

LILLIAN CONFIRMED: May Brothers Fireworks Stand, 12564 COUNTY ROAD 99 LILLIAN
will be on the July 10 Planning Commission meeting agenda
Please prepare your arguments and attend the meeting on July 10, 2025, 4 p.m. Robertsdale Office Central Annex A 22251 Palmer Street
Robertsdale, AL 36567 251-580-1655. See Letters to the Editor Page 9 in this issue.



The Lillian

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JULY 2025

Lillian, AL 36549
Volume 29, Number 7

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McKenzie Runs for Sheriff

For the first time in almost 20 years, former Baldwin County Sheriff Huey "Hoss" Mack will not be on the ballot next year.

Baldwin County District 2 Commissioner and retired Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) State Trooper Corporal, Matt McKenzie, officially announced today his intentions to run for Baldwin County Sheriff.

When Mack last summer stepped down to become the Executive Director of the Alabama Sheriff's Association, Gov. Kay Ivey appointed Anthony Lowery to finish out Mack's term that ends in 2026.

McKenzie who is a United States Marine Corps Veteran, said that he wants to inspire others and offer opportunities to veterans.

"I want to bring a fresh start to the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office," McKenzie said. "I want to bring excitement and energy to the younger men and women just starting out in the law enforcement journey. I want to provide additional career enhancement avenues for our veteran officers. I want to really focus on pay raises for the deputies. More importantly, I want to focus on making current job functions easier and streamlining the administration processes to make their job better. They have a tough enough job, and it will be my job to listen to their needs to make it better."

Since being elected almost three years ago for county commissioner, McKenzie said he has continued to forge a relationship with local law enforcement and has been an inte-



**BALDWIN COUNTY
COMMISSIONER
MATT MCKENZIE**

gral part of funding and budgeting allotments to the Sheriff's Office. Always voting in support for the needs of our men and women in uniform.

(SEE SHERIFF PAGE 3)

A Scam That Won't Go Away Takes a Toll on Drivers

For the second time in as many months, The Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) is warning of an ongoing scam that is being relayed over text messages. Anything you receive claiming to be a toll collection effort from ALDOT is a scam.

The text message, which was not sent by ALDOT, may claim you are subject to legal action if you do not pay outstanding toll fees.

If you have received a text claiming to be from ALDOT and saying you owe a toll, it is a scam.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) reports that clicking a link in a scam text can lead to a phishing attack, in which the scammer tries to take your personal information, credit card information, or more. If you received one of these texts:

Don't click on any links or respond to the text.

Report the unwanted text using your phone's "report junk" option or forward it to 7726 (SPAM).

You can help friends and family by warning them about this ongoing scam.

EHS Grad Benjamin Davis Landrum Lands Lillian Action Committee 2025 Annual College Tuition Scholarship Grant

Lillian resident and Elberta High School senior graduate Benjamin Davis Landrum has captured the Lillian Action Committee's annual \$500 tuition scholarship grant for his first year beginning later this summer.

Benjamin lives on Clubhouse Drive in Lillian.

The scholarship is provided by the Lillian Action Committee, publishers of The Lillian Newspaper, and offers the grant to one applicant each year to go towards tuition and/or supplies and is sent directly to the institution of his or her choice once enrollment is verified. Benjamin is enrolled at The University of Mobil, 5735 College Parkway, Mobile AL 36613 and plans to study Sports Science courses.

We wish Benjamin all the best in his educational endeavors and future success in his future career.



OPTIMISTS, LIBRARY HOSTS THE KIDS

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay and the Lillian Perdido Bay Library have partnered this summer to provide interesting events for boys and girls. At one of the Thursday events Optimist President Robin Newell (top left) reads a book about plants and then had the boys and girls plant seedlings in their own pots. Other events this month include Art Adventures, Dinosaurs, Under the Sea, Kid's Karaoke and Silly Science and Snowcones.



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SOMEONE YOU SHOULD KNOW

Ron ‘The Ice Man’ Bellars Retires to Take His Show on the Road

To the residents of Lillian, the name Ron Bellars often brings to mind "the Ice Man".

Ron, along with his wife Bertie, moved to Lillian seven years ago to be closer to their grandson, and quickly fell in love with the "beautiful small town... with great people."

The couple soon became an integral part of the community, opening GiGi's Deli and Lillian Twice the Ice.

"Lillian really needed a place that serves to-go food," Ron recalled, highlighting the initial vision for a bustling eatery alongside their ice business. They even considered a delivery service, demonstrating their commitment to serving the town's

needs.

However, health challenges faced by their daughter, who ran the deli, led to the difficult decision to close GiGi's. At that point, "My wife and I decided to be truly retired and begin traveling. We purchased a small RV and decided to sell the restaurant and ice machine. We love taking care of the fisherman and the boaters who would stop to pick up ice be-



fore getting out on the water," Ron said, marking a new chapter for the couple.

(SHERIFF FROM PAGE 1)

"I believe with the leadership we currently have in place at the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office and my intention to bring in a recently retired, high-ranking Baldwin County Sheriff's Deputy, I will have an amazing and experienced transition team where the Baldwin County Sheriff's Office will not miss a beat in daily law enforcement services," McKenzie added. "As sheriff, my focus will be building trust, strengthening partnerships, and ensuring every citizen feels protected and heard. I am excited to get to work on my campaign and to share my vision for the future with the voters."

In addition to his time in the United States Marine Corps, McKenzie retired with a 25-year law enforcement career where he spent 24 of those years working for the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency. It is here where he

continued his career working patrol and would work his way through the ranks eventually being promoted to Post Commander of the Driver License Office in Mobile, where he oversaw offices in Mobile, Baldwin, Escambia, Washington, Clarke, Choctaw, Monroe, Butler and Conecuh Counties. As a state trooper, he was a part of the first Alabama 287 G Immigration Program class. This was a United States immigration deportation program where the State of Alabama and the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) worked together to remove criminal illegal aliens from Alabama. McKenzie believes his years of work with ICE will help meet the immigration demands of President Trump and the wishes of the next Governor of Alabama.

McKenzie finished by saying "I am thankful to all the people who voted me in as their County Commissioner for District 2, and I hope that I have shown to them my com-

mitment and dedication to serve them. I promise them I will continue to give that same effort and commitment to bringing strong law enforcement values to Baldwin County." www.mattforsheriff.com.

McKenzie is a member of Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #43 in Fairhope, Alabama. He is also an executive member of the Baldwin County Republican Party.

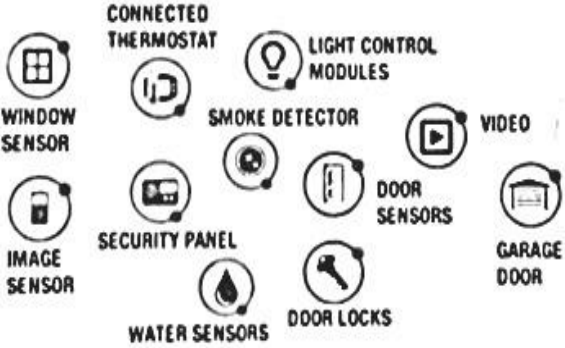
Matt, Cristie, his wife of 26 years and a Baldwin County Public School educator, and their two daughters, Kaleigh and Emaleigh, live in the Barnwell community where Matt grew up. The McKenzie family has generational roots deep in the Fairhope community, and the McKenzie family name can be seen throughout many streets and farms in Baldwin County.

Website: www.mattforsheriff.com
Facebook: facebook.com/mattforbcsheiff

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OBITUARIES

Joseph Vincent Cardyn, Elberta

Joseph Vincent Cardyn, Elberta AL, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and successful business owner, passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones. Born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Mrs. Margaret N. Aisquith and Joseph V. Cardyn Sr., and raised in Annapolis, Maryland, Joseph graduated from Annapolis High School, where he formed lifelong friendships that continued throughout his life.



Joseph and his wife, Barbara, built a thriving business together, working side by side every day with creativity, dedication, and a shared vision. Their partnership was a reflection of their strong personal bond, and together, they created something meaningful. Outside of work, they were passionate adventurers, traveling the world to experience new cultures, cuisines, and places—always with a sense of wonder and joy.

Joseph lived by a simple yet powerful philosophy: "It costs you nothing to be nice." This belief guided his interactions with everyone he met, leaving a lasting impact on all who were fortunate enough to cross his path.

A man of many talents, Joseph had an unforgettable presence. He was a natural storyteller whose "gift for gab" made everyone feel like an old friend. His sharp eye for detail was especially evident in his love for planes—he could effortlessly name the type of aircraft simply by a quick glance or even the sound of the engine.

