



Town of Shalimar

Tidbits

NOTES FROM THE MAYOR

Well, I hope you all had a happy new year. There has been a lot going on in the town of Shalimar and we have some exciting events planned for 2022. I want to first thank all of you who came out to our annual Christmas Tree Lighting in December. It was our biggest and most successful one yet with hundreds in attendance celebrating the beginning of the Christmas season for our town. We added some vendors and our top chef aka Commissioner Brian Taylor, and his team grilled some of the best hamburgers and hotdogs in the south. The demand was high and there was a long line throughout the evening. Thanks to everyone who played a part in this event and to the many volunteers who volunteered their time and talents. We couldn't do it without you.



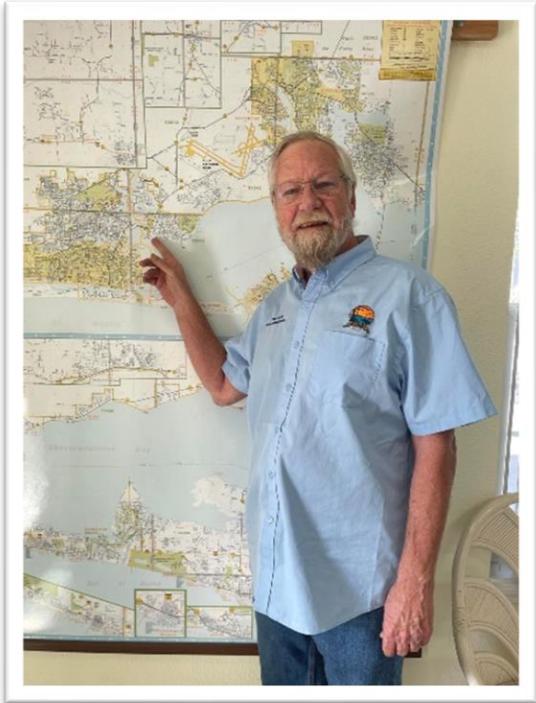
We also celebrated the 25th Anniversary of our awesome Shalimar Library & Thrift Shop. My wife and I joined the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce along with the Board and their volunteers for a ribbon cutting. I had the privilege of reading a proclamation approved by the Town of Shalimar Commission naming November 13th The Shalimar Library & Thrift Shop Day! It was a wonderful time of visiting and celebrating this milestone for this important and valuable nonprofit organization.

The Town of Shalimar incorporated in 1947, so that means we will be celebrating our 75th anniversary this year! The commission has decided to have a day of celebration which will be held at Comb's Park sometime in May. There will be food, music, games and some historical exhibits. We will send out more details (date and time) in the near future. Happy 75th Anniversary Shalimar! Your town staff has a few new faces, so we thought it would be helpful to share with you some photos and a brief bio on each employee. I want to thank our Deputy Clerk Jessica Rehr for putting this all together and I really hope you will find this helpful. If you see any of these friendly faces around town, take a minute to say hi. They would love to hear from you and as always, please let us know if there is something that needs our attention.

Mark Franks
Mayor, Town of Shalimar

MEET THE TOWN EMPLOYEES

Town of Shalimar Administrative Office



Tom Burns, Town Administrator

Tom is a retired USAF Command Pilot flying five different aircraft and serving overseas tours in the Philippines and Korea. Tom has been the Town manager/administrator through 5 Police Chiefs and 5 City Clerks. He assumed this position in 2000 after working part-time in the maintenance department. He has a Bachelor's degree in Business Management/Statistics from the US Air Force Academy and a Master's degree in Business Science from Troy State University. Tom has three children and seven grandchildren and was recently widowed from his wife Linda after 46 years of marriage. He has resided in the Poquito Bayou area since 1993.

