize. The event included lunch and silent and live auctions featuring jewelry, gift cards, condominium stays and Alabama footballs signed by Coach Nick Saban.

Sponsors included Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Roy and Mary Ann Lamm, Susan Shallow RE/MAX Paradise, Ladies of St. Margaret, Msgr. Frederick Bryce Foundation, Bob and Terry Barnett and the Matthew Flanigan family.

Also the estate of Cordy Drollinger, Centennial Bank, Eagle Molding Company, Norman and Jeanne Franz, Paul and Theresa Umentum, Bama Beach Pickleball, Hellmich Electric, Souvenir City-Gulf Shores, Joe and Mary Lou Roszkowski, DeSoto's Seafood Restaurant, St. Anne Parish-Gulf Breeze, Our Lady of the Gulf Parish, Dennis and Elena Lundy, The Eagles Club-Foley, Joe and Kristin Babington, Rodney Hamrick the Condo King, Brett Robinson Company, Bishop William Wack, Kitty's Café, Live Action Landscapes, Fairhope Rotary, Our Lady of the Gulf Altar Rosary Society, Malcolm Biedekapp and Mary Ann Moore, John and Sue Koehn, Bob and Sue Moreno, St. Thomas by the Sea Altar Society, St. Andrew by the Sea, St. Bartholomew Parish, Knights of Columbus #3859, Frank and Donna Blizzard, Optimist Club of Perdido Bay, St. Margaret of Scotland Parish, South Baldwin Podiatry, Cameron and Stacy Rodgers and Tom Gardner-RE/MAX Gulf Shores.

Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast is a home for homeless pregnant women who choose life for their unborn child. Staffed 24 hours a day and seven days a week, the home is overseen by an executive director. A program manager helps residents set goals for their future and meets with each resident on a regular basis to review progress. In addition to an administrative assistant, a grant researcher and writer, a resident advisor is always available to help the residents, the newborns and older siblings. Rounding out the home are many volunteers who help with all aspects of the program as well as baby rocking, preparing mailings and helping with upkeep on the home.

Fundraisers and donations help with the every day costs of running a home including food, utilities, clothing and many diapers. For more information about Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast, visit the website at maryssheltergulfcoast.net.

Don't Miss An Issue!



Subscriptions are available for \$20 for a year (12 issues).

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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 JulieMcManus 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
1/2 Page (horiz.) = 10" wide x 5.5" tall
1/2 Page (vertical) = 5" wide x 11" tall
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

The Lillian

PO Box 1088

Lillian, AL 36549

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 April issue of *The Lillian* will be March 23.

Send an email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com for information on articles and news.

Call Julie McManus at 703-217-2874 or email chewlatata@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

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President: Sally McKinney
Vice President: Jackie Reid
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Elberta Students Shine at STAR Events

Elberta Middle School FCCLA competed in the 2022 Baldwin County STAR Events competition. STAR Events recognize participants who demonstrate knowledge, skills and abilities to actively identify an issue concerning families, careers or communities, research the topic and develop and implement a project to advocate for positive change. Earning recognition were Alyssa Morrow, first place in career investigations; Zoelynn Barnwell, first place in chapter service project display; Saylor Morrow, Mercedes Nicely and Chloe Russo, first place in entrepreneurship; Joy Miller and Chloe Pitard, first place in focus on children; Finley Loper, Catie Parker and Meredith Williams, first place in food innovations; and Delaney English, Sierra Jones and Kortlyn White, first place in sports nutrition. Also pictured are Rylee Mohler, Maya Boyd, Jessi Dade, Violet Vanderpool, Nevaeh Santos and Carly Patterson with event staff.

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Issue

March

April

Deadline

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Thanks To The Pet Parents Out There

I never had pets when I was a kid. Wait, I take that back. I did have goldfish, but Jack jumped out of the bowl and for some reason I had to send Jean to a new home. She went to a family down the street that had an outside pond in the yard. Winter came and the special species went inside to a tank in the basement. Jean went inside, too. Oops! There was a power failure one night. No one but Jean survived. All those expensive Koi or whatever were gone, but my dime store fish made it.

Years later after I married, we had dogs and cats, but I was never one to get really close to them. They were pets. I took care of them, but I never had a relationship like I have seen with friends and family and their "fur babies."

My friend Cindy and Harley had one of those relationships. I saw it first hand when they lived in Lillian. Harley knew exactly what Cindy was thinking. He obeyed the rules she had

set and it was a joy to see them together. They moved back north and I would still see that love when I would visit in their new home.

Then I got this from Cindy and I realized how devastated she must be.

"My name is Harley Davidson and this is my story as my adopted Mom knows it. In July 2010 DJ's mom (Bernadette) asked her eight-year-old son to walk me around the neighborhood in Spanish Cove in Lillian to see if he could find me a new home.

As luck would have it, he rang the



Just a Thought or Two

By Sally McKinney

bell of Cindy and Ron Harrington. The second time they were both home and agreed to give me a two-week trial.

Because I was so good, they adopted me. I became Ron's companion until his death in 2016 and then my mom had me all to herself.

