# WTCHWORD

TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER 着 FEBRUARY 2006

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - IT ISN'T JUST WRONG... IT'S A CRIME!

By: Officer M. Fleita

## WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Under the provisions of Florida Statute 741.28, domestic violence means any assault, aggravated assault, battery, aggravated battery, sexual assault, sexual Battery, stalking, aggravated stalking, kidnapping, false imprisonment, or any criminal offense resulting in physical injury or death of one family or household member by another who is or was residing in the same single dwelling unit.

This includes acts such as:

Physical Abuse - Pushing, slapping, kicking, punching, choking, and beating. Emotional/Verbal Abuse - Thr eats, verbal intimidation, following and stalking, or acting out in anger .

Sexual Abuse - Any unwanted touching or for cing of someone to engage in a sexual act against his/her will.

(\*\*English\*\*) Revised 03/05/05

## WHAT DOES THE LAW MEAN?

If you are being physically or sexually abused, threatened, falsely imprisoned, or stalked by a family or household member, there is a law to protect you. Family or household member means spouses, former spouses, persons related by blood or mar riage, persons who are presently residing together as if a family or who have r esided together in the past as if a family , and persons who are parents of a child in common regardless of whether they have been married. With the exception of persons who have a child in common, the family or household members must be currently residing or have in the past

resided together in the same single dwelling unit. You are also protected if you are currently in or have been in a violent dating relationship within the last 6 months.

## ARE YOU A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

IF YOU ARE THE VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, or if you have reasonable cause to believe you ar e in imminent danger of becoming the victim of any act of domestic violence, you have the right to file a PETITION FOR INJUNCTION FOR PROTECTION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

If you are a victim of Repeat or Dating Violence or Sexual V iolence (or the parent of any minor child who is living at home and who seeks an injunction for pr otection against Repeat or Dating Violence or Sexual V iolence on behalf of the minor child) or you genuinely fear repeat violence by the subject, you may file a PETITION FOR INJUNCTION FOR PROTECTION AGAINST REPEAT VIOLENCE, OR DATING VIOLENCE, OR SEXUAL

**VIOLENCE.** The Clerk of the Court is required to assist you in seeking both injunctions for protection against domestic violence and enfor cement for a violation of an injunction. Representation by an attorney is not required of either party. (Florida Statute 741.30(1)(f).

## IF YOU HAVE BEEN A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OR SEXUAL

VIOLENCE, you may ask the State Attor ney to file a criminal complaint. You also have the right to go to cour t and file a petition r equesting a
PETITION FOR INJUNCTION FOR
PROTECTION AGAINST
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, OR REPEAT
VIOLENCE, OR DATING
VIOLENCE, OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE
which may include, but need not be
limited to:

- provisions which r estrain the abuser from fur ther acts of abuse;
- directing the abuser to leave your household;
- preventing the abuse fr om entering your residence, school, business, or place of employment;
- awarding you custody of your minor child or childr en; and
- dir ecting the abuser to pay support to you and the minor children if the abuser has a legal obligation to do so. For safety reasons, you may furnish your address to the court in a separate confidential filing when filing the petition for injunction.

#### **HOW CAN THE LAW HELP ME?**

If you have been a victim of domestic violence, if the abuser has hurt you sexually or physically , or if you ar e afraid that you will be hur t, Florida's Domestic Violence Law enables you to work with the court system to stop the violence. Go to the Clerk of the Cour t's Of fice in your county courthouse.

- Bring identification.
- Bring infor mation about where the abuser can be located.
- Bring any other information on the abuser, such as photos or identification.
- Bring any papers r elating to your case.
- Tell the clerk that you ar einter ested

continued next page

in filing a PETITION FOR
INJUNCTION FOR PROTECTION
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE,
OR REPEAT VIOLENCE, OR
DATING VIOLENCE, OR SEXUAL
VIOLENCE. The Court Clerk will
help you in filing the proper paperwork. By filling out these forms, you
will be explaining to the judge whom
you need protection from and exactly
what type of protection you need.