Joseph's dedication and skill were also evident during his time in the U.S. Air Force, where he earned both the MAC Maintenance Man of the Year and the MASS Airman of the Year awards—a rare distinction. His Senior Master Sergeant once remarked, "It is very unusual for one man to win both awards." Additionally, Joseph achieved the esteemed title of Flight Engineer, further showcasing his technical expertise and commitment to excellence.

A lifelong Pittsburgh Steelers fan, Joseph's passion for his team was unwavering, and he cheered them on with enthusiasm and loyalty.

Joseph is survived by his cherished wife, Barbara, their children: Joseph Cardyn III, Angela De Leon, Amy St John, Daniel Skiffington, and Laura Cordrey, as well as 10 grandchildren who were the light of his life. He also leaves behind his loving sisters: Peggy, Mary, Debbie, and Kitty, whose support was a constant throughout his life. Joseph was preceded in death by his parents, Mrs. Margaret N. Aisquith and Joseph V. Cardyn Sr. In addition, he is survived by his beloved dog, Loki, whose companionship brought him joy and comfort.

Joseph's legacy is one of love, laughter, resilience, and meaningful connections. He will be deeply missed, but his warmth, stories, and love will forever live on in the hearts of all who knew him.

Vernon Matthew 'Vern' Scheer, 76

Vernon Mathew "Vern" Scheer, 76, a resident of Elberta, Alabama, passed away Sunday, May 18, 2025.

Vernon was a beloved member of the Elberta Community. He was a proud owner and operator of Ken & Vern's Barbershop in Fairhope, AL. He spent decades behind the chair, offering not just haircuts, but friendship, conversation, and a sense of belonging to generations of loyal customers. Outside of the barbershop, Vernon was a dedicated member of the Elks Lodge in Foley, AL. His commitment to his community was evident in all he did, and his presence will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Preceding him in death are his daughter, Terri Klein; & granddaughter, Katrina. He is survived by his wife, Peggy Scheer of Elberta, AL; son, Scooter (Jessica) Scheer of Elberta, AL; daughter, Tammy White of Gulf Shores, AL; grandson, Kelvin; three granddaughters, Kaleigh, Cassie, and DeAnna; two sisters, Lois Turner of Elberta, AL & Stephanie Larson of Lillian, AL; Along with many other loving relatives and friends.

A Celebration of Vernon's Life will be announced at a later date.

Gloria Ann (Pope) Griggs, Lillian

Gloria Ann (Pope) Griggs was born Aug. 22, 1937, in Clarksville, Texas to Herbert and Dorothy Pope. She graduated from Clarksville, Texas High School in 1955. From there she attended Paris Junior College in Paris, Texas for one year before continuing her studies at West Texas State College (now West Texas A&M) in Canyon, Texas where she received her bachelor's degree in education on May 24, 1959. On Jun. 16, 1987, Gloria married Alan Griggs in San Antonio, Texas. It was the first marriage for both, each being in their mid-40's. It turned out to be a happy and blessed union during which they shared many common interests and hobbies. They were married for 38 years until Gloria died suddenly and unexpectedly from health complications on Mar. 22, 2025. She and Alan were residents of Lillian, Alabama for the last 20 years.



Gloria is preceded in death by her parents, Herbert & Dorothy Pope. She is survived by her loving husband, Alan, her cousins Johnnie Pope of Clarksville, Texas, Maryann Ireland of College Station, Texas, Robin Hall and Cynitha Hall of Loganville, Georgia, and Hays Hall of Stone Mountain, Georgia.

Her memorial service held at Saint Mark's Lutheran Church, 13220 Main Street, Elberta, Alabama. On a later date, her ashes will be spread along with flowers on the waters of the Gulf of America.

Joseph Bernhardi Bennett, 83

Joseph Bernhardi Bennett-passed away May 23, 2025 at Baptist Hospital, Pensacola, FL. He was born December 20, 1942 in Alexandria, Va. The son of Lawrence and Virginia Bennett. He married Barbara Finklestine Oct. 26, 1988 in Manassas Va.

He is survived by his wife Barbara of 36 years, daughter Theresa Eagal (Randy) of Virginia, and two stepsons Robert of Kentucky and Donald Scott of Pensacola.

Joseph was employed as a banker for 38 years in Virginia before retiring to Gallitzin Pa. He and his wife moved to Pensacola Florida in 2012.

He and Barbara enjoyed many camping trips. He enjoyed bowling, horse-shoes and was a 30-year-member of the Gallitzin Lions Club. He faithfully attended Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Lillian Alabama where a Funeral Mass for Joseph was held June 19 at 10a.m., officiated by Father Alwin Legaspi.

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The Lillian

PO Box 1088
Lillian, AL 36549

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

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

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

ADVERTISING SIZES

Full page = 10" wide x 11.5" tall
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 infor-

mation from the community. Please submit by:

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

DISCLAIMER

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

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

POLICY

Thank you for your articles and news items, but due to space limitations, some submissions may not be included in this issue. They will be included in a future edition when possible. The editorial board has the right to deny any articles or ads not suitable for this publication.

DEADLINES AND CONTACTS

The deadline for the August issue of *The Lillian* will be July 23. Anyone may send an email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com for information on articles and news.

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

EDITORIAL BOARD

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

LILLIAN ACTION COMMITTEE

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

LCC QUARTERLY COMMUNITY FORUM

HOFFMAN HALL | 34148 WIDELL AVE, LILLIAN, AL 36549

LCC Quarterly Community Forum features guest speaker(s) on a variety of topics of interest to Lillian (& the surrounding community) residents.

There are no fees or charges by the LCC for use of Hoffman Hall for this forum.

3rd & 4th Quarter slots are available.

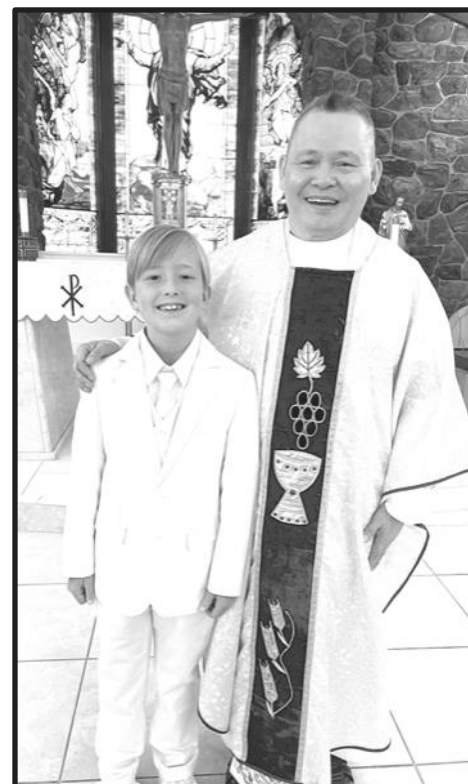
ANYONE (LCC membership not required) may request to use this forum to present topics they feel may be of interest to our community. Requests must be submitted no later than the 10th of the month PRIOR to the scheduled meeting.

Topics of a partisan political nature, purely fundraising or of a private financial gain will not be considered for this forum.

Fill out the Request Form on the LCC website or stop by the LCC Office during office hours (8-11 am, Monday thru Friday) to submit your request.



TRANSITIONS



Left are sisters Logan and Jolene Matulaitis graduated from Elberta Elementary School kindergarten. Congratulations to graduates at all levels. Onward and upward! Pictured right Sebastian Sutton made his First Holy Communion on June 22 at St. Joseph Catholic Church. He is shown with Fr. Alwin Legaspi, pastor.

PROTECT LILLIAN FROM ANNEXATION

PETITION FOR LANDMARK DISTRICT LILLIAN
AND/OR UNINCORPORATED ELBERTA

Please scan the QR Code at Let's Keep it Country on Facebook to fill out the form for your support of becoming a Landmark District(s), Lillian and/or Unincorporated Elberta, to prevent annexation by any municipality. Please address any questions to tbird32507@gmail.com

Lillian Recreational Park Receives National Grant from AARP

The Lillian Recreational Park is excited to announce it has received a grant from the AARP to launch a new project focused on reducing loneliness and social isolation in the Lillian area. The \$12,490 grant was awarded as part of the AARP national Community Challenge program. The Park is one of 383 grantees selected nationwide.

According to the AARP, "This was an incredibly competitive year, but (the park's) project stood out among the 3,450+ applications nationwide. We are delighted to select (the park's) proposal and look forward to working with you!"