I was happy and healthy until Jan-



Harley Davidson, happy companion to Cindy and Ron Harrington.

uary 2021 when I developed a tumor in my ear. Because I would have been 17 years old in November and the operation was very serious, the vet advised my mom to just make me as comfortable and happy as possible.

It finally got too bad and mom took me to the vet for a peaceful goodbye on Sept. 10. Two weeks later I came back to her in a dream where I was happily playing with all my dog friends. That gave her peace because she loved me so much.

I just wanted to thank Bernadette and DJ for finding me such a good and loving home. Sincerely, Harley Davidson."

I'm sure Cindy (mom) wrote this to get some peace, but also to thank those who brought Harley into her life. I think it is also a "Thank You" to all those who have provided special "fur babies" around the world to men and women who open their hearts to cats, dogs, lizards, parakeets and others who have brought special joy to their lives.



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NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

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 2022 high school or home school graduate)

UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE/TRADE SCHOOL ATTENDING IN FALL 2022: _____

ADDRESS OF ABOVE SCHOOL: _____

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, 2022. 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. We will publish the winner's photo when the award is announced.

~ Questions may be directed by email to 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.



Lillian Perdido Bay Library Corner

By Betty Bovat

Library Offers Wide Variety of Services

The library was busy in February with people stopping in to buy books, bring in their membership donations and using the computers and printers.

We hope everyone has received our postcards reminding them of a donation to the library.

We are a total donation library, meaning we do not receive any federal, county, state or local monies. We are grateful to everyone that has donated this year.

We also appreciate receiving books that are less than five years old in good condition that we can place on our shelves for patrons to check out. We have a nice selection of new hard-back books.

If you are in need of federal or state tax forms and books for 2021, we have a supply for you to pick up at our library.

We are open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon.

We have received the spring/summer restaurant coupon books for sale at \$20. Take a look at those books and you'll realize you get the \$20. back in no time.

Submit your news items, photos, meeting notes and community interest pieces to *The Lillian* by email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com



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■ Wine, continued from Page 1

vineyard on the 40 acres Mr. Bartels had purchased the year before from the Baldwin County Colonization Company. Known to family and friends as Herman, he would later recall "I learned (to make wine) in the old country when I was a boy. Every family makes it over there and it is almost a part of one's education." As the wine enterprise wobbled onto its feet during the early years primarily for personal use, the couple focused their efforts on growing produce destined for the Pensacola markets in order to support themselves and their two young daughters, Anna and Elsie.

Their modest five-acre vineyard of Perdido Bay scuppernong muscadines ultimately proved to be a hit and through local sales and a steady stream of cases shipped back home to Germany, the homestead thrived during the Prohibition years. By pure chance, thanks in large part to Christine's homemade fried chicken, the couple would quickly find themselves unwittingly creating a renowned restaurant and winery that would endure for over five decades.

Initially traveling by horse-drawn wagon, Herman would make regular trips by ferry across Perdido Bay to the markets at Pensacola. However, with the construction of the single-lane wooden toll bridge completed in 1917 and with the bureaucratic bickering over a good road connecting it to Pensacola wrapped up the following year, he would soon start making the market runs in his new Ford truck. It

is very likely during one of these jaunts that Herman Bartels met a gentleman from the Naval Air Station that would change his life.

NAS Pensacola can trace its origins to a pair of Navy officers who were witnesses to a "heavier-than-air" craft demonstration organized in 1908 by the Wright Brothers in Fort Myer, Va. When the U.S. found itself at war with Germany for the first time in April 1917, the three-year-old air station existed as the only place in the country that trained naval aviators to operate seaplanes, free and kite balloons, and even dirigibles!

Following the Great War, the base was hopping with over 400 officers and nearly 6,000 enlisted men stationed on Pensacola Bay. Consequently, as most of the students in the year-long flight training program were graduates of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis Md., Naval Air Station Pensacola soon became affectionately known as the "Annapolis of the Air."

"Well, that started it. We hadn't planned on going into the restaurant business but after that, we were in - plans or no plans," said Herman Bartels in 1946.

He was referring to a typical family dinner at their home. What made this particular Sunday evening in 1921 unique was the company of a friend Herman had invited from the naval base. With the delicious fried chicken prepared by Christine and the wine made from their front yard arbor of scuppernong muscadines, the Bartels

had unknowingly transformed the trajectory of their lives.

That evening, word of the "chow that couldn't be topped in any port" would cross over Perdido Bay, ramble down the road to Pensacola and quickly find its way about the base. In fact, just a few days after that fateful dinner in Lillian, a party of Naval personnel and their dates showed up unannounced on the Bartels' front porch and casually proclaimed, "We are on our way to Bon Secour and thought we would stop by for dinner."

Baffled, Bartels responded, "I'm sorry this isn't a restaurant - there must be a mistake!"

"Oh, no," declared one of the officers, "We've heard about your fine wine and fried chicken. This is Bartels' farm, isn't it?"

After an uncomfortably long few seconds of silent staring, Herman was saved by his wife, Christine, who arrived on the scene and invited the party into their home.

And the rest, as they say, is history.

The family would soon find themselves swamped with calls and letters from NAS Pensacola asking permission to come by for dinner. Herman would later confess, "There was nothing to do but set the table. At first, we refused to accept money for meals but things developed on such a large scale we had to charge or go broke."

