



The Lillian

Serving Lillian and surrounding area since 1995

Where pride, tradition and unity go hand-in-hand

Volume 24 Number 11

November 1, 2020

Lillian, AL 36549



Providing Community Assistance

Photo by Janel Smith Lillian Volunteer Fire Department, along with Lower Alabama Search and Rescue, organized a Point of Distribution at the Lillian Community Club after Hurricane Sally hit the Lillian area on Sept. 16. The POD furnished over 2,000 cases of water, 18,000 MREs, 1,000 tarps, 18 pallets of ice and 5,000 hot meals to area residents. Additional LVFD news, photos and POD information is on Page 11.

Tennessee Veteran Arrived In Lillian To Serve Hot Meals

By Nancy and Doug Scott

Hurricane Sally may have brought damage to our area, but not to our spirit of helping our community. Help even came from as far as Tennessee. When he heard of our need, retired veteran Gunny Cole and his “brother in arms” Dave arrived on Sept. 24 to serve up the first hot meal of the three days they spent in Lillian.

What a sight to see! Gunny arrived with huge grills, freezers and enough food and water to provide the approximately 1,700 meals that were served up. He takes his equipment on the road to help those in need to bridge the gap to a better tomorrow, and has been involved in disaster relief efforts for over 25 years.

The event was held in the parking lot of the Lillian Fellowship Church where volunteers eagerly helped get everything set up so the line of cars, picking up food moved smoothly. Pastor Dean Conkel greeted folks as they pulled in the parking lot.

The volunteers were there to serve not just Spanish Cove, but the entire Lillian community including families, utility workers, tree trimmers and many others.

The free hot meals of hamburgers, pancakes and sausage, chili and BBQ, all with sides, included some sweets and fresh fruit. People also re-

ceived bottled water and bags of ice if needed.

We saw firsthand the gratitude of the recipients of his kindness and generosity. Many came through the line and ‘paid it forward’ by donating to Gunny’s next endeavor. He ensures

your donation dollars go directly to someone in need in an area impacted by natural disasters. To follow Gunny Cole on Facebook, click on friend request or donations may be mailed to Steve Cole/Gunny Cole, P.O. Box 803, Kingston, Tenn.



Retired veteran Gunny Cole, right, and a team of volunteers worked together to serve up about 1,700 meals in the aftermath of Hurricane Sally. Cole travels with his equipment to areas in need after a disaster and spent three days in Lillian.

37763

“I could not do what I do without a big team of volunteers and donors,” said Gunny.

It is a blessing to live in a country where people unite behind a cause to help others in need.

Parade Cancelled

The Optimist Club of Perdido Bay reluctantly announces the cancellation of the 2020 Christmas Parade due to the uncertainty of Covid-19 restrictions and the concern for club members being available to help direct the parade. The group plans to have a great parade again next year.

The Optimist Club will have all other Christmas activities, especially those that involve the children in our community. Watch for announcements regarding these activities in the next issue of *The Lillian*.

Annual Community Food Drive Drop Off Nov. 1-22 Donations Can Be Left at Methodist Church or Cove Office

This year’s annual Community Food Drive to help the hungry runs from Nov. 1 through Nov. 22.

Donors can place items in the designated containers at the Lillian United Methodist Church or the Spanish Cove property owner’s office. The church is located at 12770 S. Perdido St. and the office is at 2129 Club House Dr.

The most needed items include applesauce, canned

chicken, tuna and salmon, canned meat and vegetables, cooking oils, crackers, canned or dry fruit, granola bars, instant mashed potatoes, macaroni and cheese, meals in a box, nuts, pasta, peanut butter, rice, shelf-stable and powdered milk, canned soup, stew and chili, whole grain cereal, grits and oatmeal.

There will be no pickup date from homes this year so all donations need to be dropped off by Nov. 22.

Community Thanksgiving Service Planned on Nov. 22

An ecumenical Thanksgiving service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 22, in the pecan grove outside the Lillian United Methodist Church.

Sponsored by the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay, the Thanksgiving message will be provided by Rev. Dean Conkel of Lillian Fellowship

Church. Special music will be from New Mt. Marriah Baptist Church.

The Methodist church is located at 12770 S. Perdido St.



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Several Amendment Proposals on Nov. 3 Ballot

In addition to the national, state and county elections, several proposed amendments to the Alabama Constitution will be on the ballot on Nov. 3.

Some are statewide proposals while four of them are directly related to Baldwin County.

- STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 1: The state constitution grants the right to vote to U.S. citizens who meet certain requirements. This amendment does not change those requirements.

If a majority of voters vote "yes" for Amendment 1, the state constitution will grant the right to vote to "only" those U.S. citizens who meet the requirements.

If a majority of voters vote "no" for Amendment 1, the state constitution will continue to grant the right to vote to "every" U.S. citizen who meets the requirements.

There is no cost for Amendment 1.

- STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 2: This amendment proposes six changes to the state's judicial system. In summary, this amendment:

1. Provides that county district courts do not have to hold city court in a city with a population of less than 1,000;

2. Allows the Alabama Supreme Court, rather than the Chief Justice, to appoint the Administrative Director of Courts;

3. Increases from 9 to 11 the total membership of the Judicial Inquiry Commission and determines who appoints each member (the Judicial Inquiry Commission evaluates ethics complaints filed against judges);

4. Allows the Governor, rather than the Lieutenant Governor, to appoint a member of the Court of the Judiciary (the Court of the Judiciary hears complaints filed by the Judicial Inquiry Commission);

5. Prevents a judge from being automatically disqualified from holding office simply because a complaint was filed with the Judiciary Inquiry Commission; and

6. Provides that a judge can be removed from office only by the Court of the Judiciary.

If a majority of voters vote "yes" on Amendment 2, these provisions become law.

If a majority of voters vote "no" on Amendment 2, there will be no change to current law.

There is no cost for Amendment 2.

- STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 3: This amendment changes the initial term of a judge that is appointed to fill a vacancy due to death, resignation, retirement or removal. The current law and this proposed amendment do not apply to probate judges.

Under current law, the initial term of office for a person appointed to fill a vacancy in a judgeship shall last until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election held after the person has completed one year in office or the remainder of the original term of the judge elected to the office which is vacant, whichever is longer. The term of the appointment could vary widely due to the years left in the original term. At the election, the judicial office shall be filled for a full term.

Under this amendment, a judge appointed

to fill a vacancy shall serve an initial term lasting until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January following the next general election held after the person has completed two years in office. At the election, the judicial office shall be filled for a full term.

If the majority of the voters vote "yes" on Amendment 3, the initial appointment to fill a judicial vacancy will last until the first Monday after the second Tuesday in January after two years of service before a general election to fill the judicial office.

If the majority of the voters vote "no" on Amendment 3, then the length of appointment to fill a judicial vacancy will not change.

There is no cost to Amendment 3.

- STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 4: Alabama's constitution can be changed only during a constitutional convention or when a majority of voters approve a constitutional amendment.