The "3Cs – Creating Community Connections" project will be an exciting step toward building a stronger, more connected community, especially among older adults and those living alone. With grant funds, the park's covered patio area will be transformed into a welcoming gathering space with couches, chairs, a grill, games and game tables. It will be a space where people can connect and have fun. The park will also offer will offer regular educational pro-

grams.

"This is a project dedicated to combating loneliness and fostering connection in the community," said Lucy Smith, LRP president. "We are so excited to have this opportunity for the community. Whether you're a fan of playing bingo or talking about books or just learning about new things, this project is for you. There will be something for everyone."

"The grant gives us the resources to truly make a difference in people's lives. Loneliness is more than a feeling—it's a health issue. According to recent studies, loneliness is linked to increased risks of heart disease, depression, cognitive decline, and early mortality."

"Loneliness is one of the quietest but most painful issues people face, and it can affect anyone—regardless of age, background, or circumstance."

"We want the park to feel like a second home," said Smith, "Somewhere you're always welcome and never alone. From game nights and walking clubs to coffee chats and educational sessions, we will offer opportunities for



people to meet, laugh, and get together.

The program will officially kick off in September with a fun afternoon of food, games and activities.

For more information or to volunteer to help with this project, please contact the park at LillianParkCommittee@gmail.com or call Lucy Smith, 719-494-7986.

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Meet Chief Cantrell: Leading Lillian Fire with Heart and Experience

Meet Chief Cantrell: Leading Lillian Fire with Heart and Experience

This June, the Lillian Volunteer Fire Department welcomes a familiar face into a new role—Chief Cantrell. A longtime resident of Lillian, Chief Cantrell has called our town home for the past 12 years, eight of which he has proudly served with LVFD.

His journey into public service began through the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, where he has served for over 25 years, holding leadership roles from Division Commander to District Operations Officer. His first fire service experience was with Crane Hill Volunteer Fire Department in North Alabama before joining Lillian Fire Rescue. Outside the firehouse, Chief Cantrell runs a successful telecommunications company, SouthTel, and credits his business and Coast Guard leadership experience for shaping his hands-on, team-first leadership style.

Chief Cantrell says he feels called—like so many first responders—to serve his community.

“The bond with fellow firefighters is unlike any other,” he says. “We’re family.”

His goal as Chief is to continue the strong foundation laid by previous leadership by prioritizing training, staffing, and equipment, ensuring Lillian has the most well-prepared department in the district.

When asked what makes Lillian Fire Rescue unique, he points to the unmatched dedication and diverse experience of its members. He encourages community members to get involved:

“Join up! Drive cool trucks. Even if you don’t want to fight fires, there’s plenty you can do,” he said.

Whether fighting the massive Cactus Cantina fire or assisting in water rescues, Chief Cantrell’s commitment to

service shines through. His vision is clear: “Lillian deserves the best—and we’re here to deliver that.”

Please join us in welcoming Chief Cantrell as he continues to lead with heart, skill, and community pride.

May Report:

Lillian Fire Rescue responded to 79 emergency calls dispatched by 911 operators in May, including two fires, 48 EMS calls, two hazardous conditions, 11 service calls, 14 miscellaneous incidents and two false alarms.

Important Reminder: A seasonal burn ban is in effect in Baldwin County from May 1 through October 31. Open



**Lillian Volunteer Fire Department
By Janett Siler**

burning is strictly prohibited during this period. Violations may result in fines.

LILLIAN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT 11331 CR 91 S Lillian, AL 36549 ANNUAL 2025-2026 DONATION REQUEST

Name

Resident Address in Lillian

Contact Phone #

Requested: \$75 Residential / \$150 Commercial

Little Free Library is Now Available at the Lillian Recreational Park

Little Free Library is now available at the Lillian Recreational Park

The Lillian Recreational Park is excited to announce the availability of its newest addition, a Little Free Library, called Books by the Bay. This small, book-filled box is part of a growing movement to promote literacy, spark curiosity and encourage a love of reading by offering free books to anyone who stops by.

The Little Library works on a simple principle: Take a book, leave a book. Books by the Bay, as the Park’s library is called, is filled with books for readers of all ages and is completely free to use.

Visitors are encouraged to keep the library stocked by donating gently used books anytime. From fiction to picture books to young adult novels, all books are welcome.

“We are excited to provide the Lillian community with the first registered Little Free Library and hope to see lots of book-sharing in the future,” says Kilty Spoke, organizer of the project.

“This is such a fun and meaningful addition to the Lillian Recreational Park. We hope everyone who stops by will feel welcome to borrow a book or leave one behind for someone else to enjoy.”

The library is installed by the main building’s covered porch.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Fireworks Stand on CR 99 at US 98?

Dear Editor:

Do you think this is an appropriate use of the land in this location, especially as it relates to fire hazards being so close in proximity to other fireworks stores (this one will face CR 99 whereas there is currently one facing US 98 next door plus two others on the corners to the west)? Especially considering safety hazards (being near other fireworks locations) and traffic overloads?

Please provide feedback if you want me to make an argument in opposition at the public hearing before the Planning and Zoning Commission, which has not yet been confirmed for July 10, but I'll keep you posted.

Thanks to all.

Tracey Gambill
850-572-0723

Bay Access Should be Easier

Dear Editor:

Maybe the Lillian paper could print an article as to the right for the public to access the Bay.

Many of the new residents to the area seem to be under the impression that the public is not allowed to step onto their property if they made it impossible (by building low piers, other obstructions, etc.) to walk along the bay. I lived here over 20 years, and it wasn't a problem until a couple of years ago. Most property owners didn't even mind if you walked down to the bay cutting through their property, but that is no longer the case.

A clarification outlining the rights of the public (like Florida Beaches) would be helpful.

PS: If the rules/laws have changed, Baldwin County might as well sell or totally close off the narrow access strips.

Thank you,

Renate Eacret
Azalea Street

Landmark District Notice Cost Covered

Dear Editor:

Great News! State Representative Donna Givens says that the public notice requirement for Lillian Landmark District will be paid for by the Baldwin County Delegation! This is a giant step for us! No fundraising required.

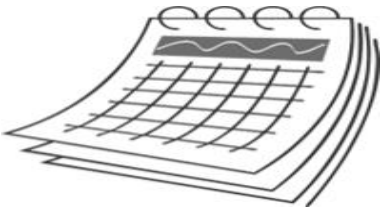
Preserve the cultural history of the Lillian Community. Support Lillian Landmark District – Share this with as many of your friends and family in Lillian as you can ... we have 650 signatures ... Can we get to 1,000? Your support can be sent to either tbird32507@gmail.com with your name and address or using the QR Code below to fill out the petition form: See attachment

All the best!

Tracey Gambill
850-572-0723



The Lillian Calendar
JULY 2025



- July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 11:00 AM & July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 at 10:00 AM: Ageless Grace, Body & Brain Fitness at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL (For more information, contact Sharyon Miller at 850-221-8630.)
- July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 7:00 PM: ALANON Support Group Meeting at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido Street, Lillian, AL 36549 (Learn more about ALANON at <https://al-anon.org/>.)
- July 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 7:00 PM, AA Support Group Meeting at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido Street, Lillian, AL (Learn more about AA at <https://sober.com/aameetings/alabama/baldwin-county/>.)
- July 3 at 1:00 PM, Healing Hope Grief Support Group at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL (If you are navigating the pain of loss, please know you are not alone. Join us for grief support in a safe space to share your experiences, receive compassionate listening, and find healing alongside others who understand. For more information, contact Sharyon Miller at 850-221-8630.)
- July 12 at 8:00 AM, Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Community Breakfast at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido Street, Lillian, AL. (Our guest speaker will be from the Jennifer Clair Moore Foundation. Learn more about the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay at www.OptimistClubPB.org.)
- July 17 at 1:00 PM, Dementia Education Forum, Care Partner Support Group & Aging in Place at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL (For more information, contact Sharyon Miller at 850-221-8630.)
- July 22 at 6:00 PM, Lillian Celebrate Recovery Organizational and Informational Meeting, at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido St., Lillian, AL (Celebrate Recovery is a faith-based, Christ-centered, 12-step program designed to help individuals overcome various hurts, habits, and hang-ups. It uses a combination of biblical principles, the 12 steps of Alcoholics Anonymous, and small group support to foster healing and recovery. The program addresses a wide range of issues, including substance abuse, codependency, and other life challenges, and is offered in thousands of churches worldwide. Rev. Daniel Randall and Rev. Rick Long invite all area churches and individuals who are interested in helping to start a Celebrate Recovery program in Lillian to join us for this first of many organizational meetings.)
- July 26 at 8:00 AM, Optimist Club of Perdido Bay Community Breakfast at Lillian Methodist Church, 12770 S. Perdido Street, Lillian, AL. (Our guest speaker will be the former Baldwin County Sheriff Hoss Mack as he shares his new role with the State of Alabama Sheriffs Association. Learn more about the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay at www.OptimistClubPB.org.)
- AA MEETINGS - In Lillian go to gulfcoastaa.org. There is a list of meetings at easternshoreaa.org. Pensacola meetings are at aapensacola.org.

