



## Gearing Up for the Wobble B4U Gobble

By: Katie Morse

Our first Wobble B4U Gobble 5K and Fun Run is just around the corner, Thursday 11/23. It's promised to be a fun time for the entire family. There will be a costume contest, so be sure to dress in your turkey day best. In addition, a silent auction will be held Wednesday 11/22 thru the end of the Fun Run, approximately 9:30. The silent auction is a great way to get Christmas gifts for friends and family.

For more information:

<http://www.active.com/brunswick-ga/running/distance-running-races/wobble-before-you-gobble-5k-and-fun-run-2017?int=>



TURKEY DAY 5k 2017

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## Stormie to Sunshine

By: Vernon Andrews

Stormie was born to a young parent who was not ready to be a mother. Because of this situation, Stormie was neglected and exposure to many lewd acts that no child should ever see. DFCS became involved early in the life of Stormie, removing her and two step-sisters from the home. The three sisters were later separated from each other. This separation was a good thing because of physical abuse Stormie endured from one of her older sister's.

Stormie was then placed in a foster home where her behaviors became aggressive. Stormie had tantrums that lasted hours at a time. These outbursts included hitting, kicking and self-abuse. The foster home was unable to keep her due to these behaviors and a referral was sent to Morningstar.

Stormie came into the doors of Morningstar with plenty of emotional baggage. The first few weeks were very trying due to past trauma. However, the staff at Morningstar and our community of volunteers were up for the challenge. With the building of trusting relationships, Stormie was able to deal with the trauma of her past. Stormie rocketed through the level system reaching level 4. In all areas, Stormie excelled in her therapy, education, and building self-esteem.

Now Stormie has graduated from Morningstar and is currently in a step down facility where she has a job and is doing very well. Stormie has made many positive changes in her life and her future looks bright. So bright that she now is now called Sunshine.





## Alumni Weekend – 71<sup>st</sup> Anniversary



Virgil Sapp, Dean Drake, Leon Peacock, Damon Corn, Mike and Charles Sutherland



James Bonds, Damon Corn, Tiny Griffis, Leon Peacock, Mike and Charles Sutherland

## Hurricane Irma

By: Katie Morse

Glynn County, Georgia called for a mandatory evacuation on Friday, September 8, 2017. Our caravan was in route to the Georgia Sheriff's Boys Ranch in Hahira when they were notified the location was not available, due to a change in the storm's path. Our backup plan was initiated, requiring travel of several hundred miles to the Georgia Sheriff's Boys Ranch in LaGrange.

The staff in LaGrange were wonderful to work with and had ample space for our children and staff.

Everyone returned to the Morningstar campus on Thursday, September 14 to no electricity. The Golden Isles community loaned us generators, fans and extension cords.

Our maintenance staff, who did not evacuate, were able to clear the roads and area around the cottages.

Meals were donated by the Comer and Thomas families and Taylor United Methodist Church as well as many local eateries: Ole Times Country Buffet, Nazzaro's Italian Cuisine, Shane's Rib Shack, Sandy Bottom Bagels, and Grandy's.

Glynn Academy students and members of St. Simons Community Church participated in debris cleanup.

We really appreciate the support of Glynn County BOE in allowing us to utilize two 75-passenger buses and drivers for the evacuation.

Now we are in need of monetary assistance to help with the added expenses incurred; extra travel distance and unexpected length of time away from home. A donation form is enclosed.

## The Dolphin Tour

By: C.H. (a resident)

I had an amazing experience at the Jekyll Island Dolphin Tour. Before this, I have never been on a boat, nor seen a live dolphin in person. We drove countless minutes while waiting for the boats set off time.

When the boat left the dock, they told us to remain seated. After a few minutes, we were allowed to move around freely. Within minutes we saw a small group of dolphins.

The director was telling us of the wonderful history of Jekyll Island. At this time I had moved into the "Splash Zone" and was wet as the dolphins we seen. The brave dolphins swam as close to the boat as possible and splashed me! All in all, I had a splash with the dolphins!

