



# NEWS FROM CITY HALL

January-March, 2012 (Issue 35)

**Neighborhood Crime Watch** .... The Temple Terrace Police Department is working to strengthen the local neighborhood crime watches. Participating in a crime watch is one of the most effective ways to help reduce crime. Neighborhood Watch forges bonds among area residents, helps reduce burglaries and robberies, and improves relations between the Police and the residents. Groups work together as the “extra eyes and ears” for reporting crime and helping neighbors. Members learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for one another and the neighborhood, and report to the Police activities that raise suspicion. To become involved or to find out about the active crime watches throughout the City, contact Crime Prevention at 506-6529. And, the Police Department is also recruiting residents for the

**Citizen Volunteer Patrol Program** .... Assist the Police Officers by patrolling neighborhoods and commercial areas, controlling traffic, supplementing crime awareness activities, responding to non-emergency calls, providing basic first aid, and reporting suspicious activities. Twelve volunteers will receive 40 hours of training; will drive specially marked “Citizen Patrol” cars; wear identifiable uniforms; and learn to identify, report, and prevent criminal activity. Applicants must be at least 19 years old, an area resident, possess a valid Florida driver’s license, and pass a criminal background check. For further information or to apply, call 506-6500 or email [kwalter@templeterrace.com](mailto:kwalter@templeterrace.com).

**Safeguarding the Residents** ....Two programs are in place to safeguard the City’s senior and/or disabled residents:

**Residential “Knox Box” Program** – Initiated in 2002, this Program answers the question: What if you are physically unable to unlock your door to allow a first responder into the home? Waiting for someone to arrive with a key could result in responders breaking down the door and a lengthy delay in much needed medical attention. The Knox Box homeowner’s entrance key is stored in a secured Box, mounted on the home’s front or side entry. Each “box” is keyed to a single master key. The Fire Department has sole possession and is able to safely and quickly gain entry. For more information on how to qualify for the Program or to obtain an application, contact the Fire Department at 506-6700.

**Elderly/Disabled Call-In Program** – This Program provides a safety net and sense of security with a daily telephone call that lets police officers know “everything’s all right” at someone’s home. Subscribers (residents over 60 years of age and/or disabled) must call the Police Department every morning 7 days a week between 7 a.m. and 11 a.m. to let dispatchers know “everything’s OK”. If a call isn’t received, dispatch will attempt to reach the subscriber. If the staff cannot make contact, the subscriber’s emergency contact will be notified to verify status. If there’s still no contact, a police officer will be dispatched to the subscriber’s residence. Entry to the home is only a last resort. To participate in this free-of-charge program, contact the Police Department at 989-7110.

**Crime Updates & Reverse 9-1-1** .... To heighten awareness, the Police Department has enhanced its email alert contact list. Temple

Terrace residents interested in being notified about neighborhood crime and other police-related matters may sign up to be included on a City-wide email list by providing their address as proof of residency and a valid email – there is no fee. Contact [tmishler@templeterrace.com](mailto:tmishler@templeterrace.com) or call 506-6529. *Reverse 9-1-1 or Rapid Alert* is a critical communications tool to quickly inform the public in the event of an emergency. Residents with listed telephone numbers should be registered. Those with unlisted telephone numbers or who use a cell phone as a primary phone must register to receive the City’s emergency information. To register online, go to [www.templeterrace.com](http://www.templeterrace.com), click on Departments, then Police, Community Alert, scroll to the link at the bottom of the page, complete the form and return it to the Police Department.

**Lock Your Car** .... Protect yourself and your belongings! Criminals take advantage of easy opportunities to commit crimes. Many residents leave their vehicles unlocked and many are unlocked with valuables in plain sight. Reports of vehicle burglaries with thieves stealing laptops, purses, wallets, and GPS systems are increasing dramatically. **Lock your vehicle and do not** leave valuables inside.