Jessica Rehr, Deputy Town Clerk

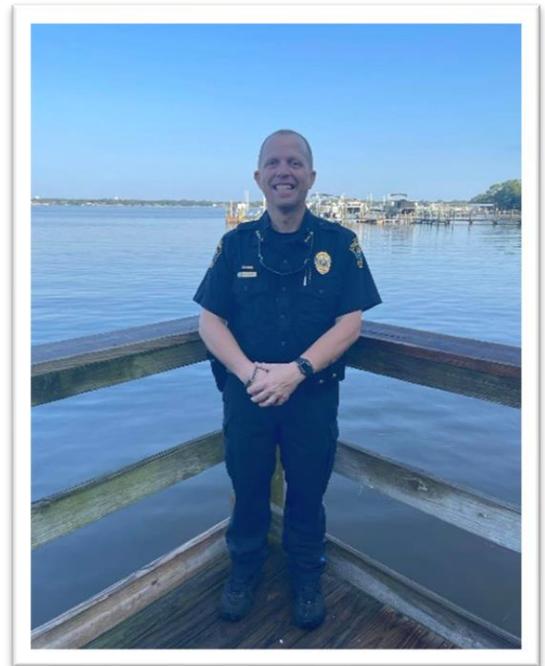
Jessica has held the Deputy Town Clerk position since the Fall of 2016. In 2018, she assumed the role of Secretary for the Okaloosa County League of Cities. She has a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Flagler College. Jessica is originally from the Tallahassee area. She has been married to her husband, Dave, a native of the Shalimar area for four years. Jessica enjoys paddle boarding, traveling, and watching college football.



Shalimar Police Department

John E. Cash, Police Chief

John has been serving as Chief of Police since 2005. His hometown is Cashion, Oklahoma. He graduated in 1997 from Fort Walton Beach High School. John enjoys watching his kids play sports and is an avid basketball fan with extended family playing in college. John has been working in the law enforcement sector for 21 years and has been influential in making a difference in people's lives.



John Spohn, Captain

John has been working in the Shalimar Police Department since 2000 and Captain since 2010. His hometown is Grand Blanc, Michigan. He graduated in 1973 from Grand Blanc High School. John joined the air force in 1975, retiring in 1999. He enjoys spending time with his wife and grandchildren; John is an example of a family man. His expertise in his 21-law enforcement career is making a difference in people's lives.



**Carlos Jones,
Lieutenant**

Carlos has been working as a part-time Police Officer in the Shalimar Police Department since 2016 and Lieutenant since 2018. He has been working in the Law Enforcement sector for 21 years. Carlos has been working as an Okaloosa County Code Enforcement Officer for the last seven years. He has an Associate's degree from North West Florida State College and a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from Alabama State



College. Carlos enjoys riding horses, spending time with his son, and spreading the gospel.

Phillip Gander, Police Officer

Phillip was raised here in Shalimar. He graduated from Okaloosa Technical College in 2006. Before joining SPD, he worked for 10+ years at Meigs Middle School with children with disabilities and as the School Guardian. Phillip's personal goal is to ensure the continued safety of this community. He plans to attend FBI leadership courses and other specialty classes to better prepare our department for tomorrow's challenges. Phillip enjoys being outdoors and meeting new faces.



Michael Jacobs, Police Officer

Michael has been a resident of this area since 1992. He and his wife Hiedi have been married for 23 years and are privileged to raise three phenomenal children. Michael has served this community in the realm of law enforcement for 16 and a half years. He started at the Fort Walton Beach Police department for two years, then moved to the Okaloosa County Sherri's Office for 14 and a half years. Michael actively serves his community as a full-time associate pastor at Ocean City Church in Fort Walton Beach. His hobbies are, cooking, traveling, and being a practitioner and teacher of martial arts.



Cory Schreiner, Police Officer

Cory has been serving the law enforcement community since 2019. Cory currently and proudly serves in the US army reserves as a PR specialist. Cory enjoys church and attends First Baptist Church of Fort Walton Beach. Cory specializes in the IT field with developing software, voice overs, photography, and gaming. Cory decided to give back using his skills to make differences in the law enforcement sector and the community he serves.



Shalimar Maintenance Department

Clayton "Clay" Burns, Maintenance Supervisor

Clay has been working for the Town for the last twelve years. He is a father of twin boys who are five years old. When Clayton is not working, you can find him hanging out on his boat and spending time with his twin boys.



Jeff Adams, Maintenance

In 1995, Jeff retired from the Air Force after ten years of service. He has been working in the Town's Maintenance Department for sixteen years. Jeff has been married to his wife, Doris, for 33 years, and they have two sons. In Jeff's spare time, he enjoys playing a round of golf, fishing, and spending time in his garden.



Tommy Bolin, Maintenance

Last Fall, Tommy started working in the Town's Maintenance Department. Tommy is a lifelong resident of Shalimar. He graduated in 2000 from Choctaw High School. Before joining the Maintenance Department, he worked for ten years in the tree service business. Tommy enjoys spending time with family and friends watching sports and is an avid animal lover.