If a majority of voters vote "yes" on Amendment 4, the Alabama Legislature, when it meets in 2022, would be allowed to draft a rearranged version of the state constitution. This draft could only (1) remove racist language, (2) remove language that is repeated or no longer applies, (3) combine language related to economic development, and (4) combine language that relates to the same county. No other changes could be made.

Even if passed by the Alabama Legislature, this rearranged version would not become law until it was approved by a majority of voters.

If a majority of voters vote "no" on Amendment 4, the Alabama Legislature could not draft a rearranged version of the state constitution.

There is no cost for Amendment 4.

- STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 5: Alabama's "Stand Your Ground" law allows a person to legally use physical force against another person under certain conditions. The law does not require the person to retreat before using physical force.

If a majority of voters in Alabama vote "yes" on Amendment 5, and if, in addition, a majority of voters in Franklin County vote "yes" on Amendment 5, the state constitution would contain a special "Stand Your Ground" law that applies to churches in Franklin County only.

If a majority of voters in Alabama vote "no" on Amendment 5, or, if a majority of voters in Franklin County vote "no" on Amendment 5, the state constitution would not contain a special "Stand Your Ground" law that applies to churches in Franklin County.

There is no cost for Amendment 5.

- STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 6: Alabama's "Stand Your Ground" law allows a person to legally use physical force against another person under certain conditions. The law does not require the person to retreat before using physical force.

If a majority of voters in Alabama vote "yes" on Amendment 6, and if, in addition, a majority of voters in Lauderdale County vote "yes" on Amendment 6, the state constitution

■ Ballot, continued on Page 14

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 251-961-1291. Check here before you buy or rent. Donations may be dropped off at Twice Upon A Time thrift shop and the Lillian Community Club. THANK YOU! ~ Individuals who have items borrowed from the closet and no longer have a need, please call and return the items to the Legion. ~ Individuals willing to donate unused items can call and we will pick them up.



Photo by Sally McKinney

Members of the St. Benedict Catholic School PTO have been working diligently to provide the Annual Draw Down to benefit the school. From left are Principal Dr. Kathy McCool and PTO members Alicia Martinez, Kim Frank and Cassie Trattles.

St. Benedict Hosting Annual Draw Down

By Sally McKinney

St. Benedict Catholic School PTO will host its annual \$5,000 Draw Down Fundraiser at 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13. Due to the COVID-19 precautions, the event will be hosted as a virtual event live on the school's Facebook page.

Tickets are \$75 each. An insurance upgrade of \$25 will enable the ticket to be put back in the drawing if it is among the first 100 drawn. The holders of the last two numbers drawn have the option to split the top prize, giving each \$2,500.

Tickets may be purchased online at <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/2sbvdd>. They may also be purchased at St. Benedict School office and at participating parish offices. Tickets sales close at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 12. Participating parishes

are Our Lady of the Gulf, Gulf Shores; St. Bartholomew, Elberta; St. Joseph, Lillian; St. John, Magnolia Springs; St. Margaret of Scotland, Foley; and St. Thomas by-the-Sea, Orange Beach.

No tickets will be printed. As tickets are purchased, the SBCS Advancement Office will assign numbers starting at 001. Individuals may request a specific number(s), but once a number is assigned, it will not be changed to accommodate requests.

Receipts acknowledging ticket purchases at participating parishes will be provided.

Online purchases create an immediate email verifying the purchase. Once a number is assigned, the donor will be contacted via phone, text and email.

Lillian Residents Debuting Improv Show at OWA

Patricia and Andrea Riley, both newcomers to Lillian from Hollywood, will be debuting an improv show at OWA in Foley at 7 p.m. Nov. 12.

Guests will enjoy a 90 minute show with family friendly, interactive improv comedy with the audience leading the direction of the performance.

The show was originally scheduled in September but was

delayed due to pandemic and social distancing concerns. The Improv Theater night at OWA is online to purchase tickets at \$19.99. Go to VisitOWA.com then click on the Live Performances link to find the show.

All guests inside the OWA theater are required to wear a mask while walking through public spaces. Once seated, guests may remove their mask for the show.



Lillian American Legion Post 48

By Wayne B. Lavallee, Adjutant

The American Legion Post 48 wants to wish the Lillian community a very happy Thanksgiving.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the post will not be holding a Veteran's Day program this year. We express our regrets and wish everyone a great Veteran's Day.

Visit downtown Pensacola and enjoy the Veterans Memorial Park located at the corner of 10th Avenue and Romana Street, directly on Main Street. It is breathtaking!

Any veteran wishing to join or transfer to our post is welcome to stop by our building on Wednesday mornings or email us at LegionPost48@AOL.com.

To all current members, your 2021 dues are overdue. Our membership is down overall and we need your help.

Come and join us any Wednesday from 9 to 11 a.m. Let us get to know you and have a cup of coffee. Meetings are held the third Monday of the month at 7 p.m. in the Lillian Community Club hall.

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 <p>19 Acres, CC Road, Elberta, Alabama Crop Land, \$184,300 MLS 288123</p>	 <p>20.5 Acres, County Rd. 26, Elberta, AL Agricultural, \$246,000 MLS 260961</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">PENDING</p>  <p>2836 Avenida Alberto, Lillian, AL 3/2, Brick, \$200,000 MLS 303041</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">PENDING</p>  <p>158 Defuniak Loop, Lillian, Alabama Park Model & Lot, \$95,000 MLS 304762</p>



The Lillian

Where pride, tradition and unity go hand-in-hand

P.O. Box 1088
Lillian, Alabama 36549

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

The Lillian newspaper is a monthly paper. Advertisements may be dropped off at the Lillian Perdido Bay Library, mailed to The Lillian, P.O. Box 1088, Lillian, Alabama 36549 or emailed to lillianeditor@yahoo.com.

Advertisement inquiries can be directed to Julie McManus at 703-217-2874 (cell). Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Available sizes for advertisements are:

- ~ Full page: 9.5" wide x 15" tall
- ~ Half page: 9.5" wide x 7.75" tall
- ~ 1/4 page: 4.75" wide x 7.75" tall
- ~ 1/8 page: 4.75" wide x 3.75" tall
- ~ #2: 4" wide x 6" tall
- ~ #3: 3" wide x 3.5" tall
- ~ Business card: 3.5" wide x 2" tall
- ~ Classified: maximum 35-40 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 staff have any questions. No letters will be accepted regarding property owner associations' problems.

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 issue when possible.

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

ARTICLE OR OBITUARY INFORMATION

We gladly accept news and information from the community. Please submit by:

- ~ Mail to P.O. Box 1088, Lillian, Alabama 36549
- ~ Fax: 251-961-3529
- ~ Email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com
- ~ Drop off at Lillian Perdido Bay Library (in yellow folder)

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.

DEADLINES AND CONTACTS

The deadline for the December issue of The Lillian is Nov. 16.