**“Up to Code” in 2011** .... Code Compliance officers are accessible by phone (506-6680) on weekdays from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to clarify City ordinances or accept requests for service. For detailed Code information, go to webpage at [www.templeterrace.com](http://www.templeterrace.com). To better inform residents of City regulations, different neighborhoods are sent letters and compliance checklists each month so homeowners can compare their properties with minimum City standards and requirements for parking, boat & trailer storage, fence maintenance, and other neighborhood codes.

**City Permits** .... The Building Department has electronically enhanced its permitting programs. Homeowners and contractors can check the status of building inspections for homes or businesses or schedule an inspection on-line. Applicants can also apply for re-roofing, mechanical change-out, minor electrical permits and may pay on-line at [www.templeterrace.com](http://www.templeterrace.com); click on Community Development Department, and follow the links.

**Automated Meter Reading** .... The City has embarked on an in-house program to convert current water meters to new remote-read, radiofrequency meters. The new meters feature LCD displays, which are solar or LED flashlight-activated, and can detect possible leaks, display average flow rates, and log consumption data – resulting in a more efficient process and annual operating cost savings. Questions? Call Public Works at 506-6570.

**Protect the Hillsborough River** .... Many of the City’s storm drains empty directly into the River. Hazardous materials, such as paints, solvents, chemicals, and motor oil, running into the storm drains have a serious negative impact on the health of the River and wildlife. Please report to the Public Works Department – 506-6570 - any type of foreign materials being poured into a storm drain.

**At Your Leisure – Fun for Everyone**

- **Arbor Day Celebration** – 11 a.m., Sat., Jan. 21, at Riverhills Park. FREE native tree seedlings available to the first 100 attendees.
- **Daddy Daughter Valentine Dance** – Sun., Feb. 12, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. at the Lightfoot Center. A special afternoon of music, dancing, & refreshments. A professional photographer will be available. Reservations are necessary – cost is \$3 per guest. Call 506-6600.
- **Spring Break Camp** – Camp is open to children kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade during the March 12-16 Spring Break. The supervised day camp is activity-filled with games, movies, arts & crafts, and sports. Campers will need to bring two snacks per day and lunch. Fee is \$90 per child beginning Feb. 20 until March 5, when late registration begins and cost is \$115 per child. A valid total annual Recreation Membership throughout the program is required.
- **Senior EXPO** – The City's 23rd Annual Senior EXPO takes place Fri., **March 16, 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**, at the Family Recreation Complex with opening ceremonies at 9 a.m. This free event offers information to seniors about the many services local agencies and businesses provide. Representatives will be on hand with information and to answer questions. The day also includes door prizes, bingo, & hot lunch. Call 506-6630 for details.
- **After School Program** -- Winter/Spring Session begins Mon., Jan. 2, for school days from 2:15 p.m. until 6 p.m. The supervised "playground" offers recreation sports and athletics, group games, themed events, and arts & crafts until the session ends June 8. Resident/non-resident - \$345 per participant; pro-rated for registration after the session has begun. Participants must have a valid membership. Limited **Van Transportation** to the Family Recreation Complex is available for students enrolled in the Program; fee-\$130 per child. Enrolled children are picked up when school is dismissed from Riverhills, Temple Terrace, Folsom, and Woodmont Schools.
- **Aquatics Facility** – Only the main pool is open during the winter quarter. It is heated with a heating fuel surcharge fee of \$2 per day per pool user. Pool hours are Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.; Saturday, noon to 4:50 p.m. The pool is closed on Sundays until March 10. The kiddie pools, fun pool, and water slide are closed until May. Lifeguard/water safety classes are scheduled throughout the winter quarter – call 506-6600 for schedules and rates.

The recreation facilities – pool, gymnastics, Lightfoot Center, athletic fields, parks space, or gazebo – may be rented for a private event or party. Contact the Family Recreation Complex at 506-6600 for availability and rates. And, call 506-6600 to find out about the many programs – senior activities; fitness; ACTT swim team; gymnastics; tennis; baseball; softball; volleyball; soccer; and coed flag football, softball, and volleyball.