- After you have completed the paperwork, the court may deter mine that danger of domestic violence exists. The cour t may order a TEMPORARY INJUNCTION, which is good for 15 days. Then a full hearing is held to consider your safety and the safety of your children.
- The abuser must be ser ved with the injunction befor e it becomes ef fective. The injunction will tell the abuser what the judge r equires and when to return to court for a hearing. This hearing will be within 15 days unless the abuser can not be served.
- IT IS IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO ATTEND THE HEARING so that you can make sure the judge understands exactly what help you need and why IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND, USUALLY THE JUDGE WILL END THE INJUNCTION.
- After the hearing, a FINAL INJUNCTION may be granted. The final injunction is valid until dissolved or amended by the court.

## WHAT DO I DO IF THE ABUSER VIOLATES THE INJUNCTION?

You will r eceive a copy of the injunction. **Keep it with you at all times.** 

- If the abuser violates the conditions of an injunction, call the police right away.
- The abuser may be arrested.
- If the abuser is ar rested, he/she will be held until the court determines bail.
- The judge will consider your safety and the safety of your children.
- You may go to court if you wish.
- The court may or der penalties as allowed by law.

## IF THE INJUNCTION HAS BEEN VIOLATED, BUT NO ARREST HAS

BEEN MADE, report the violation to the Clerk's Office wher e the violation occurred and complete an af fidavit in support of the violation. The judge will determine what action should be taken for your safety and the safety of your children.

## IF YOU HAVE AN OUT OF STATE COURT ORDER FOR PROTECTION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE,

federal and state law provide that law enforcement recognize and act on the order as if issued by a Florida court. This includes or ders issued by courts from the District of Columbia, Indian tribes, commonwealth territory, or possessions of the United States.

## EXEMPTION OF PUBLIC INSPECTION

Under the provisions of s. 119.07(3)(s), F.S., any information which r eveals the home or employment telephone number, home or employment address, or personal assets of a person who has been the victim of sexual batter y, aggravated child abuse, aggravated stalking, harassment, aggravated batter y, or domestic violence is exempt fr om public inspection and examination. You must make a written r equest and provide of ficial verification, such as a police r eport, that an applicable crime has occurred. Such infor mation shall remain exempt for 5 years, after which it will become available to the public.

## WHOM MAY I TALK TO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

Florida Domestic Violence Hotline (For legal assistance hit pr ompt #3) 1-800-500-1119

#### Florida Abuse Hotline

(To file confidential reports of child abuse) 1-800-962-2873

#### National Child Abuse Hotline

(24 hour help line which provides crisis counseling, information and referrals) 1-800-422-4453

National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233

#### **DID YOU KNOW?**

- In Florida, a person is killed by a family member every 36 hours.
- Domestic Violence is the leading cause of injury to women.
- More than 100,000 incidents of domestic violence are reported in Florida each year involving victims young and old, male and female.

YOU HAVE RIGHTS... KNOWING YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IS THE FIRST STEP TOWARD ENDING ABUSE.

All contents copyright (c) 1998 FDLE except where otherwise noted.

## WHAT DOES FLORIDA LAW PROVIDE FOR VICTIMS?

By: Officer M. Fleita

Florida Law provides guidelines for the fair treatment of victims and witnesses in the criminal justice and juvenile justice systems. It authorizes a direct-support organization to assist victims of adult and juvenile crime. It provides victims to have the opportunity to have a defendant tested for HIV if there was a transmission of body fluids during the crime. It also designates a Victims Compensation Trust Fund to assist victims of violent personal crimes to pay for stipulated expenses they incur as a result of the crime.

## DIVISION OF VICTIM SERVICES

The Florida Attorney General's Division of Victim Services not only serves as an advocate for crime victims and victims' rights, it also administers a compensation program to ensure financial assistance for innocent victims of crime. As part of its responsibility, the division also notifies victims of the status of any appellate decisions regarding their cases.

Injured crime victims may be eligible for financial assistance for medical care, lost income, mental health services, funeral expenses and other out-ofpocket expenses dir ectly r elated to the injur y. If needed, they can also be referred to support or ganizations within their home ar ea.