And while booking ahead of time wasn't absolutely necessary, showing up unannounced would require patience while the chickens were killed,

dressed and cooked.

Oddly enough, the postal service and local telephone company weren't the only options when it came to making reservations. Nearly five years before the first commercial airmail flight in the United States contracted by the Post Office Department, the ingenious Navy pilots would invent and employ their own 'air mail' system to schedule time with the Bartels.

Herman recalled, "One day a Navy plane buzzed the house and I went out in the front yard to watch. The pilot signaled to me, and I saw something flutter down from the plane. It was a note announcing that a party would be over for dinner the next Sunday. The airmail system worked so well that from then on we would expect at least one plane a day - sometimes there were more. Often the 'bombing' wouldn't be so accurate and the pilot would have to scribble another note when the first landed a mile away."

For the next 15 years, the Bartels farm 'restaurant' continued to flourish, serving superior suppers and first-rate fine wines to the populations of Naval Air Station Pensacola and the surrounding communities. However, it would all come to a hard stop in October 1936 when Herman found himself unexpectedly locked up in a Mobile jail cell, facing serious charges from the state of Alabama.

Not to worry though, Weber will be adding to this story on his Facebook page and we will share it with our readers when it is available.

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To Whom Shall We Go?

Unfortunately, when it comes to making an authentic commitment to Jesus Christ, many people walk away at the first sign of resistance. In the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John, Jesus feeds 5,000 men and possibly an equal number of women and children with five small loaves and two fish. The impact of that event was enormous. They knew someone special was in their midst and they wanted to make Him king.

When Jesus saw they were getting carried away in their response, he retreated to his home in Capernaum. People came looking for Him there. He decided to separate the sheep from the goats, the highly committed from those casually interested.

The people then weren't much different than today. They wanted the benefits, but not the sacrifice. Jesus wanted them to know the easy part was over. Now it was time to tackle the nitty-gritty of what a commitment to his kingdom meant. And most of



The Methodist Message

By Rev. Daniel Randall

the crowd would have nothing to do with it. They had freely followed Him, now they were freely walking away, just as many do today. Jesus will never give up on you, but Jesus will never force you to follow. This was a turning point in Jesus' life and ministry.

Jesus is for everybody, but not everybody is for Jesus. Even some of those who declare they follow Jesus don't really go with Him all the way.

A rather loud man approached a minister and said to him, "I want to go to a church that is Bible-believing. Do you understand me? A place where the preacher is not trying to tip toe around the hard lessons of Jesus, a preacher who will lay it on the line, not try to water down the Gospel. I

want a preacher who will not let sinners slide and will call them out by name. I don't want a preacher to skirt around the message of Jesus."

The pastor said, "You want the full Gospel?"

"Yes, absolutely," the man responded. The pastor said, "You mean the part about selling all you have and giving it to the poor?"

The man was stunned and said, "Well, not that part!"

Many of Jesus' so-called disciples would slink away if they were put on the spot about some of the more difficult teachings.

But for those committed to following Christ until the end, we can't imagine anything else. We have found everything we will ever need. We have found healing and hope and joy in Him. When the crowd had gone away and Jesus was left with the original 12 who had followed him since the early days in Galilee, Jesus asked, "You do not want to leave, too, do you?" It was Simon Peter who spoke

up, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and to know that you are the holy one of God."

What a magnificent statement of faith. No wonder Jesus loved Simon Peter. Simon wasn't perfect. There would come a time when he would let Christ down. But isn't that true of all of us? No matter how intent we are on following Christ, there will be times when we falter. That does not mean, however, that deep in our hearts we do not want to serve Christ. He is the one who has the words of eternal life. He is the one we believe is the Holy One of God.

Jesus is asking you, "Do you want to leave, do you want to walk away?" You have to answer for yourself. Will you answer like Simon Peter? Despite hardships, despite doubts, despite the distractions of the world, will you take up the cross of Christ and follow where He leads? Or will you walk away like the crowd? The choice is yours, but it is an eternal choice.

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Department Seeking Financial and Volunteer Support

The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department responded to 103 calls dispatched by 911 operators in January which included 63 medical assistance, 20 public assists, 3 motor vehicle accidents, 1 structure fire, 2 brush fires, 6 cancelled calls, 1 unauthorized burning and 7 aircraft stand-bys.

It's only the second month of the year and we are back up to receiving hundreds of calls. With the increase of new housing and mobile homes in the Lillian district, we are really feeling the impact on our resources.

Although our volunteers are dedicated to helping the community, the vast majority of them have a day job which leaves just a few volunteers during daytime hours.

We would really appreciate

any new recruits to help out. Remember you do not need any prior fire or medical training, all training will be provided.

Also, there is no age limit – there is always a job you can do around the department.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please give us a call at 962-2696 and leave a message. We will return your call.

January was an exciting month for the department. We hosted a Fire and Emergency Instructor class with nine students taught by LVFD firefighter Todd Mullane.

This class gives newly certified instructors the ability to host and train the current and next generation firefighters. These students put forth more than 40 hours of additional training last month and each of them

Lillian Volunteer Fire Department

By Goretti Lysek

should be commended for their hard work and contribution to LVFD and the surrounding fire departments.