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

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

The Lillian Editorial Board

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Finding That Christmas Spirit

I just returned from a trip to the Chicago area. I do that every fall because it's the best time of year. Temperatures are moderate, not much rain and the autumn colors are spectacular. Of course, that doesn't happen every year, but this year it did.

We went to the Pumpkin Farm where my 20-month old great-grandson picked out his favorite pumpkin. That turned out to be every one of them, but he finally decided on one.

I was able to have some of my favorite meals, Chicago Hot Dog and pizza. I was also able to spend an afternoon with three of my great-grands when we celebrated a first birthday. Yes, it was a special trip.

One thing spoiled it, though. We went shopping to some of my favorite haunts and what to my wondering eyes do I see? Yikes! Christmas trees, decorations, lights, ornaments! It's not even Halloween yet, sez me to myself.

After the shock of realizing Christmas is only a couple of months away, I picked myself up, dusted myself off and started all over again and focused on family and food.

So, what did I do today, just a few days after that shock? I went to a Christmas in the Park meeting at the Lillian Recreational Park.

Yep, we're doing it again. Unfortunately because of COVID-19, it won't be the same, but Santa and Mrs. Claus will be there in all their glory and the beautiful decorations will wow you once again.

We're also talking about a Christmas Costume Contest for the kids and an Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest for the adults. Forms for the boys and



Just a Thought or Two
By Sally McKinney

girls to write their letters to Santa appears on Page 7. My favorite, hot chocolate, will be on the menu and maybe even cookies.

We'll be taking every precaution to make sure everyone is safe, so masks and social distancing will be required. So mark your calendar for Saturday, Dec. 5. More details will be coming in the December issue of *The Lillian*.

Now, you don't have to have kids or grands or great-grands to enjoy the fun at the park. The trees last year were off the charts and more special stuff is planned for this year.

One way you could help, though, is to become a sponsor. The park is locally funded by donations from Lillian residents, organizations and businesses. How about doing your part to help make this a very special Christmas for one and all? Sponsorships are Christmas Wonderland, \$5,000; Angel, \$2,500; Silver Bell, \$1,000; Reindeer, \$500; Snowflake, \$250 and Christmas Elf, \$100.

I think we're all going to need a very special Christmas this year. No need to make it a white Christmas, just so it's merry and bright.

You can help. Send a check now to Lillian Recreational Park, P.O. Box 865, Lillian, AL 36549.

When you see the eye-popping displays and the smiles on the faces of the boys and girls, you'll be glad you did.



Lillian Perdido Bay Library Corner

By Betty Bovat

After writing the article for the September issue, Hurricane Sally came in with such gusto, everyone had lots of work to do. With all the destruction everywhere and no electric power, internet and other damages, Janel Smith and her helpers worked diligently to print the The Lillian newspaper. Several people were greatly surprised and happy to receive it.

I do hope by the time you receive this month's paper, all your debris on your streets will no longer be there! It is a trying time for everyone.

The Lillian library had damage on three sides of the building while the inside was fine. Louie Pabon and

his helper were quick to repair it all.

The library currently has temporary open hours of Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon and Thursday from 4 to 6 p.m. The mask mandate is still in effect. We are accepting a few book donations at this time.

Thank you always for your support and patronage. We truly do appreciate each and every one of you, and feel so fortunate to be able to provide services to our community.

The Lillian Perdido Bay Library will be closed on Thursday, Nov. 26 and Saturday, Nov. 28 in observance of Thanksgiving. Happy Thanksgiving to everyone!

Don't Miss An Issue!



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

Name _____

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Fly In Raises Funds for Mary's Shelter

By Sally McKinney

Because of the Coronavirus and then Hurricane Sally, fundraising events for Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast had to be cancelled. But neither of those events deterred the Fly Boyz RC Club of Elberta from hosting their Fly In for the home for homeless, pregnant women who choose life for their unborn child.

The event was held at Horak Field in Elberta the first weekend of October and brought out radio control airplane enthusiasts of all ages from far and near. Visitors to the area enjoyed the antics brought on by those handling the controls.

Mary's Shelter has been located in Elberta since 2006. It is the only charitable organization that serves homeless pregnant women from five local counties, Mobile, Baldwin, Escambia in Alabama, Santa Rosa and Escambia in Florida. The women stay at the shelter before and after the birth of their babies and receive counseling and other services to help them on a positive path to the future.

At Mary's Shelter women can get away from families who disowned them, from abusive partners and those who just didn't want to take on the responsibilities a child would require. One call to Mary's Shelter and a mom-to-be and even her other children can find a safe home to make the hard decisions a pregnancy requires.

A program manager helps the residents set goals for their future and meets on a regular basis with each resident to review their progress. Some may desire adoption for their

child and they are guided through the process.

A grant researcher/writer searches across the nation for sources of funds for the home because the home receives no regular local, state or national funding.

The home has the ability to house 10 women and their children, newborns and toddlers. They live there 24/7 with expenses like any other home, utilities, food, cleaning supplies, paper products, sheets and blankets and, of course, diapers.

With the cancellation of fundraisers due to the virus and hurricane, Mary's Shelter is grateful to the Fly Boyz RC Club for their support. Donations may be made by visiting www.maryssheltergulfcoast.org and click on "Gifting." Send a donation to Mary's Shelter Gulf Coast, P.O. Box 18, Elberta, 36530 or call 251-986-6200.



Earl Mundt is a radio control airplane enthusiast who has been flying for most of his 88 years.

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 November go out to: Price Legg, Richard C. Holt, Radcliff Coyle, Steve Greer, Martha Kreamer, Carolyn Holt, Vicki Coyle, Sue Dickson, Gail Stewart, Allyson Greer, Peggy Bingle, Dick Rice, Jocelyn McCoy, Brandon Williams, Rosemary Bocard, Aubrey Verret, Linda Andrews, Gene Fell, Bob Linde, Evelyn Duckworth, Bill Burns, Hannas Hayles, Annette Culpepper, Gladys Morris,

Mac McMorris, Gerald Jackson, Jim Peale, Joan Fletcher and Rose Vargo.

Celebrating anniversaries are: Cliff and Mary Collier - 46 years, Ron and Barbara Parks - 57 years and Brannen and Megan Hall - 10 years.

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

The deadline for the December issue of The Lillian is Nov. 16.

SHERIFF'S BLOTTER

- Baldwin County officers responded to a report of theft at 5:33 p.m. Sept. 24 in the 32500 block of West Carrier Drive, Lillian.

- Officers responded to a report of domestic verbal abuse at 7:19 a.m. Sept. 28 in the 2100 block of Spanish Oak Drive, Lillian.

- Assault was reported at 5:40 p.m. Sept. 28 in the 12800 block of Seventh Street, Lillian.

- Officers responded to a theft report at 10:33 a.m. Oct. 2 in the 2700 block of Manuel Drive, Lillian.

- Residential burglary was reported at 9:20 a.m. Oct. 7 in the 2800 block of Pine Ridge Drive, Lillian.