Victims wishing to apply for assistance, check on the status of their applications, or in need of any other assistance can contact the division toll free from anywhere in the United States. The toll-free number is 1-800-226-6667. Tallahassee-area residents should dial 414-3300. In addition, victims may also contact the Division of Victim Services at (850) 414-3300.

#### Florida Crime Victims' Bill of Rights

Victims of crime or their lawful representatives, including the next of kin of homicide victims, ar e entitled to the right to be infor med, to be present, and to be heard when relevant, at all crucial stages of criminal pr oceedings, to the extent that these rights do not inter fer e with the constitutional rights of the accused.

## Florida Constitutional Amendment, Article I

#### Sec. 16. Rights of accused and of victims

(a) In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall, upon demand, be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation against him, and shall be furnished a copy of the charges, and shall have the right to have compulsory process for witnesses, to confront at trial adverse witnesses, to be heard in person, by counsel or both, and to have a speedy and public trial by impartial jury in the county where the crime was committed. If the county is not known, the indictment or information may charge venue in two or more counties conjunctively and proof that the crime was committed in that area shall be sufficient; but before pleading the accused may elect in which of those counties he will be tried. Venue for prosecution of crimes committed beyond the boundaries of the state shall be fixed by law. (b) Victims of crime or their lawful representatives, including the next of kin of homicide victims, are entitled to the right to be informed, to be present, and to be heard when relevant, at all crucial stages of criminal proceedings, to the extent that these rights do not interfere with the constitutional rights of the accused.

### **NEW CREDIT CARD SCAM**

By: Maryanne Hunsberger

## Note - the callers do not ask for your card number; they already have it.

This infor mation is wor threading. By understanding how the VISA & MasterCar d Telephone Credit Car d Scam works, you'll be better prepared to protect yourself.

#### The scam works like this:

Person calling says, "This is (name), and I'm calling fr om the Security and Fraud Department at VISA. My Badge number is 12460. Your card has been flagged for an unusual purchase pattern,, and I'm calling to verify . This would be on your VISA car d, which was issued by (name of bank). Did you purchase an Anti-Telemarketing Device for \$497.99 fr om a Marketing company based in Arizona?" When you say "No", the caller continues with, "Then we will be issuing a cr edit to your account. This is a company we have been watching and the charges range fr om \$297 to \$497, just under the \$500 purchase pattern that flags most car ds. Before your next statement, the credit will be sent to (gives you your addr ess), is that cor rect?"

You say "yes". The caller continues - "I will be starting a Fraud investigation. If you have any questions, you should call the 1-800 number listed on the back of your card (1-800-VISA) and ask for Security. You will need to refer to this Control Number. The caller then gives you a 6-digit number. "Do you need me to read it again?"

## Here's the IMPORTANT part on how the scam works:

The caller then says, "I need to verify you are in possession of your card." He'll ask you to "tur n your card over and look for some numbers." There are 7 numbers; the first 4 are part of your card number, the next 3 are the security Numbers' that verify you are the possessor of the card. These are the numbers you sometimes use to make Internet purchases to prove you have the card. The caller will ask you to read

the 3 numbers to him. After you tell the caller the 3 numbers, he'll say , "That is correct, I just needed to verify that the card has not been lost or stolen, and that you still have your car d. Do you have any other questions?" After you say No, the caller then thanks you and states, "Don't hesitate to call back if you do", and hangs up.

#### Long story made short -

You need to make a fraud r eport with the police department and with your credit car d company and close the account. What the scammers want is the 3-digit PIN number on the back of the card. Don't give it to them. Instead, tell them you'll call VISA or Master car d directly for verification of their conversation. The r eal VISA told us that they would never ask for anything on the card, as they already know the infor mation since they issued the car d! If you give the scammers your 3 Digit PIN Number, you think you're receiving a credit. However, by the time you get your statement you'll see char ges for purchases you didn't make, and by then it's almost to late and/or mor e dif ficult to actually file a fraud r eport.

Please pass this on to all your family and friends. By infor ming each other, we protect each other.