In last month's article we mentioned slow response in our annual solicitation letter – only 16% of the community responded.

Each year we receive an excel sheet of up-to-date addresses from Baldwin County Revenue Commissioners Office for the Lillian district.

We then send these to the printer with our solicitation letter/sticker for mail. We were surprised to see many of you did

■ **LVFD, continued on Page 12**



Lillian Volunteer Fire Department hosted a Fire and Emergency Instructor class in January with nine students taught by firefighter Todd Mullane. Taking part were, front from left, LVFD Chief Nick Dewhurst, Michael Andrews, Lt. Nick Dosh and Lt. Jeff Gleason. In back are Todd Mullane, Hudson Staimpel, Capt. Martie Clark, William Vanbrimmer, James McCormick and Conner Clopton. Staimpel, Vanbrimmer, McCormick and Clopton serve with the Elberta Fire Department.

Need To Borrow Medical Supplies?

You can borrow medical supplies for free! Lillian American Legion Post #48 has a 'lending closet' that stocks many useful items, including wheelchairs, crutches, walkers, hospital beds, potty chairs, etc. Please contact Bill Burns at 251-978-3440 or Darrell Ochs at 251-269-9084. Check here before you buy or rent. Donations may be dropped off at the Advent Thrift Shop and the Lillian Community Club. Individuals who borrowed items and no longer need them can call and return the items to the Legion.

Individuals willing to donate items can call and Legion members will pick them up.

■ LVFD, continued from Page 11

not receive the original letter. We are currently looking into the reasons for the shortage or wrong addresses. We certainly apologize for the inconvenience.

In the meantime, for those that didn't receive the letter and would like to donate, we would appreciate if you could send in your contribution using the form included on this page or call us at 962-2696 and we would be happy to pick up your donation.

You can also contact us on our Lillian Fire Rescue Facebook page. Your donation is tax deductible. We are requesting a donation of \$75 per household or unit of property and for businesses to contribute \$150.

Membership Registration Form 2021-22

Name _____

911 Street Address _____

Mailing Address (if different from above) _____

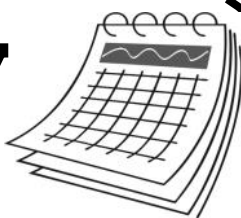
Phone _____

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

Fundraising letters have been mailed out with addresses provided by the Baldwin County Revenue Commissioner's Office.

If you had a problem receiving your letter, call the fire station at 962-2696 and leave a message. Your donation is tax deductible. We are requesting a donation of \$75 per household and \$150 per business.

Community Calendar



- March 1 & 15 - Lillian Masonic Lodge 925 meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the lodge
- March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 - AL-ANON meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Lillian United Methodist Church in the conference room
- March 2, 9, 16 & 23 - Weight Watchers meets every Wednesday in the First Baptist Church auditorium on Barclay Street, weigh-in starts at 10 a.m., meeting begins at 10:30 a.m.
- March 8 & 22 - Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church Food Pantry, 9 to 11 a.m., second and fourth Tuesday of the month
- March 10 - Optimist Night Out, 5 p.m., Front Porch. Call Linda Warren by March 8 to make a reservation, 847-651-5762
- March 12 - Optimist Club breakfast at Lillian Community Club. Teachers of the year from Elberta Elementary, Middle and High School and St. Benedict Catholic School will be recognized.
- March 14 - LASAR meeting, 7 p.m. second Monday of each month, Barclay Street
- March 15 - St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, 9 to 11 a.m., third Tuesday of each month, St. Joseph Catholic Church
- March 19 - Market in the Park, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lillian Recreational Park
- March 21 - American Legion Post 48 meeting, 7 p.m., third Monday of each month, Lillian Community Club
- March 24-26 - Trash-N-Treasure rummage sale, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Lillian United Methodist Church, sponsored by the United Methodist Women's Group
- March 26 - Optimist Club breakfast at Lillian Community Club. Winners of the youth oratorical contest will share their speeches.
- March 27 - Outdoor worship service, 9 a.m., Lillian United Methodist Church, followed by a pancake breakfast in fellowship hall. Outdoor pavilion will be dedicated in memory of Jay Dufer.
- March 27- American Legion ham dinner, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Lillian Community Club, see ad on Page 3

Please email meeting and event dates, times and locations to lillianeditor@yahoo.com

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Evening Worship	6:00 pm		
<u>Tuesday</u>		<u>Friday</u>	
Men's Breakfast	8:00 am	Women's Bible Study	10:00 am

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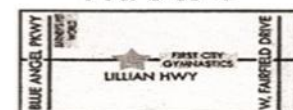
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CHIT CHAT

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 March go out to Jean Legg, Edward Heiner, Edi Langlois, Elaine Grounds, Marcia Allen, Rita Roth, Joan Rugg, Bill Weaver, Bob Davidson, Tootsie Farrell, Sarah Wigton, Ted Bennett, Lynn Corker, Cliff Ledbetter, Patricia Heiner, Don Hartman, Inez Parker, Jerry Skates, Julie Moore, Dee Woodford, Louise Greenley, Joanne Bold, Ron Morris, Chuck Townsend, Ed Rugg, Jim Avera, Jean Bartlett, Christine Clark, Joe Keller, Jana Widener, Kelly Varret, Brooks Foster and Cath-

erine McNeil.

