SPRING 2012

Palm Beach
Crime Watch, Inc.
P.O. Box 3401
Palm Beach, FL 33480
561-838-5467

crimeprevention@palmbeachpolice.com

# PALM BEACH Crime WATCHER

## GET TO KNOW YOUR EMPLOYEES!

### Christine Cunningham

**Age:** 32

**How long have you been employed with the town:** 10 years

**Current position:** Lead Telecommunications Supervisor

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years:** Working at the Town of Palm Beach and surviving being a parent of a 17 year old boy. YIKES!

**Favorite food:** Sushi

**Favorite holiday:** My son Jackson's Birthday, January 18

**Favorite movie:** Goodfellas

**Favorite sports team:** Denver Broncos or Miami Heat

**Favorite vacation spot:** Disney

**What's playing on your ipod right now:** Prince

**What are you reading right now:** Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer

**Three things you can't live without:** My family, my friends and my iPhone

## Citizen Police Academy Class #19 Graduation and Alumni Event

*March 21, 2012 • St. Edward's Catholic Church*

After a two year hiatus, the Palm Beach Police Department welcomed back another group of enthusiastic residents to the 19th class of the Citizen Police Academy. The recruits took part in patrol and marine ride alongs, watched as our telecommunicators dispatched police and fire calls and learned about day to day police operations. At the conclusion of the 6 week program, a graduation ceremony kicked off another alumni reunion at St. Edward's Parish Hall. The Citizen Police Academy Alumni group now totals over 430 graduates! A spring barbecue was enjoyed by all and it was great to see friends from ALL of the previous classes. The police department is now accepting applications for class #20 which will be held in the fall (October/November 2012). Please contact Jennifer Recarey at (561) 838-5467 or via email at crimeprevention@palmbeachpolice.com if you or someone you know is interested.

*SEE PAGE 2 FOR MORE PHOTOS FROM THE GRADUATION AND ALUMNI EVENT!*

*Front Cover, Left to right (back to front): Deputy Chief Dan Szarszewski, Eileen Burns, Frank Miller, Liza Calhoun, Bob Kaufman, Bill Tiefel, Director Kirk Blouin, Lee Goldstein, Officer Michele Pagan, Betsy & George Matthews, Ellen Kaufman, Norma Tiefel, George Abouzeid, Deborah Robinson, Donald Scott, Jr., Carolyn Oaks, Wilma Sternberg-Mooney, Kit Crowley, Officer Jim Miller*

## TEEN POLICE ACADEMY 2012

**Dates: June 11 - 15, 2012 • Time: 9am-4pm (Monday - Friday).**

**Must be 13-15 years of age, live in Palm Beach and attend a school in Palm Beach. Applications must be submitted to guarantee a spot.**

**$250 Participation Fee. Class size is limited.**

## GOING SOMEWHERE?

**Don't forget about the Closed Home Program. Notify police and protect your property while you're away. Visit www.palmbeachpolice.com to complete the Closed Home Information Form.**

**CODE CORNER INSIDE!**

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*Vice-Chairman*

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## HONORARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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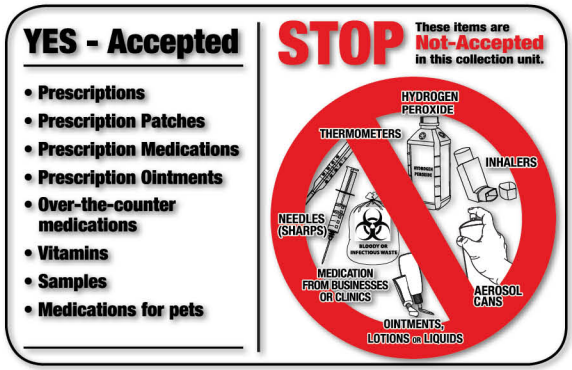
# National Drug Take-Back Initiative

***April 28, 2012 • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM***

The Palm Beach Police Department has partnered with The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. The event will take place on Saturday, April 28, 2012, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Palm Beach Police Department, 345 S. County Road, Palm Beach. This is a great opportunity for those who have accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs, to safely dispose of those medications.

Americans that participated in the DEA's third National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on October 29, 2011, turned in more than 377,086 pounds (188.5 tons) of unwanted or expired medications for safe and proper disposal at the 5,327 take-back sites that were available in all 50 states and U.S. territories. "The amount of prescription drugs turned in by the American public during the past three Take-Back Day events speaks volumes about the need to develop a convenient way to rid homes of unwanted or expired prescription drugs," said DEA Administrator Michele M. Leonhart. "With the continued support and hard work of our more than 3,945 state, local, and tribal law enforcement and community partners, these three events have dramatically reduced the risk of prescription drug diversion and abuse, and increased awareness of this critical public health issue," said Leonhart.