### BUSINESS WATCH

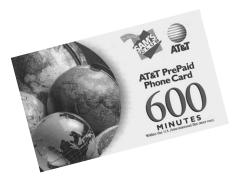
The City of Tampa Police
Department is expanding its
Business Watch Program in West
Tampa. We are currently taking
applications for membership. If you
own a business within the
boundaries of Kennedy Blvd.,
Hillsborough River, Himes Ave.,
and Tampa Bay Blvd. We are asking
you to join the West Tampa
Business Watch Program by calling
Lydia Pizarro at (813) 259-1860 for
an application.

# WHAT YOU CAN DO ALL YEAR LONG THE HOLIDAYS AREN'T THE ONLY TIME YOU CAN HELP THE TROOPS

By: Maryanne Hunsberger

#### **CREATE TELEPHONE LINKS**

- Buy a prepaid phone card or a gift certificate for a soldier you know or for a soldier in need, through the Army and Air Force Exchange Service; AAFES.com or 800-527-2345
- Donate to Operation Uplink, which will pur chase and distribute phone cards to tr oops; www.Operationuplink.org
- Hook into the USO's Operation Phone Home by calling 800-901-1501 or going to <a href="https://www.uso.org">www.uso.org</a>



#### SEND CARE PACKAGES

- For a \$25.00 donation, Operation USO Care Package (which is appr oved by the Department of Defense) will put together a package and send it to a loved one, or any service member, complete with a personal message from you;
  - www.Operationusocarepackage.org or 800-876-7469.
- If you don't know any soldiers overseas but still want to send someone a gift, try Treats for Troops, Inc. Soldiers register on the site and then are matched up with gift giving civilians. You can select a soldier by branch of service, home state, gender or bir thday. Or if you don't have a preference, they'll send your package to the soldier who's been waiting the longest; www.Treatsfortroops.com

#### **TOP 10 PICKS**

According to the founder and director of Operation Stocking Suffer these are some of the things our troops most love to receive:

- Beef jerky and corn nuts to savor during long, boring watches.
- Protein bars, or prepackaged tuna or chicken salad with crackers, for energy.
- Slinkies, Nerf balls and Frisbees to play with during downtimes.
- Olive-green T-shirts and socks because laundry is so hard to do.
- · Chapstick for dry lips.
- Baby wipes for obvious hygiene reasons.
- Chemical hand and foot warmers for cold nights.
- Q-tips, endlessly useful for cleaning weapons,
- Disposable cameras, to document their experiences.
- Letters of encouragement our troops can never get too much support!

### A PLACE IN THE HEART

Inseparable, that's what they are. Wise beyond her years, Shartanay is smart and mature young lady. Observant and thoughtful, she has no problem being candid about what she feels. Shar tanay enjoys reading, playing with her dolls, and listening to music. She dreams of one day becoming an attor ney

Handsome is the wordd for "daydr eamer" Dan. With a big smile that will catch your eye and a boyish mischievous, he is also a great reader. Dan is at his best when playing outdoors with a football or baseball.

Shartanay and Dan long for stability and commitment. They need a family that will give the message that being children is okay. There is no limit to their potential in a family willing to advocate for their education and love them for ever.

For mor e infor mation contact: (Mrs.) Fr eddie M. Brinson Recruitment Specialist Hillsbor ough Kids, Inc. (813) 314-2070 Ext.15 fbrinson@hillsbor oughkids.org



Dan, age 11 and Shartanay, age 12

## BULLIES -A SERIOUS PROBLEM FOR KIDS

By: Maryanne Hunsberger

Bulling behavior may seem rather insignificant compared to kids bringing guns to school and getting involved with drugs. Bullying is often dismissed as part of growing up. But it's actually an early for mofaggressive, violent behavior. Statistics show that one in four children who bully will have a criminal record before the age of 30.

Bullies often cause serious pr oblems that school, families, and neighbors ignor e. Teasing at bus stops, taking another child's lunch money, insults and threats, kicking or shoving - it's all fair game to a bully. Fears and anxieties about bullies can cause some children to avoid school, carry a weapon for protection, or even commit more violent activity.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO...