Celebrating wedding anniversaries in March are William and Sara Laibe, John and Peggy Blalock, Jim and Blanch Crandall (1961), Richard and Carolyn Holt (1963), Jim and Mary Morris (1972), Dennis and Linda Roach (1975), Bob and Sharon Linda (2004) and Joanne and Brooks Foster (2019).

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 April issue of *The Lillian* is March 23.

Submit your news items, photos, meeting notes and community interest pieces to *The Lillian* by email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com



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Taking a Closer Look at Alabama Taxes

It's time to talk about Alabama taxes. Here is what the 2021 Alabama booklet highlights:

■ Check out the updated website at www.revenue.alabama.gov for downloadable forms, fill-in-forms, instructions and the most up-to-date information. The website also hosts links to online filing providers supporting the federal/state electronic filing program.

■ Refund status: For the most up-to-date information concerning the status of your current year refund, call 1-855-894-7391 or check the website.

■ Identity quiz: If you receive a notice to complete an ID confirmation quiz, it is not because you are suspected of ID theft. The purpose of the quiz is to protect your identity as the filer and prevent loss of taxpayer dollars to thieves.

■ Credits: Certain tax credits are now required to be pre-approved

through My Alabama Taxes (MAT) at www.myalabamataxes.alabama.gov.

■ Schedule ATP: This is a new schedule needed to report penalties and additional tax due. It is also used to report consumer use tax, catastrophe savings tax, estimated tax penalty and first-time second chance homebuyer savings account penalty.

■ Contributions to an Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) savings account: Beginning Jan. 1, 2021, a deduction for contributions made to an Alabama ABLE savings account of an amount up to \$5,000 per year can reduce your taxes.

■ Schedule HBC: This schedule is used to claim a deduction for deposits made to first time and second chance homebuyer accounts. It is also used to report deposits, withdrawals and compute the penalty for nonqualified withdrawal.

Some of the basics for filing an



Let's Talk Taxes

By Carol Kovacs
CPA, EA

Alabama return include:

■ Check whether you have to file an Alabama tax return. For both full and part year residents, if you are Single and your gross income is less than \$4,000, Head of Household \$7,700, Married Filing Jointly \$10,500 and Married Filing Separately \$5,250, you do not have to file. When calculating gross income, you do not include Social Security or retirements from the federal government or the military. Other government pensions and Defined Benefit Retirement Plans 414(j) that are retirement plans your employer or a union established and paid for you are also not included as Alabama gross income.

Alabama did not suspend miscel-

laneous deductions as the federal government did. You can take some employee expenses not reimbursed by your employer, union dues, small tools, uniform maintenance, travel, transportation or meal expenses for your job.

Other expenses like tax preparation fees, safe deposit rental, certain legal and accounting fees, IRA custodial fees, and financial management or advisory fees are still itemized deductions in Alabama. These expenses are subject to a 2% Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) threshold before they can be claimed.

Alabama also allows deductions for casualty losses due to theft, vandalism, fire, storm, and car, boat and other accidents or similar causes. Of course, these losses are still limited to amounts over 10% of your AGI less \$100.

If you have any questions you would like addressed in future columns, email carolpkovacs@aol.com.

Perdido Bay Residents,



Your bay is being used as a dump. International Paper is dumping sludges laden with dioxin, heavy metals, and PCBs 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. We must stop this destruction of our beautiful bay and restore it to its once prolific past. Join Friends of Perdido Bay with a \$20.00 annual membership. Send your membership (Name, Address and Telephone Number) to: Friends of Perdido Bay, 38 S. Blue Angel Parkway, PMB 350, Pensacola, FL 32506. We send out a bimonthly newsletter.

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**Bits and
Pieces**
By Jackie Reid

Every once in a while, because of the continuous influx of new residents, I revisit an explanation of my caricature at the top of this column.

At one time every columnist in The Lillian claimed the same honor. In the mid to late 1990s syndicated cartoonist Bud Morris gifted this paper with a caricature for each one of us who had a column. I'm the last of the honored writers.

This is a piece of Lillian's history that I'm trying to keep alive. Lillian was blessed to have Bud Morris as a member of our community.

Over a six year period, two sexually intact cats over a six-year period will produce with their descendants a total of 420,000 cats.

Besides being a nuisance to neighborhoods, most will die horrible deaths: starvation, disease and being run over. Who can we blame for this? How about those individuals who don't have their cats neutered or spayed and throw them out of their cars for others to deal with? They have no feelings for these innocent creatures or for their fellow man. If you have no intention of being a responsible pet owner, don't get one.

Spanish Cove has been lucky enough to have the Cat Coalition who capture, fix and release. But it is a

shame that a group like this has to exist.

I know of people who have adopted these feral cats and given them love and care and found it rewarding. My daughter and her friend did exactly that and this cat is very loving.

A friend and I were talking about novels we were reading, as we often do. I am an avid reader, but she is a voracious reader. Our conversation this time was about how readers will often only read the works of authors that are popular at the time. We agreed the problem with doing this is that many good writers are overlooked.