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Sunday School (all ages) 9:15am

Worship Service: 10:30 am

Weekly Bible Study Opportunities:

Wed. 5:30 pm: Dinner

Adult prayer meeting in the FLC

Children Grades: K-6 Bible Activities

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Astronomical Events in July 2025

- July 4 - Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation. The planet Mercury reaches greatest eastern elongation of 25.9 degrees from the Sun. This is the best time to view Mercury since it will be at its highest point above the horizon in the evening sky. Look for the planet low in the western sky just after sunset.
- July 10 - Full Moon. The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This phase occurs at 20:38 UTC. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Buck Moon because the male buck deer would begin to grow their new antlers at this time of year. This moon has also been known as the Thunder Moon and the Hay Moon.
- July 24 - New Moon. The Moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. This phase occurs at 19:13 UTC. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.
- July 28, 29 - Delta Aquarids Meteor Shower. The Delta Aquarids is an average shower that can produce up to 20 meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by debris left behind by comets Marsden and Kracht. The shower runs annually from July 12 to August 23. It peaks this year on the night of July 28 and morning of July 29. The crescent moon will set early in the evening, leaving dark skies for what should be an excellent show. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Aquarius, but can appear



**ANYWHERE IN THE SKY July 12 to August 23
JUST BE PATIENT**

**EACH FULL MOON RISES NEAR SUNSET; IN JULY
ON DAYS 10-12 LOOK 121 DEGREES SE**

Rarely Tested for, Vibrio Bacteria Threat Increases With Higher Temps

By Janet Larson

Vibrio are bacteria that live in coastal and brackish water, especially in warmer waters. They thrive in conditions where other pathogens might not, making them a concern for regions with marine activity and increasing water temperatures due to climate change.

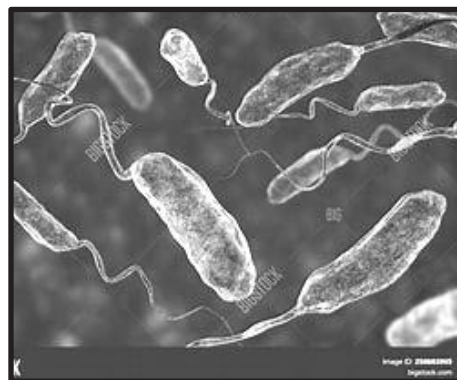
There are about a dozen kinds of Vibrio that can cause people to get infections called vibriosis. People can get Vibrio infections by having open wounds exposed to water or by eating shellfish. While Vibrio infections can be serious, they are less common than infections caused by coliform bacteria like E. coli.

Water testers sometimes test for

Vibrio, but routine testing for Vibrio is not as widespread as testing for coliform bacteria. Alabama Water Watch does not test for Vibrio. Public health testing prioritizes the detection of more common bacteria like coliforms.

Although Vibrio testing is less common, it is performed in areas where the bacteria pose significant health risks, like shellfish farms and regions with historical outbreaks. This targeted approach ensures that areas of higher risk receive the necessary attention.

Routine testing for common indicators helps provide a comprehensive assessment of water quality, highlighting potential health risks. Public health efforts focus on monitoring



thrive in warmer waters and are more concentrated from May to October, often found in shellfish like oysters, clams, and crabs.

Understanding how Vibrio can affect health is crucial. Infections can occur when raw or undercooked shellfish are consumed or through skin infections when open wounds are exposed to salt or brackish water.

Preventive measures that can help decrease the risk of Vibrio infections. Be cautious about entering brackish or ocean water if you have open wounds or abrasions, as these can serve as entry points for the bacteria. If you have any questions about water testing or would like to volunteer to test our watershed, please feel free to contact us at the Western Perdido Bay Watershed Association at wbpwac@gmail.com

coliforms to ensure safety and compliance with regulations.

Human activities like pollution, climate change, aquaculture, maritime traffic, and tourism influence the prevalence of Vibrio. These bacteria

Why Pickleball Might Just Be The Best Thing You Do This Month

Looking for a way to get active, meet new people and have fun all at once? Stop by the Park's new pickleball courts and see what all the fuss is about.

Thanks to a grant from Impact 100 Baldwin County, the Lillian Recreational Park has four new pickleball courts available for play. This fast-growing sport combines elements of tennis, ping pong and badminton, and you don't need to be a pro to play.

One of pickleball's biggest perks is that it's easy to learn and can be played by beginners and all fitness levels. Whether you're 25 or 75, you can step on the court and start playing. The Park even has equipment you can borrow if you want to try the game out.

While it's especially popular with adults 50+, pickleball is catching on with all generations. Courts are filled with kids, teens and grandparents. It's a great intergenerational sport.



Health-wise, it's a definite winner. Pickleball is great for improving your coordination, balance and health. The court is smaller than a tennis court, which means less running but with enough movement to keep your body strong.

But here's the real magic: The people. Pickleball has a way of turning strangers into friends. The relaxed, social nature makes it easy to strike up a conversation on the court and between games. It's not uncommon to hear laughter echoing across the court and in the post-game hangouts happening nearby.

So, whether you're looking to boost your fitness, expand your social circle, or just try something new, pickleball checks all the boxes. Give it a try – you might be surprised how quickly you fall in love with the game and the people who play it.

The Park offers periodic free lessons, but if you don't want to wait for the next session to roll around, the Park has three very qualified instructors who would be happy to teach you. Feel free to contact Jean Bennett (603-533-1700), Jorja Hardy (850-512-6363) or Pat Pagan (850-572-1701).

Lucky 15th Annual Bunco Bash August 5, 2023

Come join us on August 2 for our 15th Annual Bunco Bash fund raiser for "Making Strides Against Breast Cancer" at the Lillian Community Club. Early registration is open now through July 26th for \$30, \$35 after July 26th and at the door. Either way please RSVP by July 26th so that we can be prepared for you to have a Bunco Blast. For additional Information you may contact me at 251-978-4442 or by email at kekay926@gmail.com, or Mason Waid by email at mason.waid@yahoo.com. See you on August 2.

Thank you. Kay Kay

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July Music

Friday, July 4th • Jimmy Smith • 11 am-2 pm
 • Blackwater Country • 7-11 pm
 Friday, July 11th • Gearhead • 7-11 pm
 Friday, July 18th • The Jason Abel Project • 7-11 pm
 Friday, July 25th • The Jeri Band • 7-11 pm
 Sunday, July 27th • The Edelweiss German Band • 3-7 pm



Tuesdays at 6 pm

8-Ball Tournament
 EVERY Saturday
 6 pm (Signup at 5 pm)



Thursdays
 July 17th & 31st • 6:30 pm

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: THURSDAY, JULY 10TH • 7 PM
 NEW MEMBERS MEETING: SUNDAY, JULY 27TH • 3 PM
 BOARD MEETING: TUESDAY, JULY 29TH • 7 PM

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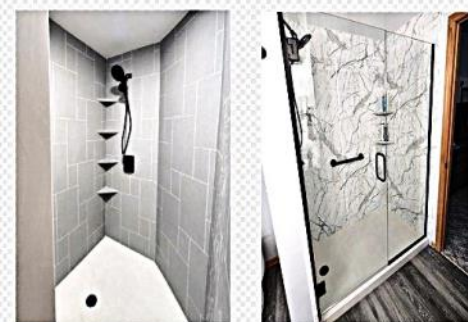
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Is Your Retirement at Risk?

It's important to save for retirement, but only half of Americans have calculated how much money they'll need, according to the 2024 Retirement Confidence Survey by the Employee Benefit Research Institute. Yet without knowing how much you'll need, it's hard to know if you're on track to reach your goals for retirement.

Here are a few considerations to help shape your retirement savings strategy.

Calculate how much you'll need. You may dream of retiring "comfortably," but how do you define "comfortable" in terms of actual money? Take the time to outline how much you spend now, and how much you think you'll spend in retirement. That will help you understand how much you need to save now to afford the retirement lifestyle you want later. A financial advisor can help with resources and knowledge for building and managing your retirement strategy.