**Listen to children.** Encourage childr en to talk about school, social events, other kids in class, the ride to and from

school so you can identify any pr oblems they may be having.

Take children's complaints of bullying seriously. Childr en are often afraid or ashamed to tell anyone that they have been bullied. Watch for symptoms that childr en may be bullying victims, such as withdrawal, a dr op in grades, tor n clothes, or needing extra money or supplies.

Tell the school or organization immediately if you think that your children are being bullied. Take steps to ensure your childr en's safety. Work with other par ents to ensure that the childr en in your neighbor hood are supervised closely on their way to and from school.

Don't bully your children yourself, physically or verbally. Use nonphysical, consistently enfor ced discipline measur es as opposed to ridiculing, yelling, or ignoring your childr en when they misbehave.

## **CLEAN CITY DIVISION**

Mr. Jim Pinkney, Division Manager of "Clean City Division" looks forward working with the City of Tampa citizens, professionals, and business owners. He believes that the best way to make the City of Tampa a Model City/Clean City is to partner his department's services with your participation.

This division believes a Clean City is a proud City. Their mission is to provide a comprehensive approach through education, enforcement, and maintenance to reduce litter, illegal dumping and create a cleaner city environment.

The Clean City Division addresses "10" key areas citywide:

- Focus on the Interstate System On/Off Ramps
- Provide maintenance to Tampa Neighborhoods by Districts (New

Tampa, North, South, East and West)

- Graffiti requests within 24 48 hours
- Maintain parkways/medians, and city owned vacant lots
- Reduce and eliminate illegal dumping activities
- Disposal of illegal signage/snipe signs
- Reduce litter in neighborhoods, major thoroughfares and residential corridors
- Servicing of approved and unapproved right-of-ways
- Pre- and post- herbicide treatment to major thoroughfares and residential corridors
- Improving on gateways throughout the City of Tampa

Take action and call the Clean City Division Hotline at 931-2133 to report graffiti, illegal signs, over grown lot or yard, or abandoned or inoperative vehicles in your neighborhood.

## TIME TO PRE-REGISTER FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2006

By: Maryanne Hunsberger

The 23rd Annual National Night Out (NNO), a unique crime and drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) is scheduled for Tousday August 1, 2006. NATW would like every neighborhood participating in NNO to register their event at www.nationaltownwatch.org

We would also like you to contact your District Crime Pr evention Team advising them that your neighbor hood will be participating in National Night Out 2006. These lists will be used to divide Tampa Police Depar tment's assets and manpower among the many community events.

Don't for get to take lots of pictur es at your 2006 NNO event, these will be needed for the after action report that NNO requires. More information will follow in future Watchwords.



#### PREPARING AND KEEPING UP IN 2006

#### **REMINDERS:**

Please remember to send your district crime prevention team a copy of your sign-in sheets, so you can get credit for each meeting.

Call your district crime prevention personnel two weeks before a meeting so that your meeting can be placed on the calendar.

### DISTRICT ONE CRIME PREVENTION TEAM

## CITIZEN STOPS MARIJUANA GROWING OPERATION

In January 2006, the Tampa Police Department r eceived a tip fr om a Neighbor hood Watch member that someone was growing marijuana plants in a home on Fig Str eet. The investigation gr ew when officers found that the owner of the house owned other buildings in T ampa as investments. As a result of the citizen's call, 399 marijuana plants were seized fr om 3 properties, and the str eets are now safer.

#### **Suspicious Activity**

- A lot of traf fic in and out of homes throughout the day and night.
- Short stays fr om visitors.
- Residents coming out to the car to meet people.

#### **GREAT JOB!**

Neighborhood Watch, Quad Squad #121, and Sector-B Street Units

## SMASH & GRAB BURGLER GETS GRABBED BY TPD

The T ampa Police Department received several reports of businesses that were having their windows broken, and money from their registers stolen. The detectives got a break in the case when the suspect was caught on video at south Tampa businesses. That video and a lot of hard work led to the suspect's apprehension, and the recovery of \$10,000 in stolen jewelry.