**Recycling to Save Our Environment** .... Recycling prevents useful resources from being wasted, reduces energy consumption, and helps control the City's sanitation disposal costs. Recycling items – aluminum drink cans; steel/tin food cans; green, brown, clear glass bottles/jars; any kind of paper - junk mail, envelopes, newspapers, phone books, magazines, computer paper, cereal boxes (without food wrapper); corrugated cardboard boxes flattened & cut into 3-foot by 3-foot or less sections; household plastic bottles or containers -- should be placed each week in City-issued bins and at curbside by 7 a.m. on the assigned collection day. Bins are free and available by calling 506-6570.

## At the Library for children ....

- **Bedtime Storytime** – children of all ages with their caregivers – 7 p.m., **TUESDAYS**, Jan. 3 and Feb. 7.
- **Babytime** – children from 12-23 months with their caregivers – 10 a.m. **FRIDAYS**, Jan. 6 & 20; Feb. 3 & 17; March 16. 20-minute program.
- **Toddler Time** - children 2 & 3 years with their caregivers – 10:15 a.m. **WEDNESDAYS**, Jan. 4-25; Feb. 1-29; March 7-28. 20 minutes of stories, songs, finger plays.
- **Preschool Time** - children 3-5 years in a group without caregivers – 3:30 p.m. **WEDNESDAYS**, Jan. 4-25; Feb. 1-29; March 7-28. 30 minutes of stories, songs, poems.
- **Sesame Street** – children 3-12 years. **SATURDAY, Jan. 7.** 10 a.m. Celebrate with the famous Street's neighborhood friends.
- **Pirate Party** – children 3-12 years. **SATURDAY, Feb. 18.** 11 a.m. Come aboard for stories and fun.
- **Celebrate Dr. Suess' Birthday** – **TUESDAY, March 6,** 4 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Stories, face-painting, birthday party fun.

## for Young Adults.....

- **Teen Anime Night** – 6 p.m., **THURSDAYS**, Feb. 16, March 15.
- **Game Zone** - 6 p.m., **THURSDAYS**, Jan. 5, Feb. 2, March 1. Battle opponents in multi-player Wii action.
- **Crafty Teens** – 6:30 p.m., **THURSDAY**, March 22. Creativity unleashed through crafts.

## for Adults ....

- **Book Club** – 2 p.m. **WEDNESDAYS**, Jan. 4, Feb. 1, March 7.
- **Anime Screenings for College-aged & Adults** – 6 p.m., **WEDNESDAY**, Jan. 11
- **Atypical Parkinson's Group** – 2:30 p.m., **SATURDAY**, Feb. 4 & 3 p.m., **SATURDAY**, March 31.
- **Book Roundtable** – 1 p.m. **SATURDAYS**, Feb. 25 & March 31.
- **Master Gardening Plant Clinics** – 6:30 p.m. **TUESDAYS**, Feb. 21, & March 20.
- **Computer Workshops** – 10 a.m. **SATURDAYS**, Jan. 7, Feb. 4. **AND** – 2 p.m., **MONDAYS**, Jan. 9; Feb. 13, 27; March 12, 26. Call the Library at 506-6770 for topics.
- **Artist Corner & Collectibles** - January features Allan Moberg's photography; February – Eric Zivovic's graphic art; March – Kathi Bess' mixed media.

**City Holiday Closing** .... City offices will be closed **Monday, December 26**, for the Christmas Holiday, **Monday, January 2**, for the New Year's Holiday; and **Monday, January 16**, to observe Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday. There will be no residential garbage collection; however, commercial routes/services will not be interrupted.

**BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY, HEALTHY,  
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR !!!**

## FREQUENTLY CALLED CITY NUMBERS ....

City Manager's Office – 506-6400  
 City Clerk – 506-6440  
 Family Recreation Complex – 506-6600  
 Library – 506-6770  
 Public Works – 506-6570  
 Customer Service (water bills)–506-6420  
 Temple Terrace Chamber of Commerce – 989-7004

11250 North 56<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Temple Terrace, Florida 33617  
 813-506-6400