



**From
the
Director**

by
Ann
Dugger

Our children are under attack

As I sat listening to the trial of the three young men accused of murdering little Dreshawna Davis, I couldn't help but think of other children in whose cases I've been personally involved, whose lives have been endangered or taken.

Children - our most precious treasures - being killed by lawless, selfish individuals intent on their own evil plots, or snatched from the safety of their homes by yet-unnamed individuals, or infants being shaken in frustration until their fragile little brains are too battered to continue functioning.

It's more than we can handle sometimes, yet what about the loving parents or other loved ones who suffer these great losses? How do they manage to survive?

During the past three years I've spent a lot of time with the grandmother of Dreshawna. I've seen her weep in anguish and struggle to cope with the murder and other family issues, one of which was her son being the mitigating factor in the shooting that left her

beloved granddaughter dead. The conviction (and eventual sentencing) of the brothers who killed her will only, in part, bring some relief.

Several days ago, when the news media announced the disappearance of Takisha Jackson on the Westside, I went to the Jackson home to see if the Justice Coalition could be of assistance. As JSO officers and bloodhounds combed the neighborhood and aerial units and dive teams were called in to join the search, I stayed with the family to offer reassurance and help keep the younger children's attention diverted. What happened to Somer Thompson just a few months ago had to be uppermost in the parents' minds.

Thankfully, by God's mercy, a neighbor found the little 9-year-old girl hiding in bushes in their back yard, and she was safely returned, hungry and cold, to her home. She apparently ran away after being disciplined.

Referring back to Somer Thompson, I still grieve over her terrible death, so I can only imagine how her mother feels. We all continue to ask ourselves and each other, "How could she have been grabbed and removed so

quickly from sight?" We are all hopeful this case will be solved in the very near future - but even that won't begin to allay the pain of her loss.

This month will be a year since Haleigh Cummings disappeared from her home near Palatka and, despite unceasing efforts by several law enforcement agencies, there is still no indication of what happened to her and whether or not she is still alive. The news media report the ongoing saga of her family's legal issues, so we are fervently praying that someone will soon tell what they know about the beautiful little girl's whereabouts and this case can be solved.

Meanwhile, as I frequently do in this column, I urge you to be increasingly vigilant about your children. Be aware of every aspect of their lives, what they do when they aren't with you, where they go, who their friends are, and pray unceasingly for their safety. Keep them in church, be a strong, positive example for them, and love them with all your heart.

On another note, I want to remind you that on the 18th of this month we will host our 8th annual **TOGETHER WE CAN**



BREAKFAST/CAMPAIGN, and we urge you to continue your support that enables the Justice Coalition to keep working with innocent victims of violent crime. This special event brings together sheriffs in Northeast Florida, many elected officials, judges, ministers and businesses - all of whom share a common

goal: to make the First Coast a safer place to live. The speakers will give you a better understanding of how victims are affected by the crimes that devastate their families - and how they cope with life in the aftermath of tragedy. We look forward to seeing you there.

God bless you all.

Inspirational Thought



"...not having my own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith." (Philippians 3:9)

Benefits the Word of God says righteousness will bring:

- The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree. *Psalm. 92:12*
- For the eyes of the LORD are over the righteous, and His ears are open unto their prayers. *1 Peter. 3:12*
- The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. *Psalm. 34:17*
- I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread. *Psalm. 37:25*
- The righteous shall inherit the land, and dwell therein forever. *Psalm. 37:29*
- The LORD loveth the righteous. *Psalm 146:8*

Faith Corner

The Faith Community holds the key to true Restorative Justice for all mankind. Many churches and businesses support this concept. The Justice Coalition wishes to thank the following for their support in our quest for this goal of compassion and understanding:

CRS
Butch Childers
Paul A. Gibbs
Childers Roofing & Sheetmetal Inc.
Quality Commercial Roofing
10416-196 New Berlin Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32226-2216
#CCC044923
696-8550 Office
696-8551 Fax

HE
Contemporary Business Services
Scott L. Adams
(904) 387-1128
Fax (904) 388-5798
scott@cbsjax.com
4070 Herschel Suite 3
Jacksonville, FL 32210
www.cbsjax.com

TOTAL OFFICE PRODUCTS
Wayne Malone
Account Executive
Corporate Office
Phone (904) 260-0911
Fax (904) 260-7575
waynem@totalop-jax.com
9452 Philips Hwy., Ste 7
Jacksonville, Florida 32256
www.totalop-jax.com

91.7 FM The Gospel
Partners with Justice Coalition
Help Support Christian Radio
Call Todd Knowles at (904) 781-4321 Email: tk@wjbcm.com
www.wjbcm.com

General Contractor
State Certified
CGC 015338
Williams & Rowe Co.
5215 HIGHWAY AVE.
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32254
Office:
387-2333
387-1414
JOHNNY WILLIAMS, OWNER

L.D. BRADLEY LAND SURVEYORS
5773 Normandy Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida 32205
Phone: (904) 786-6400 • Fax: (904) 786-1479
djohnson@ldbradley.net
Land • Topographic • Hydrographic • Precise Geodetic Control
Highway & Global Positioning Systems

COUNTRY TO CONTEMPORARY
circle K furniture
LARGEST SELECTION OF HOME FURNISHINGS AND ACCESSORIES IN JACKSONVILLE
239 JONES ROAD • JACKSONVILLE, FL 32220
(904) 781-1079 FAX: (904) 781-2357
Store Hours: Mon-Sat: 10:00-6:00
Sunday: 1:00-5:00 • www.circlekfurniture.com

EVANGEL TEMPLE ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Pastors Cecil and Garry Wiggins
Services: Sunday 8:15 a.m. • 10:45 a.m. • 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday - 7:30 p.m.
www.evangeltempleag.org • email: evangeltemple@evangeltempleag.org
5755 Ramona Blvd. (One Block East of Lane Ave. & I-10)
(904) 781-9393

WYMM Jacksonville's Christian Radio Operating at 50K watts Serving all of NE Florida
AM 1530
Quality Preaching and Teaching Programs
Committed to Glorifying God in all we do
Advertise your business through Radio Ministry
5900 Picketville Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32254
Call us today @ (904) 786-2820 or
Email: wymmpatrick@yahoo.com
Web Site: wymmradio.com

If your business or church would like to appear in this section, please contact us at 783-6312.

I N G O D W E T R U S T !