#### Getting a good description of suspects:

- Race, Sex, Complexion
- Height & W eight
- Scars, Marks, Tattoos
- Clothing Description
- Weapons
- Vehicle Description

<u>WAY TO GO!</u> District One Detectives and SAC Squads

# DISTRICT TWO CRIME PREVENTION TEAM

#### WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?

By: Lt. Bruce Leidholdt



Over the past several years we all have seen an increase in the number of those pesky illegal signs that litter the rightof-way. It seems as if everytime we turn a corner or sit

at a red light we are bombarded with ads for everything from cheap health insurance, home mortgages, political candidates and garage sales. We see them nailed or strapped to telephone poles, stuck in the ground and nailed to trees. I've even seen them glued to cement utility poles. I'm sure you've noticed how trashy they make our neighborhoods look. I think it's important to keep in mind that if an area or neighborhood looks like no one cares, an environment is created where criminal activity can thrive. But what can we do? That's a question I asked myself several years ago. Then I discovered that the City's Sign Code Ordinance authorizes and directs the police, as well as Code Enforcement and other city entities, to enforce the ordinance. I found I could do something to help make a difference. I want to take this opportunity to let you know what your officers in the north end of District II, Sector C, are doing about it.



What started out as a simple endeavor to change the way our neighborhoods look has not only earned me a reputation as a "Sign Shark" but has made a most notable difference in the appearance of our sector.

For the past 2 years, the evening and midnight shift officers have joined me in actively and aggressively addressing this issue. Literally thousands and thousands of illegal signs have been pulled, businesses that posted signs along major thoroughfares have come into line and countless violators have either been educated or put on notice. We have certainly seen an improvement in the appearance of our area and have received positive feedback from the community. Places that used to be a magnet for illegal signs in our sector are no longer. I am very proud of our officers and the effort they put forth to help make this sector the cleanest in the city. Although we are still waiting for an effective enforcement mechanism to be set up where repeat and sometimes defiant violators can be dealt with, we plan to continue this effort and want to work together with the community to help keep our neighborhoods looking great.

For those who have questions, the City of Tampa Sign Code, City Ordinance 20.5, deals with signs and can be accessed through the City's Code Enforcement website at: <a href="http://www.tampagov.net">http://www.tampagov.net</a> dept\_code\_enforcement/.



## DISTRICT THREE CRIME PREVENTION TEAM

The Tampa Police Department is seeking assistance fr om fellow city employees in an effort to combat tr uancy Some of our childr en make poor choices by not attending school and then compound the issue by becoming involved in criminal activity, when they should be in school. Law enfor cement has focused on the issue of truancy for a number of years, in 2006 we would like to enlist the assistance of all city employees in combating this pr oblem. We are asking that any city employee who sees a school age child out in the community during school hours, unsupervised, notify the police department immediately. An of ficer will be dispatched to deter mine why the child is out and about unsupervised during school hours, and will take action to appr opriately r emedy the situation by contacting par ents and/ or the school system. Together we can work as a team to addr ess the issue of truancy and it's associated problems. We all benefit fr om having the childr en of our community in a safe lear ning environment, as opposed to wandering the str eets unsupervised. We thank you in advance for the assistance on this worthwhile endeavor.

# SPECIAL OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Special Operations Division, (S.O.D.) would like to introduce itself to the City of To ampa Neighborhood Watch groups. The Special Operations Division of the To ampa Police Department is on the fore front of Emergency Planning and Management for the Toampa Police Department and the City of Toampa. Since September 11, 2001 emergency preparedness has become a primary objective in Washington, D.C., evidence of this is the cooperative effort behind the

establishment of the United States Department of Homeland Security .

The Tampa Police Depar tment's Special Operations Division continues to make emergency planning, preparedness, and management a priority. The Special Operations Division lead by Major John Bennett supports the department's operations via specialized personnel and equipment. This includes normal operations, as well as special or emergency incidents wher e the division would assume command and control and or work in a unified ef for t with other responder agencies and or personnel. The division also has a parallel mission of leading the agency on the local fr ont of homeland security in prevention, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery.

