

THE AUCILLA RIVERMEN

By: John E. Ladson III and George M. Cole
 Courtesy of the Aucilla Research Institute

LEE JACKSON

Vester Lee Jackson was born on a farm in rural Cobb County, Georgia in 1902.

His early years were undoubtedly hard and denied him any formal education, such that he never learned to read or even write his name.

As he approached adulthood in 1920, he was still living at home with his family. But not long thereafter, he moved to Brooks County, Georgia just north of the Florida line, where he married Verta Clyde Hamner,

circa 1927.

Lee, Clyde and their two children primarily lived in Brooks County until 1940. During that period, Lee worked as a farm laborer and probably as a tenant farmer later on.

However, by 1942, they had relocated to Taylor County, Florida, residing at Nutall Rise while Lee worked for the Wilson Lumber Company.

The area suited him well, as he was accustomed to outdoor life and loved to hunt and fish. His labor took him into the area forests and swamps adjoining the Aucilla, Wacissa and other streams in the region.

Soon he was familiar with all of them and could navigate the Aucilla and Gulf flats beyond its mouth.

In the meantime, J.E. Ladson, Sr., a Moultrie, Georgia lumber company owner, acquired a large tract of land having considerable frontage along the Aucilla River and the Wacissa Slave

Canal with its main entrance at Nutall Rise.

Cephas Lewis managed the property in the early to mid-1950's. He then moved on to pursue other opportunities.

Circa 1956, Ladson hired Lee Jackson to oversee the tract, and he and his wife, Clyde, moved into the caretaker's house near the Ladson cabin situated at the final rise of the river named for William Nuttall, an early and prominent Jefferson County plantation owner and entrepreneur.

Lee's duties included controlling trespass, guiding Ladson family members and their guests, maintaining the cabin, fences, gates and other rudimentary improvements, keeping the property's crude road system cleared and running a series of hog pen traps.

The latter provided a continuous income stream, which was split 50-50 between Lee and Mr. Ladson, a.k.a. "Old Man J.E.," who will be featured in the next part of this series.

(To be continued)

Perry Newspapers, Inc. thanks the authors (John E. Ladson III, George M. Cole and the Aucilla Research Institute) for sharing this multi-part series on the Aucilla River, as well as William Wright for providing historical photos. The authors gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Mary Lou Bennett, local historian and daughter of Cephas Lewis, who provided some of the material and photos that will be featured in this article.

Aucilla River. (Photo courtesy of Florida Memory State Library and Archives)



View of boats at a fishing camp - Aucilla River, Florida. (Photo courtesy of Florida Memory State Library and Archives)



Lee and Clyde Jackson

Suspect attempted to flee from officers on foot

PREDATOR
 Continued from page 1

it to break. Wright then requested a hug prior to (the victim) leaving and when he hugged her, he squeezed tightly and bit down on her left cheek," Arnold reported.

The victim stated that was the 17th time Wright had battered her, and that she was in fear of him attempting to hurt her, her friends and family.

Upon further investigation, Arnold reported he observed two red marks that were consistent with a bite mark on the victim's cheek.

"I also observed the black eye that (the victim) advised was due to Wright striking her on Feb. 23, as well as a small lump on her forehead just above her right brow," Arnold reported.

When officers made contact with Wright later that day, he attempted to

flee on foot, but was taken into custody without further incident.

Wright, who has been a registered sexual predator

since 2012, had previously registered an address in Tallahassee and, most recently, as a "transient" with an address of the

"Fenholloway Bridge" on Highway 19 South.

Wright has an extensive prison record, having served multiple terms after

violating probation several times stemming from sexual battery, burglary and grand theft charges in 2011.

District has shortage of substitute drivers

BUS DRIVERS
 Continued from page 1

certain testing requirements in the hopes it will help school districts hire additional school bus drivers.

With this waiver, the engine compartment portion of the pre-trip inspection skills test may be waived for persons seeking the School Bus endorsement on their CDL. According to Dyal, the

waiver applies only to the "under the hood," or engine compartment portion, of the CDL test.

The school district has mechanics in its transportation department to perform the engine compartment checks instead of relying on bus drivers, Dyal added.

Florida began using this waiver on Feb. 16. Under the waiver, school bus drivers are authorized to operate school buses only and solely within the state of Florida.

"We are short substitute drivers more than anything else," Dyal explained.

"Our bus drivers have families and doctor's appointments just like everyone else, so we are regularly needing substitute drivers to fill in," he added.

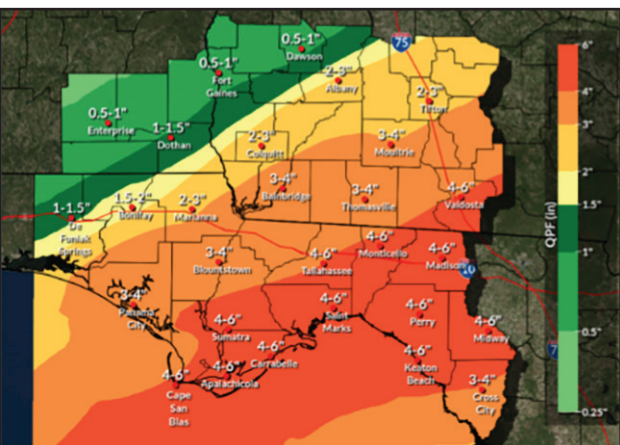
"Currently, we have had to use other staff members to fill in for those drivers when they are out," Dyal said. "This gives new

drivers the opportunity to sign up and get on the substitute bus driver list without having to be tested on the under-the-hood portion of the CDL test."