Start saving now. It's easy to procrastinate, especially if you are younger and further away from retirement. But the earlier you start, the less you may need to save from each paycheck to build your funds over time. If you're closer to retirement, you can take advantage of catch-up contributions to most 401(k), 403(b), governmental 457 plans and the federal government's Thrift Savings Plan. If you're 50 or older, you can save pretax an extra \$7,500 to your retirement account beyond the standard total limit of \$23,500 allowed in 2025. Those 60-63 years old can contribute to these plans an extra \$11,250 above the standard total limit. That's an annual total of \$31,000 for people ages 50 and older; or \$34,750 for those 60-63 years old in pretax retirement plan contributions.

Take the right amount of risk. You may think it's risky to put money away for retirement instead of keeping it handy for discretionary spending. But the biggest risk of all is not reaching your retirement goal. For example, a portfolio that's all in cash will have little increasing value over time

and won't provide any growth potential even to keep up with inflation. It's as if you're losing money every year. Then again, if your investments are only keeping up with inflation, your money is not growing. Consider growth investments to help build the funds you'll need in retirement.

The key is ensuring you have the appropriate amount of risk — not too much, but not too little — to achieve your growth goals.

Save separately for emergencies. To protect your hard-earned retirement savings, build an emergency fund separate from your long-term investments. It can help ensure you have what you need to cover surprises like a large auto repair, unexpected medical bills, temporary loss of income from changing jobs or early retirement caused by health issues.

For most people, three to six months' worth of total expenses is an appropriate amount for an emergency fund. And you'll want to keep it in an accessible, low-risk account that holds cash and equivalents. Above all, try to avoid taking money from your long-term retirement investments.

Doing so could result in taxes, penalties and reductions to your overall principal investment, all of which could affect your retirement savings.

Retirement should be an exciting time to enjoy what you've worked so hard to earn. Planning for what you'll need and protecting those savings can help ensure a comfortable future.



Financial Focus

By Jason Kozon
of Edward Jones



Financial Focus

By Chantz
Blackmon

American Legion Post 48 Encourages All to Enjoy Independence Day at The LCC

All veterans are invited to join Post 48 and become a part of the largest Veteran organization in the United States. The American Legion

ways will be on service to the community and support of our veterans.

If you have served Active Duty in the United States Armed Forces and have been honorably discharged or are still serving -- you are eligible for membership in The American Legion!

FOURTH OF JULY: Post 48 wishes everyone a Happy Independence Day, we will be doing a flag raising at 1045. We hope you enjoy all the festivities at the LCC on the 4th.



MEDICAL CLOSET: The Medical Closet is for all Lillian residents and there is absolutely no charge. Many items are available, such as walkers, hospital beds, and more. The only requirement is the return of said items when no longer needed.

The individuals to contact are Bill Burns at 251-978-3440 and Darrell Ochs at 251-269-9084.



Lillian American Legion Post 48

By Gay L. Pyle
1st Vice

REMINDER: If you have borrowed equipment from the medical closet and no longer need it, please return it.

We like to make sure we can help everyone in need.

Every Wednesday morning from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., 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 or a soda, and enjoyable conversation.

Meetings are being 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.



is your voice in congress; they need membership numbers when they go in front of the VA and all concerned. The focus has been and al-

Lillian Masonic Lodge Members Recognize a Legacy of Leadership

On Tuesday, June 17, the Lillian Masonic Lodge held its annual Past Worshipful Master Recognition Night, a cherished tradition that honors the legacy of leadership and dedication within the Lodge.

The event was combined with Widow's Night, a tradition where Widows and Spouses of Current and former Worshipful Masters are recognized for their service to the organization and Brotherhood. Each woman received a corsage and was personally thanked in the Sanctuary by Worshipful Master David Johnson.

Worshipful Master David Johnson took the lodge into recess as he brought the widows and current spouses of members into the Sanctuary. He used this opportunity to express his thanks for the many forms of charity and service these women had provided to the Lodge and our community. Those in attendance were Joyce Taylor, Kathy Keener, Mary Collier, Norma Hall, Linda Baker, Florence McClendon, Jean Legg, Nicole Todd, Tara Williams, Donna Johnson and Amy King's and daughter Abby.

Several living Past Masters were present for the ceremony, including: Bill Hall (1995-96); - Jim Cargill (1999-2000); Jack Gethmann - Past Master of a Iowa Lodge (1969-70); Price Legg (2000-01); Gary Sturgeon (2009-10; Mike Blankenship (2016-17, 2018-19, 2022-23) and Joe Taylor (1992-93, 2005-06, 2017-18, 2021-22, 2023-24).

In addition to honoring these leaders, Joe Taylor and Mike Blankenship were specially recognized for their unwavering commitment to the Lodge. Their contributions have been instrumental in supporting and revitalizing the Lodge during critical times.

The Lodge presented three special awards during the evening. Steve Williams, also a Pastor Master, received a plaque of appreciation for his outstanding service in educating and training members. At a time when the Lodge struggled to conduct basic rituals and services, Steve's year-long training efforts helped prepare a new generation of Lodge leaders, strengthening its future.

Mike Blankenship, who served as Worshipful Master during multiple terms (2016-17, 2018-19, 2022-23), was also awarded a plaque in recognition of his leadership and readiness to serve. When current Worshipful Master David Johnson had to step away temporarily for family obligations, Mike once again stepped up to guide the Lodge forward.

Joseph Taylor Jr., a non-member of the Lodge, was honored for his generous volunteer work following severe water damage that temporarily closed the Lodge. His service exemplifies the spirit of brotherhood and community support that Freemasonry values.

His carpentry skills were critical to many of the improvements made within the Lodge.

The evening closed with a heartfelt tribute to Joe Taylor, a longtime Lillian resident and Past Worshipful Master (1992-93, 2005-06, 2017-18, 2021-22, and 2023-24). Joe was surprised with the announcement that the Grand Lodge of Alabama will present him with his 50-Year Service Pin and Apron later this summer—an honor reserved for Masons who have devoted a lifetime to the craft.

Lodge Secretary Shane Todd concluded the ceremony by reading the names of



Lillian Masonic Lodge

By Jeff Keener



the departed Past Masters: Vernon Lowe (1987-88), Rafford Wiggins (1989-90), Sam McClendon (1990-91), Dell Reed (1991-92), Miles Standish (1992-93), Leland Baird (1994-95), Earl Henderson (1996-97), Joe Barrett (1997-98), Sam Morrow (1998-99), Don DelMarta (2001-02), Lyle Peterson (2002-03), William Smith (2003-04), Jake Duckworth (2006-07) and Harold Burr (2008-09).

The Lodge schedule was discussed at great length. Several Saturday sessions will be necessary to advance candidates into the Brotherhood over the next month. The evening included Officer nominations. Current Historian Bill Hall, former Worshipful Master and founding member of the local lodge, unanimously submitted the slate for the 2025-26 Masonic year.

The slate included Worshipful Master - Mike Blankenship; Senior Warden Buz Mahood; Junior Warden Chris King; Treasurer Jeff Keener; Secretary Roger Ckamp; Senior Deacon Brandon Taylor; Junior Deacon Joe Williams; Senior Steward Cliff Collier; Junior Steward Shane Todd; Tiler Gary Sturgeon; Historian Bill Hall and Chaplin Jim Baker.

The Lillian Masonic Lodge remains committed to its mission of fellowship, service, and leadership, guided by the enduring contributions of its Past Masters and dedicated members. The motto of the local lodge is Masonry, Making Good Men Better.

The local lodge meets on the first Tuesday and third Tuesday each month at the Lillian Masonic Lodge. Dinner is offered at 5:30 p.m. and the Lodge meeting takes place at 6:30 p.m.

For more information on Masonry, please reach out to David Johnson at afressmsgt04@aol.com or call 816-721-6907.