- Officers responded to a report of burglary at 12:17 a.m. Oct. 10 in the 9400 block of Soldier Creek Road, Lillian.

- Officers responded to a physical domestic abuse call at 6 p.m. Oct. 19 in the 1800 block of Cristo Loop in Lillian.

Submit your news articles, club notes, photos, etc. by email to lillianeditor@yahoo.com



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Community Bulletin Board

*Events may change as COVID-19 recommendations
and Hurricane Sally recovery efforts are updated so
please check with the organizations
involved for their latest information.*

- Nov. 1 - 22 - Community Food Drive, drop off donations to Lillian United Methodist Church or Spanish Cove property owners' office
 - Nov. 3 - Election Day, polls open at 7 a.m., Lillian Community Club
 - Nov. 7 - Spanish Cove Craft Show, beginning at 8 a.m., in the main clubhouse
 - Nov. 9 - LASAR meeting, 7 p.m. second Monday of each month, Barclay Street
 - Nov. 10 & 24 - Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church Food Pantry, 9 to 11 a.m.
 - Nov. 10 - St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry, 9 to 11 a.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church
 - Nov. 16 - American Legion Post 48 meeting, 7 p.m. third Monday of each month, Lillian Community Club
 - Nov. 22 - Community Thanksgiving Service, 3 p.m., in the pecan grove outside Lillian United Methodist Church
- HAVE AN ITEM FOR OUR COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD?**
We would be happy to share this information with our readers, so please email meeting and event dates, times and locations to lillianeditor@yahoo.com

Holidays: Turkey, Treats and Toxins

Holiday feasts are a time to look forward to for many people. A delicious dinner with sweet treats and beautiful decorations sounds like the perfect way to celebrate the holidays with family and friends.

Unfortunately, all these things which seem so great to us can be very harmful for our pets.

There are more things poisonous to our pets than you may have known. Some are obvious, such as alcohol. However, there are far more seemingly harmless things that can cause anything from a little painful gas to dangerous bloating and even a potentially deadly disease known as pancreatitis.

Some foods and ingredients to avoid giving your pets are avocados, chocolate, coffee, caffeine, citrus, coconuts and coconut oil, all nuts (including macadamia), milk and dairy products, onions, garlic, chives, raw meat and eggs, salty foods and yeast dough.

While this is an extensive list, there are more things that can be toxic to your pets without them even ingesting them. Flowers can be especially toxic. Poinsettias, amaryllis, Baby's Breath, Sweet William, some ferns and hydrangeas are some examples.

Our pets will sometimes eat anything they can get their paws on. For this reason, homes with pets should also consider watching out for ingestion of pinecones and pine needles as well as other small decorations. Ingesting these types of items can cause intestinal blockages or perforation of the intestines.

One more thing to be careful of is any trash. Trash is bad for animals to eat anyway, but add in things such as turkey, chicken or ham bones and you



have a trip to the emergency vet waiting to happen. Trash should be covered in a tightly secured trash bag in a closed bin kept outside or in a room the pet is not able to access.

If your pet eats something that gets stuck in their intestines or stomach, the veterinarian may have to perform surgery to remove the object or risk damage to the pet's organs.

Surgeries of this type can cost thousands of dollars due to how extensive the surgery is in conjunction with post-surgical hospitalization to allow for recovery time.

You cannot be expected to watch over your pet all the time, but there are signs you can look for that will help you determine if your pet has eaten something it should not have.

You should watch out for changes in behavior, depression, pain, vomiting and diarrhea.

If your pet experiences any of these symptoms then you should contact your veterinary clinic if they are open, or the emergency clinic if it is after hours.

If you believe your pet may have ingested something which is considered poisonous or toxic to them, then you should call the Pet Poison Control Hotline at (888) 426-4435.



Get Ready for Some Holiday Magic

In this year of unprecedented challenges like the pandemic and hurricanes, organizers of the Lillian Recreational Park's Christmas in the Park can't wait to help bring some joy and happiness to Lillian with this year's celebration. The celebration will begin on Saturday, Dec. 5, and run through Jan. 1.

"The response to last year's Christmas in the Park celebration was absolutely fantastic and we're looking forward to another beautiful, fun event this year," said Lucy Smith, LRP and Christmas in the Park volunteer. "This year's celebration will be a little different because of COVID, but it will still feature lots of gorgeous trees and lights, with a few surprises thrown in for good measure.

"And, of course, Santa will be there. It wouldn't be Christmas without Santa!"

She pointed out Christmas in the Park is a way for the park to thank the community for their support and to help create a little holiday magic in Lillian. "I think we all could use a little joy in our lives right now. Something fun to focus on. We hope Christmas in the Park will help give people a sense of normalcy and community togetherness, even with our precautions in place. We also hope families will use it as an opportunity to get together and build special memories, especially during these challenging times."

During Christmas in the Park, the Lillian Recreational Park will be

Lillian Recreational Park News

By Lucy Smith

transformed into a holiday wonderland for the entire community to enjoy.

There will be lights and displays and a 20-foot Christmas Wonderland Tree, the centerpiece of the celebration.

Christmas in the Park will kick off at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 5. Lights will remain lit through January 1.

If you would like to help them bring Christmas magic to Lillian, there are many sponsorship opportunities available and, for the first time, an opportunity for individuals and families to sponsor a personalized brick that will be placed in the Holiday Brick Walk around the Wonderland Tree.

Holiday bricks will start at \$100 and can be personalized. Sponsor levels range from \$100 (Christmas Elf) to \$5,000 (Christmas Wonderland Sponsor). The main sponsor, the Christmas Wonderland Sponsor, will have the opportunity to throw the switch and light the centerpiece tree. Sponsor guidelines and levels, as well as information about how to purchase a brick are available on the park's website, www.LillianRecreationalPark.org, and Facebook page, or by contacting Lucy Smith at 719-494-7986.

Car Show Held in October



Photos by Sally McKinney

Despite the thunderstorms that plagued Lillian in the morning, the 2020 Lillian United Methodist Men's Club Annual Car Show went on as planned. The regular May event had been postponed until Oct. 24 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Pictured above are Mike & Charlene Caluda with their 1934 Ford Tudor Vicky.



Rick & Sue Tippit with their 1958 Ford DelRio



Jerry Garner and his 1957 Chevy BelAir

Dear Santa,

For Christmas, I would like:

This year, I have been:

Nice

 Naughty

Love,

My address is _____
I am _____ years old.

AFTER YOU COLOR AND FILL OUT YOUR LETTER TO SANTA, BRING IT TO THE LILLIAN RECREATIONAL PARK, 33914 WIDELL, AND DEPOSIT IT IN SANTA'S MAILBOX BEGINNING DECEMBER 5.

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Lutheran Women's Missionary League with Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church held a Sunday Service Celebration on Oct. 11. LWML activities provide quarterly financial support to the Food Pantry, South Sudan seminary student, Good Shepherd School, purchase Portals of Prayer devotions and give prayer shawls to comfort others. From left are Louise Berglund, Deb Rotonda, Dolores Price, Stormi Stalling, Kay Fogos, Betty Lawson and Sally Smith.

