

## Contact Person

The following person will be the main contact if your city's nominee is selected as a finalist.

Please print or type.

Name Cleo W. HORNE

Title TOWN CLERK

Government TOWN OF CALLAHAN

Address P.O. Box 5016, Callahan, FL 32011

Telephone Number 904-879-3801 Fax 904-879-6151

E-mail Address TOCCLERK@A1TEL.NET

## Nomination Certification

This nomination has been voted on and approved by a majority of the city council/commission.

Signed Cleo W. Horne  
City Clerk

The judges will use the narrative and supportive information to select the award winners. Nominators/nominees are asked not to contact the judges directly.

## Narrative

In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Please include a word count: 366  
Number of words

## Supportive Information

Up to 10 pages of supportive information (newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, etc.), on 8-1/2" x 11" paper (single-sided) may be provided. Please do not include videotapes, DVDs, CDs or Power-Point presentations.

Submit nominations by **August 10, 2007:**

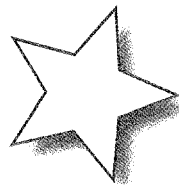
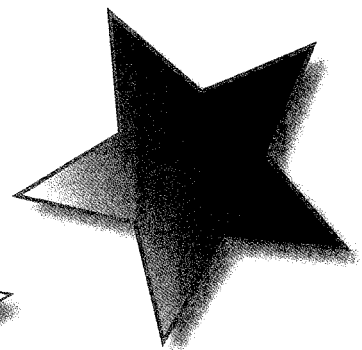
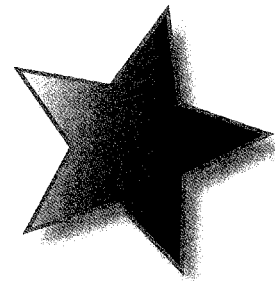
Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence

301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)

P.O. Box 1757

Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757



# 2007 Florida Cities of Excellence Awards Program ▶ Nomination Form

Category (Please check one) See Award Criteria for more information. Please print or type. One nomination per page.

**FLORIDA CITY OF EXCELLENCE AWARD**  
Name of Municipality Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**CITY SPIRIT AWARD**  
Name of Municipality Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated Project \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**MAYOR OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated Shirley Graham  
Nominated by Town Council of the Town of Callahan  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**COUNCIL MEMBER OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ Department \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**CITY MANAGER OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**CITY CLERK OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**CITY ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**CITY FINANCE OFFICIAL (DIRECTOR OR OFFICER) OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

**CITY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**  
Name of Individual Nominated \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of City/Town/Village)

[OVER]

**2007 Cities of Excellence Awards Program Entry Checklist**

Received on: 819107

Town of Callahan

City of Excellence \_\_\_\_\_

City Spirit Award \_\_\_\_\_

Mayor of the Year Shirley Graham

Council Member of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

City Attorney of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

City Manager of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

Finance Official of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

City Employee of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

City Citizen of the Year \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination form is completed

Narrative is 1,200 words or less, double-spaced on 8 1/2 x 11 paper single sided

Nomination was voted on by city commission/council with a majority vote and certified by City Clerk – City Clerk's Signature must be on nomination form

Supporting material is provided and/or meets the guidelines (up to 10 pages on 8 1/2 x 11 paper single sided).

Nominee is part of a city or a city that is a member of the League and currently in office (except for City Citizen)

Checked off by: Mandy 819107

Rev. Jenn 8/10/07



# Town of Callahan

Post Office Box 5016 • Callahan, Florida 32011

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*Chartered 1911*

Florida League of Cities, Inc.  
Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence  
301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)  
P.O. Box 1757  
Tallahassee, Florida 32302-1757

August 7, 2007

Shirley Graham was elected mayor of the Town of Callahan in 2002 by a good majority of votes. She won the position against a mayor who had served for 19 years.

Upon assuming office Mayor Graham quietly began seeking information on the duties and responsibilities of mayor. She put in many hours bringing order to that office.

Mayor Graham instituted a mayoral newsletter which kept the citizens informed of the actions of the council and others in leadership positions in town government. She did this at her own expense.

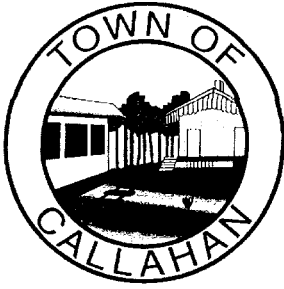
Mayor Graham faced strong opposition when she first assumed office. She stood her ground and faced whatever opposition was thrown her way.

Once she knew what the duties of a mayor entailed, Mayor Graham began to assert her authority as mayor. It was because of her that an employee of the town, who had been cited by the attorney general for her actions, was fired.

As time went on, she began to make her presence felt in the council and in the town.