The Palm Beach Police Department has received a grant from the Solid Waste Authority for a permanent drug disposal drop box. Each time drugs are properly disposed of, less of these drugs enter our water system. The box will be located in the lobby of the police department and any unused, unwanted prescription drugs may be safely disposed of 24/7. For more information about the Take-Back Day or the drop box please call (561) 838-5467.

# CPA Graduation & Alumni Event (cont'd)

*First Row: Academy Graduate Norma Tiefel and Officer Michele Pagan; Mary Weiss, Joel Cohen, (front row), Sister Paula Parent, Muffie Brooks and Joyce Cohen; Graduate Lee Goldstein and Family*

*Second Row: Larry Ochstein, Sandra & Dr. G. Marshall Goldberg; Graduate Donald B. Scott, Jr. (center) and his parents; Dorothy Nelson, Councilman Richard Kleid, Gloria Winston*

# THE POWER TO PREVENT ABUSE IS IN YOUR HANDS

## Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation Prevention Program

### IDENTITY THEFT

NEVER

- Carry a Social Security card;
- Carry multiple credit cards;
- Give personal information over the telephone;
- Print identification numbers on checks;
- Answer unsolicited email that asks for your personal information.

ALWAYS

- Remove mail promptly from your mailbox;
- Review statements and bills promptly;
- Shred personal mail and information with a shredder or scissors;
- Stop mail while you are on vacation;
- Make a copy of all items in your wallet and keep it with personal papers in a safe place;
- Shop online only with merchants that have secure websites. A graphic, typically a lock, should appear in the bottom right corner of your web browser;
- Have checks printed with initials only and no street address. Pick up your checks at the bank, if possible.

Request credit reports annually from all three reporting agencies at no fee by visiting on the web at **www.annualcreditreport.com** or by calling toll-free **1-877-322-8228**.

IF YOU ARE VICTIMIZED BY A FINANCIAL CRIME:

- Report to local law enforcement and request a copy of the case report;
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at 1-877-438-4338;
- Immediately contact your bank and close affected accounts;
- Keep a detailed log of who you have contacted and save copies of all correspondence.
- Contact credit card companies. Place fraud alerts on all accounts by calling:

**Equifax:** 1-800-525-6285
**Experian (formerly TRW):** 1-888-397-3742
**TransUnion:** 1-800-680-7289

### HOW TO REPORT ABUSE

If you suspect that you or someone you know is a victim of abuse, neglect or exploitation, call toll-free. All calls are confidential.

**1-800-96-ABUSE**
*(1-800-962-2873)*

# MINIMIZE THE RISK OF BECOMING A VICTIM

No one has the right to hit you, to treat you like a child or to humiliate you.

No one has the right to take your money or to hurt you.

Elders have the right not to be yelled at and not to be threatened.

Elders have the right to control their finances and property.

If you know of or have reasonable cause to suspect abuse, neglect and/or exploitation, immediately call the Elder Abuse Hotline **1-800-96-ABUSE** (1-800-962-2873). All calls are confidential.

### HOME REPAIR FRAUD

- ALWAYS compare estimates carefully; the lowest bid or price is not always the best one.
- Never agree to get your own permits; this will make you directly responsible for everything.
- Never be pressured into making hasty decisions.
- Never accept someone's offer to take you to the bank to withdraw money for any reason.
- Never fall for phone or door-to-door offers of free estimates, home inspections or "special deals" of any kind.
- Never pay cash.
- Never pay for unfinished work or jobs that have not been inspected.

### FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

- Use direct deposit for check payments you receive.
- Don't sign blank checks allowing another person to fill in the amount.
- Don't leave money or valuables in plain view.
- Don't sign anything you don't understand.
- Protect your money. Your bank may be able to help you control access to your funds.
- Be aware of scams. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Don't pay for any prize or send money to improve your chances to win or receive a prize.
- Don't give any caller your credit card number or any other form of personal identification.

***It is very difficult to tell if a telemarketing call is legitimate. Be cautious and do not let any caller intimidate you. Don't be afraid to hang up!***

- Don't give anyone your ATM access code, and cancel your ATM card immediately if it is stolen.
- Check your bank statements carefully to make sure there are no unauthorized withdrawals.
- Be cautious of joint accounts. Both parties are equal owners of the account and both have equal access to the funds in the account.
- Build good relationships with the professionals who handle your money.

PREVENT ELDER ABUSE

DEPARTMENT OF ELDER AFFAIRS STATE OF FLORIDA

# CODE Corner

*Town of Palm Beach Code of Ordinances*

**For more information, contact the Code Enforcement Office at (561) 227-7080**

## *Reminders!*

**LIGHTS OUT FOR SEA TURTLES** - All Oceanfront property owners must ensure that their lights are not visible from the beach at anytime from March 1st to October 31st. Please shield or redirect any such lights, or simply turn them off during this time of year. WHEN IN DOUBT, TURN IT OUT.

