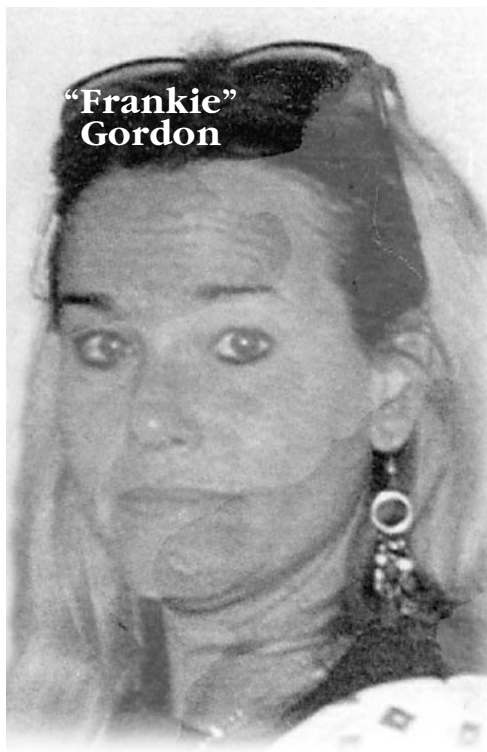


ONE VICTIM'S VOICE



"Frankie" Gordon

Remembering Frankie

■ By Caryn M. Suarez

I sat in Anchor Café one Saturday night a few weeks ago with friends of mine that I had not seen in some time. Meeting here watching my friend's band play had been something of a ritual for us to do for

over the past ten years. Band members came and went, the name of the band changed a few times, but the lead singer was the same, the music the same and the people the same good people I had learned to like and love over the years. What wasn't the same was that our friend "Frankie" Gordon wasn't here anymore. She was murdered over off Waller Street back in 1996. An unsolved murder still a mystery for JSO. She was a recovering substance abuser trying to get her life straightened out. She had been the "All American Mom". I had met her when she was my daughter's Brownie leader. She was one of the three unsolved "dumpster murders" that occurred in Jacksonville in the fall of 1996. Trying to turn her life around it was taken from her. She left behind three children and a lot

of unanswered questions.

Almost five years to the day later on this evening, however, her oldest daughter, Jackie Gordon, now 17,

"Unsolved Dumpster Murder"

was sitting next to me with some of her girlfriends from Orange Park High School. They came to watch her dad sing and to be the band's cheering section. Jackie had learned this from watching her mother do

this so many years ago in this very same café.

Frankie would get up and get everyone dancing. The band would strike up a song and with no one else on the dance floor, Frankie would get up and start dancing and clapping. Pulling people up out of their chairs. Talking, laughing, cutting up. A beautiful long haired blonde lady with a great figure who had turned many a head in her lifetime. She was the spirit of this band, the life of the party, the life of our gang. She would get the kids out of their chairs and dancing with each other. It was more fun sometimes just to watch Frankie get out there and "get the party started" than anything else. She was the life of our group and we all loved her party

Frankie... Continued on page 2

Keeping Jacksonville Safe

■ By Caryn Suarez

Who would have thought a few months ago that we all would now be worrying about bio-terrorism and terrorist? Especially at this time of the year when we have so many other things on our minds to worry about. Well, just for a little piece of mind in your holiday rush don't think that both JSO

and your area hospitals are not on the alert and are ready to spring into action at any time. JSO is well on the alert now and the things the common man will notice is that there is increased security around the entire area with patrols being increased and stepped up. Other aspects of security are top secret and cannot be

discussed publicly, but they are well in place.

In addition, all of the area hospitals have had seminars and received special bio-terrorism alert training in symptoms to look for and treatment of smallpox, inhalation anthrax, botulism, cutaneous anthrax and threats of pneumonic plagues.

However, both JSO and the

area hospitals need your continued help. The biggest thing that you can do is to STAY AWARE. Report any suspicious mailings, people or incidents to JSO at 630-0500. They will listen and investigate your calls. If you are worried about any bio-terrorism viruses, see your family doctor first.

Ask for a chest x-ray if you

feel that your flu symptoms may not be getting better or you are having trouble breathing or chest pains. The main thing is to just stay aware and not to panic. If you would like more information for symptoms concerning infections and potential bio-terrorist agents, try the following website: www.bio-terrorism.uab.edu.



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