Mayor Graham personally undertook the task of getting grants for a much needed sewer facility for the town. She made trips to senators' and representatives' offices, to the governor's office and even to Washington D. C. on behalf of the town and the town council.

The mayor has been active in many community organizations and is still placing herself as a volunteer for committees for the good of the citizens of Callahn.



# Town of Callahan

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The citizens of Callahan know they have an advocate in the Mayor. They feel free to call her or to come to her office when they have a situation in which they want her to intervene.

Mayor Graham strongly supports the council and other appointed officials, like the planning commission. Whether or not she agrees with their decisions, she supports them.

Recently the mayor exercised her veto privilege in a situation where she felt the best needs of the community had not been addressed adequately. Due to her intervention, the situation has been remedied and improved.

Mayor Graham is a dedicated elected official who deserves to be called "Mayor of the Year".

Thank you for your consideration of her nomination.

Cleo W. Horne,  
Town Clerk



# Town of Callahan

Post Office Box 5016 • Callahan, Florida 32011

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Florida League of Cities

July 26, 2007

As I submit this packet of information nominating our Mayor, Shirley Graham, as mayor of the year; I feel I would be remiss if I did not submit my own recommendation.

Mayor Graham has been and continues to be a staunch advocate for the people of the Town of Callahan.

She brings water and sewer bills to the town council on behalf of citizens who feel they deserve an adjustment on their bills for reasons beyond their control.

Mayor Graham recently was called at night, on a weekend, with a complaint of an amplifying system that was so loud the citizen could hear it in his house a block away. She got in her personal vehicle and drove to his home to see for herself how loud the noise was. She then drove around different areas of Callahan to see how far the noise extended. Mayor Graham suggested the citizen presented his complaint to the town council. This has resulted in the town council reviewing and changing their present noise ordinance.

Mayor Graham recently advocated on the behalf of citizens in the area of the elementary school. She felt an adequate study of other traffic had not been done to make a street two way. For the first time in her five year tenure as mayor, she cast a veto vote to be able to conduct a study of the situation with the appropriate officials. She then contacted the appropriate officials and set up a meeting. The result was an informed decision that was somewhat different, but yielded the same results of alleviating school traffic blocking the streets without causing other problems to the area.

Mayor Graham has citizens in her office and listens to their concerns on an almost weekly basis. In cases where she can intervene, she does. She has unfailingly supported the drive for a new sewer plant which has been sorely needed by the Town of Callahan. This year we will see the ground breaking for this event.

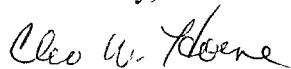
One of the things she has been doing is personally taking down illegal signs from the streets that have been left there. It has made the town look so much better.

Mayor Graham has shown no hesitation in tackling problems that affect the citizens of this town. She gets personally involved in all aspects of life in the community, whether it is the park or the sewer plant. If it affects the citizens of Callahan, she becomes an advocate.

The Mayor still has found time to be part of other organizations in the town of Callahan and take leadership roles in them also.

For many other reasons that I cannot begin to enumerate, I am proud to nominate Shirley Graham as Mayor of the Year.

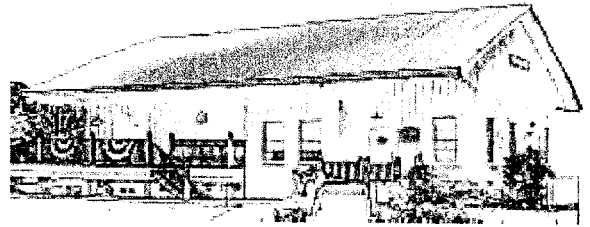
Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cleo W. Horne".

Cleo W. Horne  
Town Clerk

# West Nassau Historical Society

Tom Hill    President  
Donnie Sain    Vice President  
Cleo Horne    Secretary  
Liz Mobley    Treasurer



The Callahan Depot - 45363 Dixie Avenue

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P.O. Box 1758, Callahan, Florida 32011 904.879.3406  
[www.wnhsfl.org](http://www.wnhsfl.org)

In consideration of her nomination:

Shirley Graham has been a faithful member of the West Nassau Historical Society who has supported our organization from its inception. She has served as Treasurer this past year, having provided direction for our work and encouragement to our members by both contributing ideas and giving effort in our many projects.

Shirley has helped with the selling of our cookbooks, contributed food and encouragement during our Depot painting project, and faithfully attends both the Board and General Membership meetings. She has led by example, while also serving as Mayor of the Town of Callahan and the President of the Chamber of Commerce. In a small town—such as Callahan—she has worn many hats, all of them successfully.

Many times she has served multiple posts at the same time; each post demanding most of her time. Yet, she always takes the time to make it seem like our group is the only one she is serving.

Shirley Graham is a truly gifted individual and a blessing to the West Nassau Historical Society and our community.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Hill, Sr., President