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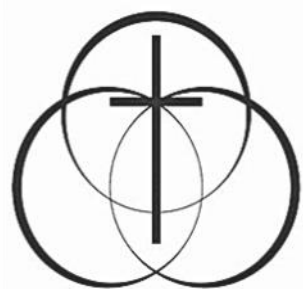
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Tuesdays 7:00 PM

Healing Hope Grief Support
Group July 3 1:00 PM

Dementia Education Forum,
Care Partner Support Group
& Aging in Place
July 17 1:00 PM

REACHING OUT WITH GOD'S LOVE SINCE 1980

The Source of Our Freedom



The Methodist Message

By Rev. Daniel Randall

On July 4, 2025, we celebrate the 249th Anniversary of the birth of our nation with the signing of the Declaration of Independence. We need to remember that the Declaration of Independence is an appeal to the only authority that could possibly substantiate it, an appeal to the only law that could possibly give it validity and truth, an appeal, as the Declaration itself puts it, "to the Supreme Judge of the world." The truths that it says are "self-evident" are self-evident only because Almighty God has already established them in His Word. It assures all who read it that those who wrote and signed it were depending totally on the protection of Divine Providence for the support and the preservation of those principles. The birth of this nation is founded upon a Declaration that, without its biblical and theological premises, without its appeal to God, is nothing. The main thrust of the Declaration has to do with the right of human beings to liberty. Yet, a person is free only within the predetermined limits established by our Creator. None of us can think seriously about our freedom until we ask the question: "What is our destiny? What is it toward which we are free to move?" We should all reflect not on what we are free from, but on what we are free for!

On July 3, 1776, George Washington wrote a letter to his wife saying, "In a few days, you will see a Declaration setting forth the causes which have impelled us to this mighty revolution and the reasons which will justify it in the sight of God. I am fully aware of the toil, blood and treasure that it will cost to maintain this Declaration and support and defend these states; yes, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of ravishing light and glory." One hundred years later President Abraham Lincoln declared at Gettysburg, "whether that nation, or any nation, so conceived and so dedicated, could long endure." Lincoln knew the cost of liberty, also. He never spoke of liberty without coupling that word with responsibility, without tying it inseparably to an unfinished task. Liberty is not a destination; it is a journey. We are still on that journey. The cost of human freedom is still high. We dare not forget that the success of the experiment is as precarious today as it was 249 years ago. After the meeting where the writing of the Constitution was finished, Benjamin Franklin met his fellow citizens and newsmen on the steps of Constitution Hall and said, "We have given you a republic, if you can keep it." The question is critical today because many in our nation have obviously forgotten that freedom does not remove responsibility. It produces it.

When the pilgrims came to America, they fell on their knees and kissed the earth, and they wrote, "We establish this state to the glory of God and the spread of the Christian religion." General Omar Bradley once said, "America today is running on the momentum of a Godly ancestry, and when that momentum runs down, God help America." That is from one of the great military leaders of our nation. In General Washington's Farewell Address to the nation, he said: "The foundation of the republic is morality, and it is foolish to suppose that we can have morality without a religious impetus." On July 4th, let us be able to say with those who signed that great Declaration for the world: "Appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world, for the rectitude of our intentions, with firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor." God Bless Each of You and God Bless America!

As a Member of Parliament, William Wilberforce Helped End Slavery

William Wilberforce was a deeply religious English Member of Parliament and social reformer who was very influential in the abolition of the slave trade and eventually slavery itself in the British empire. William Wilberforce was born on 24 August 1759 in Hull, England, the son of a wealthy merchant. He studied at Cambridge University where he began a lasting friendship with the future Prime Minister, William Pitt. A turning point in his religious life was a tour of Europe. In the luggage of a travelling companion he saw a copy of William Law's book, *A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life*. He asked his friend, "What is this?" and received the answer, "One of the best books ever written." The two of them agreed to read it together on the journey, and Wilberforce embarked on a lifelong program of setting aside Sundays and an interval each morning on arising for prayer and religious reading. He considered his career options, including the clergy, and was persuaded by Christian friends that his calling was to serve God through politics.

In 1780, Wilberforce became a Member of Parliament for township of Hull and later representing Yorkshire. His dissolute lifestyle had changed completely when he became an evangelical Christian, and in 1790 joined a leading group known as the Clapham Sect. His Christian faith prompted him to become interested in social reform, particularly the improvement of factory conditions in Great Britain. Wilberforce's other efforts to 'renew society' included the organization of the Society for the Suppression of Vice in 1802. He worked with the reformer, Hannah More, in the Association for the Better Observance of Sunday. Its goal was to provide all children with regular education in reading, personal hygiene and religion. He was closely involved with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. He was also instrumental in encouraging Christian missionaries to go to India.

The single biggest campaign of Wilberforce's life was his untiring commitment to the abolition of

slavery and the slave trade. The abolitionist Thomas Clarkson had an enormous influence on him. Clarkson and others were campaigning for an end to the trade in which British ships were carrying black slaves from Africa, in terrible conditions, to the West Indies as goods to be bought and sold. He introduced his first anti-slavery motion in the House of Commons in 1788, in a three-and-a-half hour oration that concluded: "Sir, when we think of eternity and the future consequence of all human conduct, what is there in this life that shall make any man contradict the dictates of his conscience, the principles of justice and the law of God!"

The motion was defeated. Wilberforce was persuaded again and again to lobby in Parliament for the abolition of the slave trade. For eighteen years he regularly introduced anti-slavery motions in Parliament. The campaign was supported by many members of the Clapham Sect and other abolitionists who raised public awareness of their cause with pamphlets, books, rallies and petitions. Wilberforce brought it up again every year for those eighteen years, until the slave trade was finally abolished on 25 March 1806. He continued the campaign until slavery itself, and the bill for the abolition of all slavery in British territories passed its crucial vote just four days before his death on 29 July 1833. A year later, on 31 July 1834, 800,000 slaves, chiefly in the British West Indies, were set free.

Wilberforce had retired from politics in 1825 and died in 1833, shortly after the act to free slaves in the British empire passed through the House of Commons. In his last will, Wilberforce had asked for a simple funeral at his hometown, but his



Moving Forward

By Rev.
Tina Lockett

friends in Parliament insist on burial near his friend Prime Minister William Pitt in Westminster Abbey.

A movie of the life of William Wilberforce, titled, *Amazing Grace*, was released in 2006. It includes part of the story of John Newton, composer of the song "Amazing Grace" as well as other abolitionists who worked with Wilberforce. If you want to know about other saints of the Church or any aspect of the Christian faith, come visit us Episcopal Church of the Advent. Sunday Service is at 10 a.m. Everyone is welcome.



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Baldwin County Delegation Joins Landmark Status Efforts

Greetings!
Big News, Great News! State Representative Donna Givens says that the public notice requirement for Lillian Landmark District will be paid for by the Baldwin County Delegation! This is a giant step for us! No fundraising required!
Preserve the cultural history of the Lillian Community! Support Landmark District Lillian – Share this with as many of your friends and family in Lillian as you can. We have 630 signatures. Can we get to 1,000?
Call to Action! Please share this:
Your support can be sent to either tbird32507@gmail.com with your name and address or using the QR Code below to fill out the petition form:
Planning & Zoning updates in the Lillian vicinity:
May Brothers Property Fireworks Store southeast corner of Hwy 98 and CR 99 -. Public hearing on July 10 at 4 pm in Robertsdale. Do you think this is an appropriate use of the land? I will post when the Planning and Zoning website has made the file public, around June 26, on Face Book Tracey Gambill and Let’s Keep it Country as well as on Nextdoor.
Hamm Enterprises Spanish Cove West, Lot 3268, 23 Acres, 50 lots – Currently waiting subdivision phase. No date set as of this writing.
Please write to our Commissioner, Charles (Skip) Gruber, cgruber@baldwincountyal.gov, if you agree with one or more of the following to voice your support ...
Re-visiting Planning Districts 22, 29 & 33 Text Amendments to local ordinances: We have asked for our Text Amendments to our local ordinances to be

re-visited by the Department of Planning and Zoning, minus any items of concern as previously identified as well as minus any items that have since been absorbed into the county’s full ordinances; Creating a new zoning category, “RSF-1.5”: RSF-1 (30,000 sq.ft./1.45 homes per acre), RSF-1.5 (21,780 sq.ft./2 homes per acre); and Creating a new Activity Node around the new Elberta Middle School on County Road 83
Wisdom: Cutting ties, it’s not always personal — it’s protective.
Working until beyond normal retirement age for more Social Security income? Call Social Security 1-800-772-1213 and ask what happens to that extra amount when you die if you are married. Your spouse only gets what you would have gotten at your normal retirement age ...
P.S. Do you know what’s “developing” in your community?
I, for one, am grateful to be here. I will keep you updated in The Lillian each month ... please consider subscribing now!
All the best, Tracey Gambill, Stay tuned for updates on FaceBook LET’S KEEP IT COUNTRY!



Keeping it Country
By Tracey

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Pay Attention Drivers; The Life You Save May be Your Own

I was driving home on US98 the other day when I noticed the car in front of me was zigzagging from the side of the road to over the center line. We approached Bauer Road and I prayed that the driver would make a left turn. No such luck. So, I held back and kept a wary eye on the car. It didn't get any better and when we got on the bay bridge the driver swung to the left and side-swiped an oncoming RV. Fortunately I was far enough behind and was not involved.