**EMERGENCY WATER RESTRICTIONS** are still in effect. Visit www.palmbeachpolice.com and click the homepage image "Water Restrictions" for detailed information.

### A-39 TO A-7 FORCE MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE APRIL 6, 2012, PALM BEACH, FL

On Monday, April 9, 2012, construction began on South Ocean Boulevard for the force main project. The project is scheduled to be completed no later than December 15, 2012, which is contingent upon delays due to unforeseen conditions. The project limits begin at the north end of Phipps Ocean Park on South Ocean Boulevard, north to El Bravo Way and west to South County Road and north to Island Road.

The Town has placed project updates for the force main project on its website. To access the project update simply go to the Town's website http://palmbeach.govoffice.com/ and "click" on the "For Residents" pull down menu, then select "A-39 to A-7 Force Main Replacement", and then select most current update. The site will be updated periodically to keep Town residents, employees, businesses, and visitors informed about the progress of this project and impacts to their commute.

All questions and/or comments can be either emailed to fmain@townofpalmbeach.com or phoned to our Construction Manager, Burkhardt Construction, Inc., Project Liaison – Wayne King at 561-718-2605.

**REPORT CRIMINAL ACTIVITY CONFIDENTIALLY**
**227-6464 or www.palmbeachpolice.com**

***If you see something, say something!***

# Palm Beach Crime Watch, Inc.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Palm Beach Crime Watch Inc. • P.O. Box 3401 • Palm Beach, FL 33480 • 561-838-5467

**Palm Beach Crime Watch, Inc.**

❑ Membership
❑ Renewal *Visit us online*

**Crime Watch Basic Membership**

❑ $25 Individual
❑ $50 Family

**Crime Watch Advanced Membership**

❑ Benefactor $5000 and above
❑ Partnership Member $2500 - $4999
❑ Leadership Member $1000 - $2499
❑ Sponsorship Member $500 - $999
❑ Supporting Member $250 - $499
❑ Contributing Member $100 - $249

**Please Provide your Information** Your personal information is protected by Palm Beach Crime Watch

Mr./Mrs./Miss _____
Last First Middle

Address in Palm Beach _____ Unit # _____

Other Address _____

_____
City State Zip

Home ( ) _____ Mobile ( ) _____

Fax ( ) _____ Email _____

Out of Town Phone ( ) _____ Office ( ) _____

**Total Amount Enclosed** $ _____

**Payment Method** ❑ Credit Card ❑ Check **Credit Card Type** ❑ Visa ❑ MasterCard ❑ AmEx

Cardholder's Name _____

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ Security Code _____

Billing Address (if different from above) _____

_____

_____

**If you haven't renewed, it's not too late!**

**Mail this completed form with your payment to the address shown above or enroll on our website at www.palmbeachpolice.com • Thank you!**

## Save the Date

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2012 POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**National Night Out Against Crime**

**Tuesday, August 7, 2012 • 5:00pm-7:00pm**

**St. Edward's Catholic Church**

## John J. Brogan

*January 9, 1916 - February 25, 2012*

It is with heavy hearts that we mourn the loss of our dear friend Mr. John J. Brogan. Mr. Brogan was instrumental in the revitalization of Palm Beach Crime Watch, Inc. and it is because of him that our organization has grown to be what it is today. Through his enthusiasm and passion he created a substantial foundation for the programs and services we sponsor. Mr. Brogan was always the first to lead the charge for us. He was more than a supporter, he was our friend and he will be truly missed.

# Crime Watch Members' Breakfast

*Photos by: Corby Kaye - Studio Palm Beach*

***The Crime Watch Members' Breakfast was held on February 3, 2012 at The Colony Hotel***

Familiar faces and new friends came together at The Colony Hotel on February 3, 2012 for the Crime Watch Members' Breakfast. Attendees enjoyed a scrumptious breakfast followed by a presentation by State Attorney Michael McAuliffe. Mr. McAuliffe praised the Palm Beach Police Department for its successful partnership with the community in fighting crime and commended the Director for his commitment to two county task forces, the Public Integrity Unit and Crime Against Children Unit. Palm Beach Police detectives participate on both of these task forces and Mr. McAuliffe recognized their professionalism. Mr. McAuliffe left office in March to pursue an opportunity in the private sector and we wish him the best.

The Town has seen many changes over the past few years and it was nice to have everyone come together for this annual event. A special thanks to Ruth Young and her staff for welcoming us to The Colony and providing guests with a special treat.