When I volunteered at the library, I noticed the same authors' books were being checked out and many excellent novels sat on the shelves.

My mother was guilty of this, too. She read every book written by a popular, prolific writer of the '80s and '90s. I tried reading one of these books and not only found it boring, but I didn't think it was well-written. And yet many of this woman's novels appeared on the best sellers list. To each their own. I guess the important thing was that my mother enjoyed them.

Speaking of libraries, Lillian is fortunate to have a very nice library. It is maintained by caring volunteers. Check it out if you haven't already. You can find their article on Page 8 of this issue.

"Reading is to the mind, what exercise is to the body." - Joseph Addison

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From the Baseball Field to the Pulpit

Many athletes will eventually need a new career. Some go into coaching, some to sportscasting, others turn to entertainment. And some athletes turn to preaching. Does anyone remember Billy Sunday?

William Ashley Sunday (1862-1935) began his career as a baseball player for the Chicago White Stockings and was traded to a few other teams. Eventually he became one of the country's best known evangelists. Between 1896 and 1935, he gave an estimated 20,000 sermons.

Born into poverty in Iowa, Sunday's speed and agility provided him the opportunity to play baseball in the major leagues for eight years, where he was known for his speed as a base-runner. Playing in the days before outfielders wore gloves, Sunday made thrilling catches featuring long sprints and athletic dives, but he also committed many errors.

On an afternoon off in Chicago in

1886, Sunday and several teammates were out on the town. They stopped to listen to a gospel preaching team. Sunday was attracted to the hymns he remembered his mother singing and began attending services at the mission. After some struggle, he decided to become a Christian and began attending the Jefferson Park Presbyterian Church, a congregation near the ball park.

By the end of the season, Sunday left baseball for the ministry. He gradually developed his skills as a pulpit evangelist in the Midwest and by the early 20th century, he became the nation's most famous evangelist with his home-spun sermons and frenetic delivery. Sunday held widely reported campaigns in America's largest cities, and he attracted the largest crowds of any evangelist before the advent of electronic sound systems. Sunday was a strong supporter of Prohibition, and his preaching likely played a signifi-



Moving Forward

By Rev.
Tina Lockett

cant role in the adoption of the 18th Amendment in 1919.

Despite questions about his income, no scandal ever touched Sunday. He was devoted to his wife, who managed his campaigns. His audiences grew smaller during the 1920s as Sunday grew older, religious revivals became less popular and alternative sources of entertainment appeared. Nevertheless, he continued to preach and remained a defender of conservative Christianity until his death.

For Billy Sunday, leaving baseball to accept a call as a preaching evangelist was like the Apostle Peter leaving his first call as a fisherman to accept the Lord's call to follow as an evangelist. Billy Sunday, like the Apostle Peter, had no formal training but they

both knew they were called by God to serve.

God has a personal plan for each of us – to transform our hearts for the calling to advance His kingdom. As the heart is gradually transformed by the word of God, the calling is seen through God's vision for His servant. Our acceptance of our call from God means we say yes to God and fearlessly abandon anything that does not work towards that goal.

This is what the personal call is truly about. When called to serve, the heart is bound in love with Him and He will direct every step in willingness, obedience and joy to help advance the kingdom with the lives touched with the word of Jesus. The love of God is acknowledged to the world by the love we exhibit to others.

For Jesus said, "As you have sent me into the world, so I have sent them into the world." (John 17:18 NRSV) This Jesus said to the Apostle Peter and to Billy Sunday. And it says it to me and to you.

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Celebrating Spring

Spring is in the air, and you will begin to see signs of spring at Lillian Recreational Park. Azaleas will soon be in bloom, the osprey pair will return to their Lillian home in the park to build upon their previous nest and Market in the Park season will begin again the third Saturday in March.

Stephanie McDaniel, our newest board member, will be coordinating Market in the Park this year. She is a talented local artist who has been teaching Kidzart and adult classes weekly. She will be introducing Art in the Park in May and September which will take the place of the regular market those two months. She plans on making Art in the Park a full-day event. For more information you can contact her at bluehenvintage1@gmail.com.

The pickleball clinics have been enthusiastically attended these past few months. It's great to see the players having fun playing this popular



Lillian Recreational Park

By Monica Leonard

game. The Lillian Pickleball Club is enjoying increased interest in the game and welcomes all ages and abilities. For more information, contact us via the Lillian Recreational Park Facebook page.

American Legion Baseball is forming a senior league team, the Bay Blues, with evaluations being held on Saturday, April 2, starting at 9 a.m. at the LRP baseball field. This is for young men ages 16-19. Additional information is on Page 20. Or for more details, call 850-461-0824 or email jjhigh72@yahoo.com.

Spring is a great time to rejuvenate and renew. Join us and enjoy the park as it awakens from its short winter's nap.

Get to Know Doodlebugs

In 1972, Apollo 16 Astronaut Charles Duke compared the craters on the moon's surface to ant lion hills. A transcript of his conversations includes a version of the chant: "Doodle-bug, doodle-bug, are you at home?"

Doodle-bugs, or ant lions, refer to the larval stage of insects in the family Myrmeleontidae. Ant lion larvae are predatory while the adult stage feeds on nectar and pollen. The ant lions are a group of about 2,000 species. Some species can only walk backwards. In their wake, they leave curvy lines in loose soil or sand that resemble random doodles, thus the name doodle-bug.