This was just after I heard about the golf cart/car accident on County Road 99. Then shortly after, the tragedy of the crash in Elberta that took the lives of two women acquaintances occurred.

For quite some time we have been talking about the increase in traffic in our little piece of Paradise. The more new homes, the more people, the more traffic. Plus, Highway 98 is the only way to get from here to anywhere.

I'm not going to get into all the reasons for "Keeping It Country." What I'm concerned about is the way we are all driving. Yes, I said "we all" because I know I'm not always 100% when driving. There's a reason I got that ticket on Bauer Road a few years ago. They don't call me "Lead Foot" for nothing.

I like the speed control on my car and always try to use it. I try to be aware of the speed limit and set

the control. And, boy, do I get upset when I'm doing the speed limit and someone passes me. Why are they in such a hurry? Late for work? Late for an appointment? My advice, plan for the unusual and leave a little earlier.

When we moved here 33 years ago, cars were few and far between on our roads. Now when I leave my entrance on CR99 I may have to wait for a dozen cars to pass. I try to put my patience in gear and wait for a reasonable space to make my left turn. I don't always trust that when a car indicates it is making a turn into my street, that it will actually happen. I have seen some cars indicate the turn and then pass the street to go on to the next entrance. Oh, and be sure to look both ways when you turn, especially if there is a hill covering oncoming traffic.

By the way, a stop sign means STOP! Slowing down and slipping through doesn't count, I don't care how unlikely it is that a car will come. Sun in your eyes, tree limbs blocking vision. You never know what lurks on the other side.

Walkers, please note that you should walk against traffic. That way you can see what's coming. Please keep your dogs under control so they are not walking in the middle of the road. Wear bright clothing at night. Carry a flashlight. Bicyclists ride with the traffic.



Just a Thought or Two

By Sally McKinney

It's nice that there is a bicycle/walking area on 99, but that doesn't mean you have absolute protection. Keep your eyes open at all times when using it. That is not a golf cart path, so please stay off. Golf carts are only allowed on public roads if they are street legal. That means they may need upgrades such as speed up to 25 mph, headlights, tail lights, stop lights, front and rear turn signals, brake lights, red reflex reflectors on both sides and the rear, a side view mirror on the driver's side and the passenger side, and an internal rear view mirror, a parking brake, a windshield that conforms to the federal standard for glazing materials and a seat belt meeting federal standards at each designated seating position. Best to check to make sure the golf cart complies. I suggest contacting the Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles.

Let's just all be aware of our surroundings whether we are walking, biking or driving. Follow the rules of the road. Be safe.



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June 14 - Breakfast Meeting 8:00 a.m.

Program - Hoss Mack, Previous Baldwin County Sheriff

June 16 - Optimist Night Out

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June 28 - Breakfast Meeting 8:00 a.m.

Program—Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Attendees

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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 July go out to Kaytlyn Robinson, Bobbie Benoit, Megan Hall, Weldon Cox, Sandy Pray,

Jim Almand, Mary LaCoy, Evelyn Rice, Laura Leonard, Diane Burns, Bonnie Castella, Vernelle Younginger, David Woodford, Rebecca Grewe, Robert Grewe, Henry Kichler, Peggy Merchant, Stephen Duckworth, Virginia Cowie, Lorraine Harrison, Bonnie Estes, Emma Fell, Janet Akin, Al-

ice Scram, Graydon Bauer, David Gaines, Sondra Wilkinson, Jerry Rooks, Dick Erwin.

Celebrating wedding anniversaries in July are Eric and Martha Michelson, Don and Paulette Joffrion 1964. Gerald and Gloria Jackson 1976 and Bob and Pat Kupferers 1993.

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 contributors may place a note in our folder at Lillian Perdido Bay Library.

The deadline for the August issue of The Lillian is July 23.



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THE CAR BARN - 9717 CR 91, Lillian 251-962-3704. Hello from the folks at The Car Barn. Cliff has been slowing down a bit but it's a new year and we have one more year of serving our dear friends in Lillian. Thanks for all your support. Cliff and Mary Collier.

ROOF REPAIR — Tree limb removal left over wood and other building material, small amount (cost). Interested parties may call 850-426-8015.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT & HOUSEKEEPER for elderly female living in Lillian, CR 91. No nursing required. No medical issues other than low vision and hearing, but she needs help with daily household activities, light cleaning, simple meal prep and just being available for assistance when required. Private room with TV during down-time. 9AM - 4PM Monday - Friday, possibly Saturday. One person preferred but could consider dividing the time between two individuals. Interested parties please call or text David Thomas at 251-256-0105.

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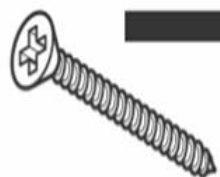
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YOUR OPINION MATTERS

Contact Planning@baldwincoal.gov, 251-580-1655 for questions or to show support or opposition regarding upcoming zoning and subdivision cases. Planning Commission meetings are the first Thursdays of each month at 4 PM at the Baldwin County Central Annex, 22251 Palmer St., Robertsdale AL 36567. Most cases then proceed about six weeks thereafter to the County Commissioners' meetings on the third Tuesdays of the month at 10 AM at the Baldwin County

Fairhope Satellite Courthouse, Commission Meeting Chambers - 2nd Floor, 1100 Fairhope Ave., Fairhope AL 36532. Please attend meetings when possible.



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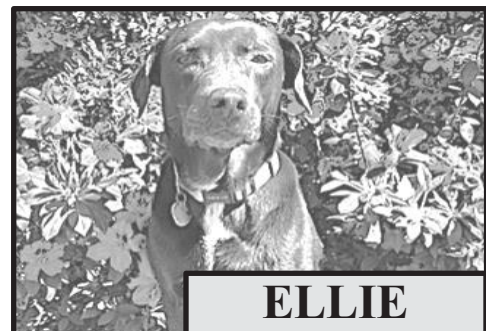
**NO SHOCK OR PRONG collars used*

**information at: 251-284.3947, yesyes-gooddog@gmail.com or www.facebook.com/YesYesGoodDog*

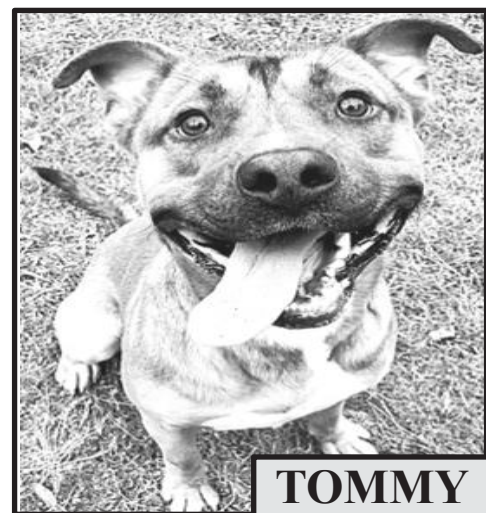
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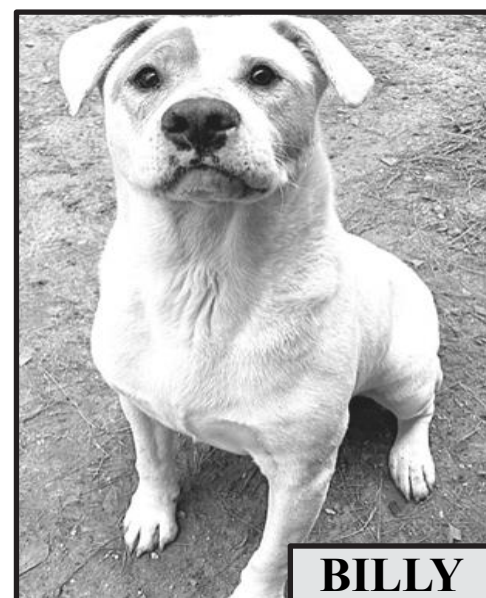
Baldwin County Animal Shelter
bcas@baldwincountyal.gov
251-972-6834



ELLIE



TOMMY



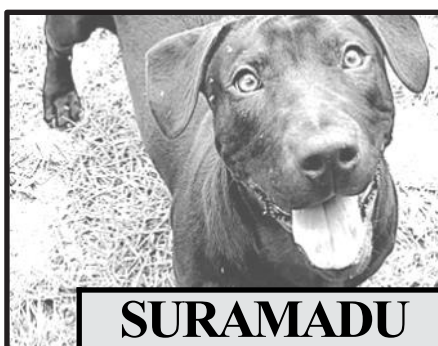
BILLY



MARGRET



AINSLEY



SURAMADU

Visit the Baldwin County Animal
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Lillian's Pets of the Month



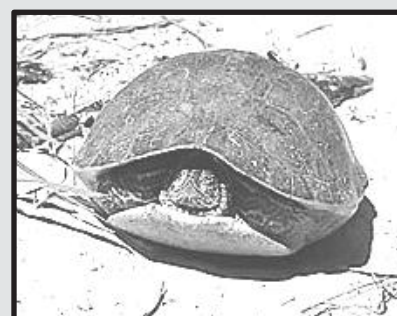
TRIXIE



MOLLY

If you have a best friend of the furry, feathery or scaly kind feel free to send in a picture to Dave Monaghan

Lillian's Pests of the Month



TURTLE



COYOTE

If you live in Lillian or Elberta AL and have an unwanted pest call Stu at Down South Wildlife Removal at 251-979-4333

The Lillian Online!

