### The Lanier County News

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**OUR POLICIES:** Letters to the Editor are welcome. Please sign and include address and telephone number.

•Liability for an error in advertising will not exceed the cost of space occupied by the error.

•All pictures are filed after publication, but may be picked up by their owner at The Lanier County News office in Lakeland.

DEADLINE: The deadline each

**DEADLINE:** The deadline each week for all news and advertising copy is Monday at 5:00 p.m. Submittals can be placed in the drop box located in the door of the Lanier County News office.



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482-3545

# Opinion & Viewpoint

#### Fall is just around the corner

While fall does not officially begin until the twenty-second of the month most people associate the season with the changing of August to September on the calendar.

Already autumn decorations can be seen at many businesses and homes and they will increase during the next two weeks. Many stores have been displaying Halloween decorations and candy since late July.

Fall has always been a favorite season of mine with the only drawback is that it means that winter is getting closer. We should have a few weeks of good weather conditions and that is what I focus on and enjoy. Some weather forecast will predict below normal cold weather for this year.

One of the best things about autumn is that we will leave behind the hot weather we have during the summer. After weeks of grass cutting and other outside work it is always nice to have a break from these chores for a while.

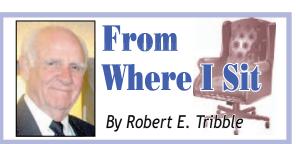
Also, fall is something that many people associ-

ate with football. Watching college football on a Saturday afternoon is an American pastime especially in the South.

Many of the first few games of the season are played in hot weather and it seems that high school football is required from the state level to make August the starting point for the sport. It is a very bad thing and needs to be changed. Playing football in August is very dangerous.

Waking up in the mornings and enjoying the more cooler weather is very nice. When we walk outside in the morning and take our twenty minutes or so walk to get some exercise it does us good and makes us feel better.

Let's all roll out the welcome mat now even though fall is not officially here yet it is only a few days away. We will still have a few weeks of hot weather but very soon the weather should get cooler and will be more enjoyable to walk in, do what yard work is left to do or just sit on the front porch in our rocking chairs.



One of my favorite events while growing up was the annual Halloween carnival my school held. It was a chance to win some prizes which were worth a dime back then, go on a hay ride or walk through the haunted house that had been set up for us young kids.

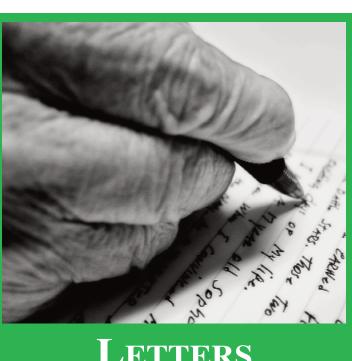
In closing, I always look forward to fall for the cooler weather, for the football season, the cooler days to walk and for the fall colors when the leaves changes.

#### **Cagle Grams**

By James H. Cagle

#### **Only Him**

If Jesus should called me to valleys dark Without a single ray of light Would I descend the mountain height And walk with Him in darkest night? Would I leave my flower strewn path To travel the Calvary way? Forsake all my friends and family With Jesus Christ as my only stay? How far, to please Him, would I go, And fulfill His holy desire? Would I willingly surrender my all And do whatever He requires? Would I leave and never stop to think What other men might say? Knowing that He who called me out, Will walk with me in life's way? Would I demand before I would leave To know just where and how? Or will I answer Love's pulling tide And go to Him right now? Oh wavering soul, oh faithless heart, Oh, why not have this thought?-Why should I be as the changing wind, But never as I ought? To linger behind and pine away, And never go with Him; Beyond my sight, beyond what I feel,



And there know only Him.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please submit letters to: Editor • Lanier County News P.O. Box 216 • Lakeland, GA 31635

Letters must be signed and phone number provided. (Phone numbers will not be published.)



#### PHOTO SPOTLIGHT

Jacob's Ladder Therapeutic Riding Center

#### **Zebony & Faith**

If Zebony Davis is any indication of the about-to-graduate generation, this world is in good shape.

The crown that was supposed to go to her instead went to her friend Faith Hobbs. Faith has Down syndrome. Faith walked the football field this year, as a senior, escorted by Zebony and Zebony's escort Quevan Lawson. They were on the field for the annual Homecoming event, something we Southerners take just about as seriously as our football.

When Tim Hunt announced the queen, Zebony and her family were naturally very excited. When it came time to receive the crown...

Excuse me. Allergy attack. Lemme clear

... Zebony said "Give it to her." The crown went to Faith. Zebony accepted the roses, banner and the cape for being elected Homecoming Queen.

Faith got the crown.

Will someone PLEASE stop cutting up onions in here. Thank you.

Plenty of tears rolling down faces in Alan Hobby Stadium on Friday night after that happened.

Pictures were taken. Zebony, Quevan and Faith together.

They started off the field. Faith complained

her shoes were hurting her.

Dressed in a homecoming gown ...

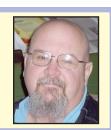
Y'all, I ain't cried this much writing a column since I wrote the story of my son Jesse being born. Jesse also has Down syndrome. He and Faith were classmates for years. He called

... in that most elegant gown, Zebony knelt down in front of stadium of people and helped take Faith's shoes off. They walked off the field hand in hand, Zebony carrying the shoes.

Waterworks again.

The photo by Deborah Priest, Faith's

Baker's
Dozen
By Ben Baker



teacher, is well on its way to being a viral sensation, as it should be.

We're all in this together. People like Miss Zebony Davis live it.

Zebony Davis words are not adequate to

Zebony Davis, words are not adequate to express the thanks from so many families. It is what we have.

May we all learn from your example. You are an inspiration. You are a true leader. You are what the people of this world should be.

May your future be as bright as you shined on Friday night.

October is National Down Syndrome Awareness Month.



EDITOR'S NOTE - Opinions expressed in letters to the editor, editorial cartoons, and columns do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper staff. We do, however, support freedom of speech as provided in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. We welcome written responses that are not libelous to any letter or column.

her "My Doodblebug."