Shepherd of the Bay Releases November Schedule

Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church has announced their schedule of events for November which include Sunday Divine Service from 8 to 9 a.m. with guest pastor Timothy Sowers. All are welcome to attend.

Bible study is held every Wednesday from 9 to 10 a.m. Join Pastor Sowers in the fellowship hall to study

how early church fathers spread Christianity. All are welcome to attend.

The Food Pantry is open the second and fourth Tuesday, Nov. 10 and 24 from 9 to 11 a.m.

Families will get an additional bag of food on Nov. 24 to make a nice Thanksgiving meal.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Call to our Lillian Neighbors

We all know what a piece of paradise we live in, but I am concerned many residents don't really understand how just a handful of volunteers work hard to maintain and improve it. I'm referring in particular to our Lillian Recreational Park.

Have you seen the children's playground being built with brand new play structures and a shaded picnic area? How many of you have enjoyed exercising on the paved walking path?

How about the basketball/pickleball court and baseball/softball fields, all equipped with stadium lights? There is also a dog run for dogs to run off of a leash. "Market in the Park" offers local businesses and residents to sell their products.

Have you gone to one of the many "Movie in the Park" nights that offers fun movies for families to have night together? Such wonderful family events!

Our first ever "Christmas in the Park" was a huge event last year. Our park became a winter wonderland of lighted Christmas trees and decorations. There was a Christmas party complete with Santa Claus. Due to Covid-19 our plans will be shifted somewhat, but we still plan to have "Christmas in the Park."

All of these wonderful events do not just happen.

They occur because a handful of volunteers work endlessly to make all of these things happen.

I am writing this letter to *The Lillian* because it is time for all of us to help support these efforts! They need

more dedicated volunteers! The park was affected by Hurricane Sally and trees and debris need to be removed. They need volunteers to work on "Christmas in the Park."

These also need donations - all these improvements cost money. If all of us would donate something to show our appreciation, it would make a huge difference! It is tax-deductible.

This is a plea to my neighbors - show your appreciation for the wonderful park we have!

Donations can be sent to: Lillian Recreational Park, P.O. Box 865, Lillian, 36549

To find out about volunteering, send an email to Lilliansparkcommittee@gmail.com

Lynn Wilson

Grateful for the Newspaper

I have an old saying "God gives you WHAT you need, WHEN you need it" and sometimes we become impatient. Well, God certainly gave us what we needed when we needed it when he sent us Janel as our editor.

We were only without power for seven days, but we are now without TV phone or Internet for going on 13 days, but we are not complaining, there are those much worse off than we are. I come up to the library daily to check and answer e-mails and what a wonderful, pleasant surprise on Saturday, Sept. 26 to see that Janel got our Lillian newspaper out on time. A wonderful surprise and a blessing, thank you yet again, Janel.

God's blessings to you and yours,
Charlie and Wilma Spivey

Perdido Bay Residents

International Paper is using your bay as their treatment pond and saving millions. In 1970, the paper mill was ordered to go to a "closed system". It didn't happen. The paper mill has never complied with state laws. For the past 30 years, the paper mill has been operating on a promise to clean up. IP's effluent has been continuously toxic since 2012, but Florida's DEP does nothing. After IP's explosion in January, 2017 we saw how beautiful Perdido Bay could be. It was full of baby crabs, shrimp and fish. Now it is again lifeless. IP is dumping 6,000 to 8,000 pounds of solids everyday into the bay which contain PCB's and heavy metals. Life in the bay has all but disappeared. Let your politicians know that this is unacceptable. Perdido Bay is not a dump. We must save our bay for future generations.



Join Friends of Perdido Bay (\$20)
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Dr. Kathy McCool, left, principal of Saint Benedict Catholic School, receives a check from Wolf Bay Restaurant owner Char Haber.

Restaurant Lends a Helping Hand

Wolf Bay Restaurant owner Char Haber values elementary Catholic education and showed her support on Sept. 29 by hosting a “Spirit Night” fundraiser for Saint Benedict Catholic School. The restaurant provided 10% of food receipts plus 100% of the bake sale fundraiser, generating \$2,000 for the school.

A second “Spirit Night” fundraiser was held Oct. 20 and a third is set for Tuesday, Nov. 17. The event runs from 4 to 8 p.m., while the bake sale runs from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

These events are one of the few open to the public to support the elementary school located in Elberta.

“Events like these are a great way

for our school family to come together to have fun, eat great food and generate revenue for the school,” said Dr. Kathy McCool, principal. “We are very appreciative of Char and the Wolf Bay restaurant employees for everything they do for us and our students. Hurricane Sally hit the school. We have lost the use of our gymnasium, multiple air conditioning units and the entryway awning to the school. We know that we will have to cover the \$12,000 deductible and we don’t know yet what repair costs our insurance will cover. These fundraisers will help off-set those expenses as we work toward returning to the new normal.”

Adventures in Eating

By Ken Sanders

crumbled (or equivalent amount of bacon bits)

3 tablespoons finely shredded sharp or extra sharp Cheddar cheese

2 fine chopped either jalapeno and/or garlic stuffed green olives

2 tablespoon Dijon mustard (preferably country style)

2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives (dried are marginally acceptable)

1 or 2 drops (no more) of liquid smoke

1/4 teaspoon ea. fresh ground black pepper and hot Hungarian paprika

Generous dash of Worcestershire sauce

Slice eggs in half lengthwise; remove yolks and set whites aside. In a small bowl, mash yolks. Stir in the remaining ingredients. Stuff into egg white halves. Refrigerate until serving. Enjoy!

All of us have been to a party where deviled eggs are part of the fare. Usually all of them taste about the same and use similar recipes. The following is something very different and definitely not for the faint hearted.

Deviled Eggs

Put cold eggs gently in boiling water to cover 12 minutes for large eggs, 14 for extra large and 15½ for jumbo. Use eggs that do not have any appearance of surface cracks as these will crack and make a mess during boiling.

Immediately after cooking, run cold water to fill pan, then drain most of water, leaving enough to cover eggs. Then fill with ice cubes for at least six minutes.

Crack, roll on counter moderately firmly and peel. The rolling helps separate the shell membrane from the egg and makes peeling very easy.

- 12 hard-cooked eggs
- 1/2 cup real mayonnaise
- 4 bacon strips, cooked and

Church Hosting Annual Country Bazaar

St. John’s Catholic Church in rural Magnolia Springs will hold their Annual Country Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 21, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the oak-shaded church grounds.

Five-star seafood gumbo and blue-ribbon shrimp creole will be available. Pre-order takeout orders can be made online at stjohms.com by clicking on the Bazaar tab.

The silent auction includes hand-made crafts, gift baskets and baked

goods. A “Basket of Cheer” raffle worth \$500 will be held with tickets at \$5 each.

