



CITY OF TEMPLE TERRACE NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEMPLE TERRACE COUPLE HONORED FOR RIVER CONSERVATION WORK

(TEMPLE TERRACE, FL. – 12/21/06) – Jim and Wendy Badger have lived on the Hillsborough River for more than 30 years. They love the river’s scenic beauty and abundant wildlife, they say, and feel fortunate to live among its towering pines and cypress trees.

Virtually every day, they head out on their 20-foot pontoon boat, slowly navigating the twists and turns of the waterway. And while they are out, they never fail to pick up trash and debris they encounter along the way.

Tuesday night (12/19), the Temple Terrace City Council issued a proclamation honoring the couple for their conservation efforts, declaring Dec. 25, 2006 through Jan. 1, 2007 “Wendy and Jim Badger River Preservation Week” in Temple Terrace.

The Badgers said they hope the proclamation spurs others to take better care of the Hillsborough River and join their commitment to preserving its natural beauty. Too often, they say, they see beer cans, plastic bags, cigarette butts and other debris spoiling the view.

“The Hillsborough River is the jewel of Temple Terrace,” Wendy Badger said. “If you cherish Temple Terrace and the river that flows through our city, then you have to take care of it. Everyone needs to do their part.”

The couple has teamed up with Temple Terrace Marine Unit Officer Carl Avari-Cooper to make 2007 a year of environmental awareness. Avari-Cooper is working with local merchants to make trash bags available at area boat ramps.

For interviews, call Jim and Wendy Badger at (813) 988-9398. Officer Avari-Cooper can be reached at (813) 508-4586.

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