*From the top, left to right: Director Kirk W. Blouin, Town Manager Peter B. Elwell, Major Rick Howe, Mayor Gail Coniglio and Deputy Chief Dan Szarzewski; Tim Moran, Mark Cook, Bill Tiefel; Harriet and Alan H. Miller; Town Manager Peter B. Elwell, Councilman Michael Pucillo, Director Kirk W. Blouin, Michael McAuliffe, Deputy Chief Dan Szarszewski; Patti Sans, Denise Parisi & Carol Dixon; Bernard and Rita Panfel; Elizabeth Murphy and Cynthia Van Buren*

# FLOW mobile

***March 29, 2012***

The FLOW Mobile (Florida Licensing on Wheels) rolled into Town on Thursday, March 29th. Florida Licensing on Wheels mobile office brings most motorist services to the customer such as changing an out of state driver license to Florida license, renewals, duplicates for lost or stolen licenses, address/ name changes, ID cards, reinstatements, and emergency contact information registration. Over 45 people were able to take advantage of the visit and the FLOW mobile was so well received that it will be making another stop in Town next season. Thanks to Brett, Jackie and Hattie from the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for bringing this service to Palm Beach. If you need to renew your license, be sure to visit www.GatherGoGet.com to create your list of required documents.

# Community Shred Event

***February 7, 2012***

Despite the rain, people took full advantage of the Free Community Shred Event on Tuesday, February 7, 2012, held at Phipps Ocean Park. ShredAssured, a locally owned Confidential Paper Shredding and Data Destruction Company serving South Florida was on hand to destroy boxes, bags and bins full of important documents. Palm Beach Crime Watch, Inc. will host another event in the fall but if you have immediate shredding needs please contact Nancy at ShredAssured 1-800-838-3840.

**www.shredassured.com**

**Palm Beach Crime Watch, Inc.**
P.O. Box 3401
Palm Beach, FL 33480

***www.palmbeachpolice.com for more information***

# Mature Driver Course

The Palm Beach Police Department partnered with the Safety Council of Palm Beach County, Inc. to offer a defensive driver course: Coaching the Mature Driver. Over 50 participants, in 3 sessions, have taken advantage of the safe driving tips and techniques and many have reported qualifying for discounts on their auto insurance. A special thanks to Len Kaye, for instructing such an informative course. The Palm Beach Police Department will host additional sessions starting in the fall. For more information please call 561-838-5467.

## STAY INFORMED

Visit our homepage and sign up for our community alerts. You will be notified of upcoming events such as the next shredding event, mature driver course as well as crime prevention alerts.

**KEEP IN TOUCH WITH YOUR POLICE DEPARTMENT**

| | |
|---|---|
| In any emergency (police-fire-medical) | 9-1-1 |
| Police NON-Emergency | 838-5454 |
| Code Enforcement | 227-7080 |
| Parking Enforcement | 838-5465 |
| Voluntary ID Cards | 838-5466 |
| Crime Watch Office | 838-5467 |
| Anonymous TIPS | 227-6464 |

# Hurricane Preparedness

*The official hurricane season for the Atlantic Basin is from 1st of June to 30th of November. The peak of the season is from mid-August to late October. However, deadly hurricanes can occur anytime in the hurricane season.*

**HURRICANE WATCH**…means that hurricane conditions are a possible threat within 48 hours in the specified area. Upon announcement of an official hurricane watch by the Palm Beach County Division of Emergency Management, Town of Palm Beach officials will advise residents of the situation using all available news media. Residents who have pre-arranged mainland accommodation are encouraged to leave at this time. Boat owners should secure their vessels.

**HURRICANE WARNING**…is defined as the period 36 hours before a hurricane is estimated to make local landfall. The announcement of a hurricane warning will be made by the Palm Beach County Division of Emergency Management. At this time all residents still on the island should be prepared to evacuate. Mandatory evacuation orders will be announced via radio and television and via the Reverse 911 system.

**MAKE PLANS TO EVACUATE EARLY**…Town residents are urged to make arrangements for private shelter before there is a storm emergency. Public shelters will be crowded and uncomfortable and should be utilized only as a last resort. To view the new evacuation guidelines go to http://www.pbcgov.com/dem/evacuate

**PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**…Persons requiring special medical attention should implement their personal evacuation plans as early as possible. Anyone not able to make arrangements for private care during a storm emergency should contact the Palm Beach County Division of Emergency Management (561-712-6400). These arrangements must be made before a storm emergency occurs.

**WHAT ABOUT PETS**…Your pets are part of your family so make plans for their safety during a storm emergency. If your evacuation plans do not allow you to take your pet, consult your veterinary clinic for information on boarding facilities and reserve a space for your pet in advance of a storm.

Palm Beach residents can get detailed information about hurricane preparedness on the Town of Palm Beach website at www.townofpalmbeach.com