A general raffle with tickets for \$1 each has a first prize of \$150 cash, second prize of a coastal boat trip, third prize of a Thanksgiving dinner basket and fourth prize of a \$25 Walmart gift card. Drawings will be held Sunday at 12:30 p.m.

For more information, call 251-988-1468 or 251-942-9067. The church is located at 10800 Saint John’s Lane, Foley.

Orally Speaking

By Richard Leverett, DMD

Loose Dentures and Mouth Discomfort

If you are a denture patient, your gums are going to shrink. The denture does not change, but your mouth does. Shrinkage of the gums can cause the denture to become loose and your bone can also diminish.

An ill-fitting denture can cause your jaws to not come together correctly. A loose denture can create sore spots. You can fracture denture teeth and possibly break the denture itself. You may even develop stomach issues.

If you suffer from these issues, they are only going to get worse. You need to see your dentist for an evaluation. In some cases of gum shrinkage, any denture adhesive works well. If the shrinkage is more, the denture can be realigned. If the denture teeth are noticeably worn and you have significant gum shrinkage, they may need to be remade.

Dentures can also be stabilized by having implants placed by a qualified dental professional. The denture can be modified to have retentive areas that match with the implants. Keep in mind this can get expensive.

Even if you have been a denture wearer for many years, you should routinely visit your dentist to check the fit, make adjustments and examine the health of your gum tissues.

Even if you do not have any teeth, appropriate dental x-rays need to be taken periodically to check for bone level and any pathology. They will also screen for oral cancer.

Like seeing your physician on a regular basis, seeing your dentist regularly can ensure you maintain a healthy mouth, a properly functioning denture and a great smile.

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Red Hats Resume Meetings



The Perdido Grande Dames Red Hat Ladies had their first gathering of the fall season Oct. 13 at O'Charleys in Foley. The group meets from October to May on the second Tuesday each month. The \$12 annual dues are collected at the Christmas meeting. Collected funds are donated to local non-profit organizations. New members are welcome. Call Judy Wargo 586-383-1206 if you are interested. Pictured are, from left, Karen Brady, Mary Margret Ayres, Judy Wargo and Waynette Brown. Also attending were Barbara Dixon and Elaine Cooley.

Lowe to be Honored for Mason Service

Lillian Masonic Lodge 925 members focused their recent meeting discussion on expanding community service over the holidays, but took time to point out that Vernon Lowe, first Worshipful Master of the lodge in 1987, was to be recognized for 65 years of service to the brotherhood. Freemasonry is the oldest and largest fraternal organization in the world with over three million Freemasons in North America.

The members plan to again partner with the Optimist Club of Perdido Bay to distribute Thanksgiving meals to local families. Last year, the lodge provided smoked turkeys to 32 families. The Optimist Club took care of the other meal essentials. The gift basket included food for several days.

In consideration of the impact of Covid-19 and Hurricane Sally, the lodge plans to increase the number of families this year.

"Hurricane Sally and the pandemic has more families hurting," said Worshipful Master Richard Duggan. "By again partnering with the local Optimist Club and area churches, we hope to expand what was distributed last year. The thought of families and children not having enough food weighs heavy on us and we know that the local food banks have seen increased need."

While discussing community service, the lodge acknowledged Vernon Lowe for his 65 years of service to Free Masonry.



Lowe

The group is unsure when it will be able to honor him in person. He is recuperating at home after testing positive with the coronavirus. Lowe, who will turn 90 on Dec. 8, had heart surgery earlier this year.

Lowe has had a distinguished career as a Mason. He was initiated 65

Lillian Masonic Lodge

By Jeff Keener

years ago on Oct. 3, 1955, as Master Mason (third degree mason). Having become an Entered Apprentice on Aug. 29, 1955, he was initiated as a Fellow Craft on Sept. 19, 1955. His early training occurred within the South Ann Street Lodge 898 in Mobile, now named Azalea Lodge. He served in each of the chairs throughout his tenure at Azalea Lodge, including Master of the Lodge.

After moving to Lillian from Mobile, a small group of Masons got together in 1985-86 and discussed the possibility of establishing a lodge in Lillian. Lowe continued his membership in the Azalea Lodge, while working to get the Lillian lodge started. The late Sam McLendon compiled a list of Masons living in the community and invited them to a meeting at the home of Ray and Ellie Wiggins. Later the group met at the KOA complex on Route 99 and at the Lillian Community Club. A core group of Masons, including Lowe, worked diligently on getting the Lillian Masonic Lodge going.

When Lillian Masonic Lodge 925 was officially recognized in 1987, Lowe transferred his membership to Lillian and he was elected as the first Worshipful Master. In addition to serving in a number of positions, he has served as primary trainer of new applicants into Masonry in Lillian.

Masonry is dedicated to the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of God using the tools and implements of ancient architectural craftsmen symbolically in a system of instructions to build character and moral values. Masonry's purpose is to make men better and Lowe has exemplified that in his service at his church, lodge and community.

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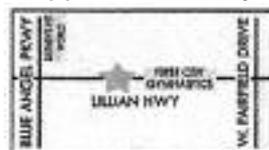
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LVFD Handles Record Number of Calls

The Lillian Volunteer Fire Department responded to 134 calls dispatched by the 911 operators in September including 77 medical assistance, 11 public assists, 3 motor vehicle accidents, 2 brush fires, 3 structure fires, 3 marine search/rescues, 11 fire alarm/investigations, 4 human rescues; 12 burn complaints; 1 vehicle fire and 7 miscellaneous.

As I have mentioned over the last few months, the amount of calls we have received is growing exponentially and of course due to Hurricane Sally, September was an extraordinary month for the department. During a five-day timeframe, the department responded to 56 calls. At one point during storm response, most of the apparatus were in use serving the community. The department responded to 134 calls in September, setting a record for the department. In addition, many of our members had record-breaking individual responses to calls, even though many of them had plenty of damage to their own properties that needed attention.

In addition to the record call volume, many department members were instrumental in ensuring the Point of Distribution (POD) was staffed and the community was further served by having MREs, ice, water and tarps passed out to those in need.

We were able to serve 2,861 ve-

hicles which included over 2,000 cases of water, 18,000 MREs, 1,000 tarps, 18 pallets of ice and 5,000 hot meals.

We also like to take the opportunity to thank the ladies of St. Joseph Catholic Church and World Kitchen for keeping the department well fed during this hectic time.

On Oct. 5, we held the Annual General Membership and Election of the LVFD Board of Directors.

Nominations were put forth for a new president and two new board members. Mike Cleveland was nominated for president and Garry Tucker and Kathleen Clark were nominated as new board members. All new nominees were voted in by a unanimous vote from the board members present.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Mark Beyerl, our previous president, and Kilty Spoke, secretary, for their selfless contributions of their time to ensure the community is represented in financial and productivity areas of the department.

Lillian Volunteer Fire Department and Lower Alabama Search and Rescue worked together to get supplies ready for the POD at the Lillian Community Club following Hurricane Sally.