Dyal said he hopes the waiver will allow the district to grow its substitute bus driver list, creating a "feeder program" for drivers who may want to move into the regular position on a permanent basis when there is an opening.

Now that the school district and state has allowed certain testing requirements to be waived for school bus drivers, after completing and passing the driver's portion of the test, bus drivers will receive the waiver form to take with them when they apply for their CDL, Dyal explained.

School board members approved Dyal's recommendation to adopt the CDL waiver at their March 1 meeting.



National Weather Service forecasters in Tallahassee are projecting 4 to 6 inches of rain could fall on Taylor County through Saturday morning.

Temperature forecast to fall to 28 Saturday night

NWS
 Continued from page 1

most potent severe weather event during this active event."

NWS forecasters are also warning of the possibility of flooding in the area.

"Additional rainfall amounts of 4-6 inches will be possible across the Big Bend and portions of south central Georgia," the

advisory stated. "This could lead to some flash flooding and minor flooding along creeks and streams."

Once the severe weather passes through, a late winter cold snap is expected to follow, with the NWS forecast calling for a low of 28 degrees Saturday night. Sunday's high is expected to be 57, with the temperature dropping back down to 37 that night.



Jerquon Clayton finished 19th in the boys' long jump. He also placed seventh in the boys' javelin.

(Photo by Amy Sadler)

TCHS 4x100 relay team finished in fourth at meet

TRACK TEAM
 Continued from page 5

18th in the 200 meters.

Chedrick Ellis fought hard to place 20th in the boys 400 meters, with teammate Sage Griffin coming in 25th.

Camren Upshaw wrapped

up a 14th place showing in his first 330 meter hurdles event, while Fisher Smith ran to a 22nd position finish in the boys 800 meter race.

The 4x100 relay team was composed of Griffin, Upshaw, Ellis, and Clayton, who placed eighth in their first live competition.

LEGALS

(Continued from page 10)

representative's attorney are set forth below. ALL INTERESTED PERSONS ARE NOTIFIED THAT: All creditors of the decedent and other persons having claims or demands against Decedent's estate on whom a copy of this notice is served must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THE LATER OF THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE OR THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF SERVICE OF A COPY OF THIS NOTICE ON THEM (Sections 733.702 and 733.710 of the Florida Statutes). All other creditors of the decedent and

persons having claims or demands against the estate of the decedent must file their claims with this Court WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE. ALL CLAIMS AND DEMANDS NOT SO FILED WILL BE FOREVER BARRED. The date of the first publication of this notice is March 4, 2022. O. M. HOWARD, III, P.A. Person Giving Notice: STEPHEN P. DYE Personal Representative 9801 LaView Circle Roswell, GA 30075 O. M. HOWARD III Attorney at Law, P.A. Florida Bar No. 0133551 P.O. Box 22

Perry, Florida 32348 (850) 584-4980

NOTICE UNDER FICTITIOUS NAME LAW PURSUANT TO SECTION 865.09, FLORIDA STATUTES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, desiring to engage in business under the fictitious name of C'MONE KENYANA PHOTOGRAPHY: Located at 800 W Ash St. Suite 21. Taylor County in the City of Perry, Florida, 32347 intends to register the said name with the Division of Corporations of the Florida Department of State, Tallahassee, Florida. Dated at Perry, Florida, this 9th day of March, 2022.

FLORIDA STATEWIDE

EMPLOYMENT/EDUCATION CAREER TRAINING -EARN YOUR HOSPITALITY DEGREE ONLINE! Earn your Associates Degree ONLINE with CTI! Great career advancement with the right credentials! Learn whose hiring! Call 877-324-4096. (M-F 8am-6pm ET).

HEALTH/MEDICAL ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Inogen One G4 is capable of full 24/7 oxygen delivery. Only 2.8 pounds. FREE information kit. Call 866-925-2362.

WANTED TO BUY

TOP CASH PAID FOR OLD GUITARS! 1920-1980 Gibson, Martin, Fender, Gretsch, Epiphone, Guild, Mosrite, Rickenbacker, Prairie State, D'Angelico, Stromberg. And Gibson Mandolins / Banjos. 833-860-0454

WANTED TO BUY

PAYING TOP CASH FOR MEN'S SPORT WATCHES! Rolex, Breitling, Omega, Patek Philippe, Heuer, Daytona, GMT, Submariner and Speedmaster. Call 888-937-6497

SERVICES

DirecTV Satellite TV Service Starting at \$74.99/month! Free Installation! 160+ channels

available. Call Now to Get the Most Sports & Entertainment on TV! 844-614-2532

LEGAL/LEGAL SERVICES

If you or a loved one worked around Roundup Weed Killer, (glyphosate), for at least two years and were diagnosed with lymphoma, you may be entitled to compensation. To see if you qualify, call now: 833-479-1286