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Go to lilliancommunityclub.com, click on
The Lillian newspaper link at the top of the
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‘FORE!’

Optimist International Hosts Junior Golf Tourney to GlenLakes



GREY GOODMAN

For the second year in a row Matthew DeRoy of Magnolia Springs had the best score of 71 at the Alabama-Mississippi District of Optimist International Junior Golf Championship held at GlenLakes Golf Club. DeRoy was presented the Governor's Award by District Governor Michael Hanshaw.

The Optimist International Junior Golf Program is one of the largest and most prestigious youth golf programs in the world, offering young players an opportunity to showcase their talent, sportsmanship and dedication at an international level. Thousands of junior golfers participate in local, district and international events each year.

Talented boys and girls competed in seven age divisions in order to qualify for the Optimist Junior Golf World Championship to be held in July at Trump National Doral Resort & Spa in Miami. The top two finishers in each division earned invitations to compete. In addition, the Alabama-Mississippi District #29 was provided a third invitation at the Girls 13-14 Division.

Boys 16-18 Division winners are Waylon White with a score of 73 and Grey Goodman took second place after a tie-breaker at 77. Boys 14-15, Walt Howley 79 and Clayton Paul, 82 after a tie breaker. Although Matthew DeRoy had the best score in the Boys 12-13 Division, he opted not to compete in Miami, Joe Hamilton, 77, and Cohen Miller, 90, will continue to Miami along with Bennett LaConte, an out-of-district player. Boys 10-11 winner was Reeves Dunnam, the only competitor in the age group, with a score of 91.

Girls 15-18 first place winner is Kierston Riggins with 77 and Corrine Laferrera was second with 78. Girls 13-14 first place is Kallie Ollhoft with 85 and second, Macy Mabrey, 86. Girls 10-12, Riley Weaver, the only one in her age group, scored 80.

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay was the title sponsor with a donation of \$1,000. Other participants were the Optimist Club of Hernando, Perdido Bay Water, Crichton Optimist Club, Baldwin County Sewer, the Optimist Clubs of Birmingham West End, Montgomery Central, Birmingham, Talladega and Pleasure Island (Orange Beach and Gulf Shores Top boy and girl winners in the oldest age groups Waylon White of Fairhope and Kiersten Riggins of Trussville each received \$700 to cover their registration fee, green fees, hotel accommodation, nine meals and invitations to the many special activities planned at the Optimist World Championship. The other division winners received \$275 in support and the other contestants received \$230.



KALLIE OLLHOFT



KIERSTEN RIGGINS & CORRINE LAFERRERA



COHEN MILLER & MATHEW DERROY

Our Independence Day Celebrates More Than Just Fireworks

Most of the world couldn't imagine not having a cell phone in their life. And what if that defibrillator or pacemaker that saved yours or a loved-one's life didn't exist?

These are just a couple of things to think about before you allow unfounded hate to fill your heart. I'm only going to cover one specific group here, but it stands for all people, every race, nationality, religion and anything else that makes us different from one another.

Humans have this need to find something different about others around them so that in their minds it makes themselves better, superior. It's one of our bad traits. It's the thing that motivates bullies in school and continues through life. Sometimes it gets way out of hand, like burning down synagogues, beating up or killing someone.

People of the Jewish faith invented the products mentioned above. Men and women from this group have been and are top scientists, doctors, anthropologists, nuclear physicists, psychoanalysis, genetic engineers, inventors and contributors to our world. They have been there to help in crisis and discovered vaccinations for cholera and bubonic plague and the polio vaccine.

Let me continue with the list of discoveries we owe them acknowledgement for: printed circuit

board, transistor, safety razor, computer mouse, video tape, cotton swab, stainless steel, Corvette, ball-point pen, teddy bear (which was created for Teddy Roosevelt) and the Barbie doll. For those who can't do without it- Goggle. Let's not forget the scientific equation still vital today, $E=MC^2$. This is just the beginning, take them away and we are back in the dark ages. Think about it.

July 4th signifies the freedom and the beginnings of our country which was set on Judeo Christian values. Massachusetts Bay Colony began with English who were looking for religious freedom and tolerance. Who are any of us to deny and terrorize others? Just saying.

What happens to the skilled worker if AI takes over? Artificial Intelligence is just that artificial. It knows whatever has been programed into its circuit boards and it can pull that information up quickly, but there isn't real life or emotion there. Do we want it or is it even possible for it to replace everything? It's already in our lives, the computerized phone calls or how about Siri or Alexa. It's here and there's more to come but I still think we should be cautious.

Even before the AI problem, there is the tendency for employers to put college grads in jobs to boss over experienced, skilled blue-collar workers. The key word here is "experienced".

I remember a story that my father-in-law told about this young graduate new to the job telling him to put this prod-



Bits and Pieces

By Jackie Reid

uct together and gave him the blueprint for it. My father-in-law took one look at it and told the guy that it wouldn't work. Of course, the young man said it would, he learned all about it from the books.

You guessed it, it didn't work. The older man had 35 years of experience under his belt and the younger man had book knowledge but no on the job training and years of knowledge yet. He didn't even ask my father-in-law why his idea didn't work so he could learn.

After my father-in-law retired, the company called him back several times to help correct things. I don't think we can afford to ignore or lose these skilled workers completely if we, as a society, can continue on successfully.

"Hatred of Judaism is at bottom hatred of Christianity." Sigmund Freud.

"People hate those who make them feel their own inferiority." Lord Chesterfield.



Lillian Perdido Bay Library
Corner
By Betty Bovat

Independence Day is a federal holiday in the United States, commemorating the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, establishing the United States of America. The Lillian Perdido Bay Library will be closed on July 4 and 5, to commemorate that day. If you have stopped by the Lillian Perdido Bay Library in recent weeks, you will have walked up our newly painted steps.

John Wade, our maintenance person, took the time out of his busy schedule to paint the steps. (Thanks, John!) The lawn has been a problem in finding someone to mow it, but Dennis Newell came by and offered to mow it recently. (Thank you, Dennis). The library needs a worker to mow the lawns and do some weeding around the bushes.

Please call Jean Courtney, 847-606-5443, if you are interested in the job.

Our library has recently donated lots of DVDs. We have processed many and now have decided to have a DVD sale for the public. These are the sale prices: DVD = \$.50 each; 5 DVDs = \$1.00; bag of 20 DVDs = \$3.00; (bags supplied here). Three different authors of DVDs come with beautiful collection boxes = \$5.00 each. The above sale will be at our regular hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

We are planning on having a book sale in August this year. If you have books for donation, please be sure the copyright date is six years or younger.

Our hurricane season has started, so please be aware and be safe!

We also have a computer lab with five computers and two printers for public use with a nominal donation. We do not receive any federal, state or county donations; we depend on the public for all donations. Thank you so much for your support and patronage. We certainly appreciate each one of you and feel so fortunate to be able to provide services.

Lillian Perdido Bay Library Membership Form

Print Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Indicate Membership Type:

_____ Family (\$15) Additional Donation \$ _____
_____ Individual (\$10)

Thank you! The Library is a 501c3 Organization. Your donation is 100% tax deductible.

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make check payable to Lillian Perdido Bay Library Association, Inc. and mail it to Lillian Perdido Bay Library, P.O. Box 237, Lillian, AL 36549.

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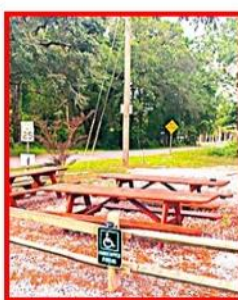


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