Lillian Volunteer Fire Department
By Goretta Lysek



LVFD Chief Nick Dewhurst and Ginny Garry of Baldwin County EMA discussed plans for distribution.



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- Sandy C.

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Addressing Concerns on County's Toll Falacies

By Rep. Steve McMillan

Baldwin County voters will head to the polls in just a matter of days to cast their vote on a full ballot, including several local amendments which will influence various aspects of residents' everyday living. Of the four local amendments on this year's ballot is Local Amendment 2, which I co-authored, and which proposes the creation of the Baldwin Beach Express II (BBEII), extending the northern end of the current Baldwin Beach Express to link I-10 with I-65 (the project).

If approved by the voters of Baldwin County, a toll authority would be established on this new stretch of road to pay for the construction and continual maintenance of the roadway. The toll authority would only be granted jurisdiction over the BBEII, and no other road, leaving drivers the choice to take this new roadway or continue using their everyday roadways just as they have been doing for years, still free of charge. We anticipate the new road will be available for use in 5 to 8 years.

Due to the word 'toll,' opposition has taken to various platforms urging Baldwin County voters to reject Local Amendment 2. However, these opposing voices misrepresent crucial aspects and facts that make the BBEII a safe and sound move for Baldwin County.

While similar initiatives have appeared on ballots in years past, this year elected officials are asking Baldwin County voters to vote yes on

this new roadway. The proposed BBEII is a totally different, locally controlled toll authority.

This amendment is appearing on this year's ballot in a timely manner. If not voted on this year, it is likely the amendment would not be presented to the public for at least another two years. Moreover, construction of the approved roadway would not finish until 5 to 8 years after the initial vote. This is time we simply do not have when dealing with matters of infrastructure, county growth, safety and economic opportunity.

Since 2014, our county's population has grown nearly 50 percent. The time to invest in our future infrastructure is now and doing so will assure that we are able to support and sustain Baldwin County's potential growth for years to come.

Recently it has been suggested Baldwin County voters will be giving lawmakers a blank check to construct this new roadway.

The blank spaces found in the legislation are put in place due to the introduction of contingent acts. In other words, this amendment cannot be considered an act until final passage, and until Baldwin County votes 'yes' on Local Amendment 2.

False assertions have also been made regarding the makeup of the toll authority members and their powers. The proposed act clearly requires that the Toll Authority Directors be appointed by the

Baldwin County Commission and will serve a maximum 6-year term limit. Toll Authority Directors will be held accountable by the Baldwin County Commission and may be subject to impeachment by a County Grand Jury, District Attorney or the Alabama Attorney General. The legislation also includes a provision of law that prohibits nepotism, ensuring the directors are acting on behalf of the common good for Baldwin County.

A yes vote on Local Amendment 2 will only improve our way of life in Baldwin County. We may continue using the existing free routes as we have been doing, free of charge, and will never have to be concerned with any toll. Your tax dollars are not going toward this project. Rather, the roadway extension will be 100% paid for by the toll itself, if and only if you choose to drive on the BBEII. Drivers who opt to take their regular free routes will never have to pay the toll fee.

This amendment offers strengthened infrastructure to keep up with our rapidly growing population, secures an additional north-bound evacuation route and will bring new job and economic development opportunities to our region.

Please, join me in voting yes on Local Amendment 2.

• *Editor's note: Alabama State Representative Steve McMillan represents District 95 and serves as Chairman of the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation.*

Lillian residents vote at the Lillian Community Club

Polls open at 7 am
November 3

Social Distance Crafting SO MUCH FUN!

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Hope you will join us!

~ Jean

Thanksgiving Perspective from a Cat

The great enemy of Thanksgiving is pride. Unless we deal with our pride, Thanksgiving can become just a day for taking inventory of what we have accomplished during the year and congratulating ourselves. Sometimes we sound a bit like Little Jack Horner at Thanksgiving, "Little Jack Horner sat in a corner, eating his Christmas pie. He stuck in his thumb and pulled out a plum, and said, 'What a good fellow am I.'"

There are a lot of little Jack Horners in the world today. A retired Brooklyn minister was returning to New York from Europe on an overnight flight. A large, ruddy-faced man sat down beside him, carrying a heavy briefcase. Hyperactive and frantically busy, he ignored the minister for a while. Finally, he turned to him and said, "My company got me on this flight at the last minute. I have to be in a big meeting in New York tomorrow. You see, my company is Harper and Son. We supply most of the lights for most of the airport runways of the entire world." He glanced at minister to see that he was suitably impressed.

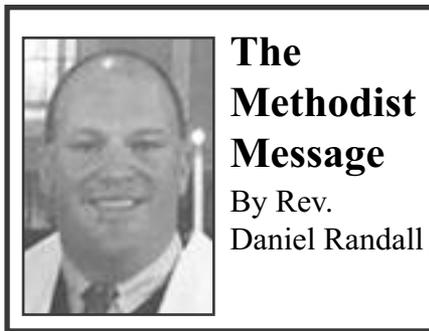
Then he asked the minister, "What firm are you with?" The minister thought for a moment and replied, "I'm with God and Son." The man looked at him strangely and said, "God and Son?"

"That's right," said the minister. "We supply all the light for all the stars in the entire universe." Perhaps

all of us need to hear it if we are really going to praise God on Thanksgiving rather than take stock of our own achievements. Even if Time magazine makes you the Man or Woman of the Year, it won't be worth the paper it's printed on if God does not approve. On the other hand, even if the whole world is calling you the Loser of the Year, it won't matter if God declares, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

If everything we have is an act of grace from God that we did not earn or deserve, why do we brag as if we are the cause of our giftedness or power? We are not the source of what we possess. If we make that claim, then we ascribe arrogance to ourselves and diminish gifts God gives us. Our gratitude toward God delivers us from self-righteousness and pride.

There was a family that had a large cat. Gris Gato was huge, with long grey hair. He looked like he had a lot of Persian in him. He was clearly the head of the house. He would let you pet him, but it was clear he felt he was doing you a favor. If you sat in his chair, he could fix you with such a look of disdain you would feel ashamed and change chairs. Gris Gato spent his first two years living in the woods, utterly wild. He would not let anybody get near him. One day the family noted that he was hurt, sort of dragging his hind quarters. Obviously, the cat had been caught by



The Methodist Message

By Rev. Daniel Randall

a dog or hit by a car.

The only way they could get near the cat was to trap him, using food as the lure. It was a chore to get him to the vet, but they managed. A few days later the father called the vet and asked how the cat was doing. The vet said, "The cat has made rapid recovery. You can pick him up in a few days."

"Well," asked the father, "How much is the bill?" The vet replied with \$575. "What?" said the father. "No way can we pay that. That's not even our cat. You'll just have to send him on to the city pound."

His 12-year-old son was listening and as soon as Dad put down the phone, with eyes full of tears, said, "If one of us had to go to the hospital, and the doctor told you that the bill would be really high, would you tell the doctor to just get rid of us, just send us somewhere, because you wouldn't pay?"