Ant lions have worldwide distribution. Florida has the richest ant lion fauna in the eastern United States with 22 species. Four species are found only in the Florida Keys.

Doodle-bugs resemble small, dirt-colored beetles. They amp up their camouflage by covering themselves with a thin layer of dust or sand.

Those jaws are how it garnered



Know Your Critters

By Celeste

the name ant lion. The larvae are voracious predator of ants and other small insects. Doodle-bugs are ground predators who contrive cunning traps to catch their dinner.

It begins a pit by walking backward and pressing its wide, flattened abdomen into the soil, leaving its trademark doodles. The doodle-bug will burrow into loose, dry, bare soil. Then it constructs a funnel-shaped pit.

When an insect gets too near the edge, the loose sand acts like quicksand. The insect slips down into the waiting jaws of the ant lion larva.

A large pit indicates a hungry ant lion.

What lives in a pit, snares innocent passersby and sucks them dry?

Lawyers, IRS agents or doodle-bugs.



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Finding a Sense of Financial Comfort

The long-running coronavirus pandemic has fueled a lot of anxieties – including financial ones. But some people have had far fewer worries than others.

Among those investors who work with a financial advisor, 84% said that doing so gave them a greater sense of comfort about their finances during the pandemic, according to a survey from Age Wave and Edward Jones.

Of course, many people experience investment-related fears even without a global health crisis, and that's probably not surprising, given the periodic volatility of the financial markets. But financial guidance can come in handy during relatively normal times, too.

A financial professional can help you:

■ Look past the headlines – Inflation, interest rates, pandemics, elections – there's always something in

the news that could affect the investment world in the short term. But by helping you construct a portfolio that's built for the long term and reflects your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon, a financial advisor can enable you to look past the headlines.

■ Avoid emotional decisions – Many people let their emotions drive their investment choices. When the market goes through a downturn and the value of their investments drops, they sell to "cut losses," even though these same investments may still have good business fundamentals and promising futures. Conversely, when the market is on an uptick, some people chase after "hot" investments, even when they become overpriced and may have very little room to grow. But a financial advisor can help keep you from making these fear- and greed-based actions by only recommending moves that make sense for



Financial Focus

By Jason Kozon of Edward Jones

your situation.

■ Work toward multiple goals – At various times in your life, you may have simultaneous financial goals. For example, you could be investing for a retirement that's decades away, while also trying to save for a child's college education. A financial professional can suggest ways you can keep working toward both objectives, in terms of how much money you can afford to invest and what types of savings and investment vehicles you should consider.

■ Prepare for

the unexpected – Most of us did not need a pandemic to remind us that unexpected events can happen in our lives – and some of these events can have serious financial impacts on us and our loved ones. Do you have adequate life insurance? How about disability insurance? And if you ever needed some type of long-term care, such as an extended stay in a nursing home, how would you pay for it? A financial advisor can evaluate your protection needs and recommend appropriate solutions that fit within your overall financial strategy.

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OBITUARIES

Shirley Annie Helms

Shirley Annie Helms, 72, of Elberta, passed away Jan. 30, 2022.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Charles Lloyd Helms and Margaret Ulrich Helms; a sister, Carol Williams Underwood; a brother-in-law, George Frank Jr.; and one great nephew.

She was a lifelong member of St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church. She was a dedicated and beloved teacher and coach. She was inducted into the Foley High School Hall of Fame in October 2000.

She is survived by her twin sister, Sharon Frank; a sister, Betty (Keith) Wood; eight nephews, Chris, Mike and Matt Williams, Robbie, Randy and Ryan Wood and Jason and Justin Frank; a niece, Amy Frank Schoetzow; seven great-nieces; seven great-nephews; one great-great-nephew; and many other relatives and friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Bartholomew's Catholic Church on Feb. 4, 2022. Interment followed in Elberta Public Cemetery.

Wolfe-Bayview Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Richard Albino Nix

Richard Albino Nix, 75, of Elberta, passed away on Jan. 25, 2022.

He was born Dec. 16, 1946, to George and Aline Nix in Pensacola. Richard graduated from Pensacola Tech High then joined the United States Army, serving in the Vietnam War.

He joined the Escambia County Sheriff's Office and served for 39 years, retiring as a major in 2009.

In 2000, he married his best friend and love of his life, Sherry. He enjoyed hunting, watching NASCAR, going on fishing trips and time with his family.

Richard was predeceased by his father and mother, George and Aline Nix; and a sister, Betty Ann Kotter. He is survived by his wife, Sherry; a son, Philip (Jenifer) Nix; a daughter, Jennifer (Darren) Snipes; grandchildren, Scooter, Madi, Alexa, Jami and Kendal; a sister, Zona Dubose; a special sister-in-law, Tressa Sinclair (Kevin); a special friend, Lisa Lagergren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held Jan. 31 at Mack Funeral Home in Robertsedale with Rev. Gordon Dillashaw officiating. Burial followed at Alabama State Veteran's Memorial Cemetery in Spanish Fort.