By owning most of the operational discretionar y labor, the division focuses on reducing manpower being diver ted from the district level. Major John Bennett oversees 10 primar y operational disciplines (Aviation, Marine, S.O.D.: Special Events, Reserves, Emergency Management/ Homeland Security, Extra Duty, Traffic Squad/Motors, DUI, K-9, and the Mounted Patrol) and 6 part-time (oncall) disciplines (TRT, Bomb, Dive, Hostage Negotiation Team, Honor Guard and the Mass Incident Response Team).

In future issues of the W atchword Newsletter the Special Operations Division will provide readers with important information pertaining to homeland security safety measures, hurricane preparedness safety tips and much more. The Special Operations Division looks forward to sharing this important information with you, the community of which we serve.

#### 2006 TAMPA NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

PRESIDENT: SECRETARY: Samuel Mobley Thelma Davis

VICE PRESIDENT: TREASURER: Norbert Holz Wayne Schnars

BOARD MEMBERS: Betty Dowd Flo Dickerson Kathy Otis



## MESSAGE FROM MARYANNE



Maryanne Hunsberger

## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH REALLY WORKS!

By participating in a pr ogram where we look out for each other, you can make a real difference in attacking crime in your community through your Neighborhood Watch involvement. Everyone in the neighborhood can participate, no matter his or her age, occupation, race or religion. You just have to be willing to be involved in improving your neighborhood.

#### Benefits of Neighborhood Watch:

- You get to know your neighbors
- Neighbor hood policing by you and your neighbors
- Reduce the risk of being a crime victim
- Trains you how to obser ve/report suspicious activities
- Greater access to criminal activity information
- Ongoing training on personal and home security
- Posting of Neighbor hood Watch Signs
- Address issues of mutual concer n

The key to success in any Neighborhood Watch program is the participants' willingness to "look out for each other" and the ability of each individual

participant to observe and recognize what is suspicious, then immediately report it.

#### Published by Tampa Police Department Crime Prevention Bureau

411 North Franklin Str eet Tampa, Florida 33602 276-3318 www.tampagov.net/police

#### Crime Prevention Bureau -Neighborhood Watch Liaisons

Editor: Ofc. Michael Fleita Office - 276-3329 <u>Michael.fleita@tampagov.net</u>

Editor: Mar yanne Hunsbeger Office - 276-3341 Maryanne.hunsberger@ci.tampa.fl.us

#### DISTRICT ONE Crime Prevention Team

Officer Charles Hicks Office - 354-6600 Beeper - 255-0047 Chuck.Hicks@tampagov.net

CPP "Fee" Covias - Of fice 354-6692 Beeper - 308-1126 Fiorella.Covias@tampagov.net

#### DISTRICT TWO Crime Prevention Team

Officer Gr eg Hattle Office - 931-6541 Beeper - 339-5557 City Cell Phone: 610-5177 Greg.Hattle@tampagov.net

CPP Lisa T immer Office - 931-6541 Beeper - 291-9377 City Cell Phone - 310-6813 Lisa.timmer@tampagov.net

#### DISTRICT THREE Crime Prevention Team

Officer Ronda Jones-Barber Office - 276-3317 Beeper - 339-5423 City Cell Phone - 310-0407 Ronda Jones-Barber@tampagov.net

CPP Neris Gonzalez Office - 276-3317 Beeper - 339-0143 Neris.Gonzalez@tampagov.net

## On Duty

with the

# Tampa Police Department

# is now available anytime at your local library!



You can now watch Police Chief Steve Hogue as he hosts "On Duty with Tampa the Police Department" anytime that fits your schedule! You can check out a DVD from any Hillsborough County library. The public safety program showcases special operations in Tampa's neighborhoods. The 15minute segment will take

you on patrol with the men and women of TPD.

#### Tune in:

Sundays at 8 p.m. Tuesdays at 5 p.m. Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. Fridays at 10:30 a.m.



It also airs on CTTV channel 15.