The father phoned the vet and told him he would come by and get the cat. They brought him home and named him Gris Gato. In the years that followed, the cat was indulged and spoiled in an outrageous fashion.

He has been ambushed by prosperity and is wonderfully spoiled. But instead of corrupting his character, he has thrived. That cat represents all of us in a way. Gris Gato did not seek out the good life. He was ambushed by it. He ran from people as fast as he could. They had to trap him to get him to a vet. You and I did not first seek God. In our various sinful ways, we showed God that we wanted to do things our way rather than his way. But God never gave up on us. His love pursues us as long as we live and breathe. Gris Gato's family trapped him. God will not do that to us. He calls us. His love for us is emblazoned on a cross for the whole world to see. But God always leaves to us the right to receive Him, reject Him or ignore Him. If we receive Christ as Lord, then God provides a kind of life we could never even imagine, an abundant life here on earth and eternal life hereafter. And it is all sheer grace, an expression of God's undeserved love.

Do not use Thanksgiving as an occasion for self-congratulation. Instead, let it be a time when we count our many blessings and name them one by one.



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■ **Ballot, continued from Page 2** would contain a special "Stand Your Ground" law that applies to churches in Lauderdale County only.

If a majority of voters in Alabama vote "no" on Amendment 6, or, if a majority of voters in Lauderdale County vote "no" on Amendment 6, the state constitution would not contain a special "Stand Your Ground" law that applies to churches in Lauderdale County.

There is no cost for Amendment 6.

• **BALDWIN COUNTY LOCAL**

AMENDMENT 1: Relating to Baldwin County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to allow the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County to exercise equity jurisdiction concurrent with that of the circuit court in cases originally filed in the Probate Court of Baldwin County if the Judge of Probate is a member of the Alabama State Bar.

• **BALDWIN COUNTY LOCAL AMENDMENT 2:** Relating to Baldwin County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama

of 1901, as amended, to authorize the Legislature by local law to provide for the incorporation of a toll road and bridge authority as a public corporation in the county for the purposes of acquiring, designing, constructing, equipping, regulating, improving, operating and maintaining a new toll road and bridge project in the county in order to extend the present northern terminus of the Baldwin Beach Express to U.S. Interstate Highway 65.

(State Rep. Steve McMillan also provided additional information on this proposal. He represents District 95 and serves as chairman of the Baldwin County Legislative Delegation. His editorial can be found on Page 12.)

• **BALDWIN COUNTY LOCAL AMENDMENT 3:** Relating to Baldwin County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama

of 1901, to define the Rosinton Landmark District within the county and to prohibit the annexation by local law of any property within the district into any municipality except under certain conditions.

• **BALDWIN COUNTY LOCAL AMENDMENT 4:** Relating to Baldwin County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, to define the Barnwell Landmark District within the county and to prohibit the annexation by local law of any property within the district into any municipality except under certain conditions.

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Miscellaneous

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**Nov. 3
Polls open
at
7 a.m.**



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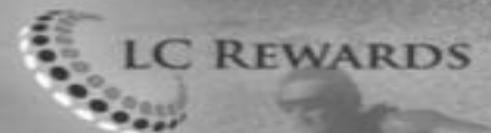
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Local Volunteer Groups Earn Our Thanks

I think it's pretty safe to say we're all still feeling the impact of Hurricane Sally, physically and emotionally. Many of us are still cleaning up and making repairs.

And we're all keeping a close eye on those FEMA trucks, patiently waiting in traffic as they move down the road and excitedly watching as they pick up the piles in our yards.

As I stated last month, I realize how very fortunate I am in regards to the very minimal damage I experienced. In the days following the storm, I found myself drawn to volunteering at the Point of Distribution site at the Lillian Community Club.

Organized by the Lillian Volunteer Fire Department and assisted by Lower Alabama Search and Rescue, the POD furnished needed water, food and supplies to area residents. I'm not a member of either group, but I gained valuable knowledge and respect for both of these volunteer agencies while working some long, hot hours alongside them. We were also joined by the National Guard in setting up each day and passing out what supplies we had.

We weren't able to have lengthy conversations with residents as they drove through since we wanted to keep the line moving, but my impression was that most everyone was in a daze, trying to get through their days just one step, one task at a time.

And most were extremely appreciative, expressing their thanks for what they were able to receive and for all of us volunteering. One woman in particular stands out. She pulled up and immediately thanked us for our time and efforts and then the tears began. She apologized and said she just couldn't help it. I joked with her, telling her "If you start crying, I'll start crying." And I did.

But we also laughed at our reactions and I believe we parted ways feeling just a little bit better.

I'll also admit to crying a few days after the storm while on Highway 98 into Pensacola. Traffic was crawling along and I could hear sirens in the distance.

Assuming there had been an accident, I was taken by surprise when I realized the police were escorting utility crews onto the highway and clearing the way for them to get to

work restoring our power. I had never seen anything like it before, and yep, the tears started.

In a weird way, I think every one of us should go through a natural disaster of some sort, if only to experience and witness the kindness that is shown afterwards. The key then is to keep that kindness in mind and practice it every day, paying it forward.

On the flip side, it's also important to remember we're all in this together, so take only what you need. The POD was set up to assist those who needed help and unfortunately, we saw some people come through who only seemed to think of themselves. To those who went through the line several times in a day, shame on you. The purpose of the POD was to fill a need, not your greed.

To those who are a part of the LVFD and LASAR, I thank you. De-

From the Managing Editor
By Janel Smith



spite the circumstances that led to the POD being set up, it was an incredible experience working with you and seeing your dedication, kindness and selflessness to benefit our community.

These groups jumped in right away to see what was needed and made it happen. As we continue to recover from Hurricane Sally, be sure to recognize these volunteers however you can, whether by making a monetary donation to their organization, or with a simple 'thank you' when you see them in person. They deserve it.



Photo by Janel Smith

Staffed by volunteers from the community, area residents were able to drive through the POD at the Lillian Community Club and pick up water, food and supplies in the days after Hurricane Sally.

LILLIAN COMMUNITY CLUB

34148 Widell Avenue • Lillian, Alabama 36549

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Email: lillianlcc@gulftel.com

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Catfish, french fries, grits, hushpuppies, baked beans, coleslaw, dessert and coffee or tea.
MUSIC: Big Jake in the Lounge

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- Jay Hawkins Duo - Nov. 1
 - Knee Deep - Nov. 6
 - Back to the Future - Nov. 8
 - Big Jake - Nov. 13
 - Front Stage Band - Nov. 15
 - Jay Hawkins Band - Nov. 20
 - Rock Bottom Duo - Nov. 22
 - Beach Billies - Nov. 27
 - Lipstick and Lead - Nov. 29
- \$5 COVER CHARGE FOR NON-MEMBERS WHEN IN THE HALL

Check our web page for updates to upcoming events. Please like us on our Facebook page.
www.LillianCommunityClub.com
Prepared by Sandy Fuller