Engle Gene Stahl

Engle Gene "Sonny" Stahl Jr., 93, passed away Jan. 30, 2022, at Alive Hospice facility.

He was born in Steubenville, Ohio, and was a resident of Rutherford County, Tenn. Gene served in the United States Navy and was a buyer for Nissan Motor Company.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents, Engle Gene Stahl Sr. and Roma R. Thompson Stahl Dickson; his wife, Priscilla Conrad Stahl; a son, Steven C. Stahl; and a brother, David T. Stahl. He is survived by his son, Richard (Diane) Stahl; a daughter, Judith (Ken) Creek; and grandchildren, Christi, Ryan, Hilary, Ariel, Matthew, Megan and Mary-Kate.

Services were held Feb. 8 at Jennings and Ayers Funeral Home, Murfreesboro, Tenn., with Dr. Lenny Farmer officiating. Burial was at Middle Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery.

Online condolences can be left at www.jenningsandayers.com.



Dr. Radcliffe J. Coyle

Dr. Radcliffe John Coyle, M.D., Capt. USN (Ret.), passed away Feb. 14, 2022.

He was born Nov. 20, 1935, in Glendale, Calif., the son of Marcelene Denson Coyle and Stewart Robert Coyle. As a young man, he moved to Guadalajara, Mexico, with his family where he became fluent in Spanish and graduated from the Guadalajara Medical University in 1963. He completed a three-year residency at Scott & White Memorial Hospital in Temple, Texas. On Jan. 1, 1967, he entered active duty in the United States Navy where served in many capacities, including flight surgeon, aerospace medical safety officer, senior medical officer and director of community health. He served on no less than six aircraft carriers.

On Valentine's Day 1965, R. J. became engaged to Victoria Ann Schneider, from Fredericksburg, Texas. She also served with the U.S. Navy as a nurse and specialty advisor. Both achieved the rank of Navy Captain.

After his father passed away in 1970, "Doc" rented a home for himself and mother in Lillian. While stationed in California, he served as the physician attending then President Ronald Reagan whenever Reagan was in California. Still engaged, Vickie served as surgical suite supervisor to Reagan during one of his surgeries at Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland.

Dr. Coyle retired from the Navy in 1995, and he opened a family medical practice in Lillian. He retired from private practice in 2019.

He loved the outdoors, animals, travel and helping others. There was nothing he loved more than his family. Many people and organizations were lifted and blessed by his quiet generosity over his lifetime. Though a serious man, he had a very quick wit and a wonderful sense of humor.

Dr. Coyle is survived by his wife, Victoria Ann Schneider Coyle. Preceding him in death were his mother, Marcelene Denson Coyle; his father, Stewart Robert Coyle; his sister, Marcia F. Coyle; and his brother, Denny Coyle.

A funeral service was held Feb. 23 at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Lillian. Pallbearers were Richard Andrews, Bill Workman, Mike Cleveland, Bill Specht and Bet Fonua. Burial was in St. Mary Cemetery in Fredericksburg. Cason Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

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Bay Blues Set Baseball Try Outs *American Legion Posts Sponsoring Team*

American Legion Posts 48 and 240 will be sponsoring the inaugural season of Bay Blues, an American Legion senior baseball team forming in Lillian, Elberta and Pensacola for ages 16-19.

Try-outs will take place at Lillian Recreational Park on Saturday, April 2, starting at 9 a.m.

Practices will be about twice a week and begin in April, while the game season runs June 1 through July 15. State and regional play-offs are from July 15 to 31.

Players currently on a high school team cannot practice until their school season is over.

All players desiring to play American Legion Baseball are required to attend tryouts/signups on April 2.

This team will be geared toward juniors and seniors in high school, but players do not need to be on a school team to try out.

There is no fee to be a member of the American Legion baseball team, although travel expenses may occur in the future.

For eligibility, team information, volunteer opportunities or sponsorship, please contact Jen Sigley at 904-866-6808 or by email at jjhigh72@yahoo.com, or coach Don Sigley at 850-461-0824.

It's Been My Pleasure

I have had the privilege of serving as this newspaper's managing editor since 2018, a position that combines many duties and responsibilities while juggling deadlines.

A monthly publication, the paper is overseen by the Lillian Action Committee, a dedicated group of volunteers who recognized the importance of a community newspaper nearly 27 years ago.

This group knows how much area residents enjoy and depend on the information we present, including community events, local columnists, advertisements, historical articles and photos of your friends and neighbors.

The best part of the job is meeting so many wonderful people.

It's also a nice way to learn more about Lillian and its history.

I owe a big thanks to the fantastic people who serve on the Lillian Action Committee. They put their trust in me to continue providing news to our readers.

They have been terrific to work for and



From the Managing Editor

By Janel Smith

with. And I'm lucky to call all of them friends.

It was difficult, but I came to the decision that it was time to step away. After about 25 years in the newspaper business, it's time to focus on other things and enjoy a little more free time.

Rest assured, you're all in good hands with my replacement.

Dave Monaghan comes to *The Lillian* with a long list of qualifications and newspaper experience.

It is with pleasure and confidence that I hand the baton to him.

I'm sure he's looking forward to working with our advertisers, our contributors and our community.

Welcome aboard, Dave!

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