

**Executive Director**

Ann Dugger

**Assistant Director**

Judith Chapple

**Editor**

Shirley Shaw

**Victim Services Practitioner**

Lorraine Sinclair

**Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper**

Terri Johnson

**Financial Support Coordinator**

Andrea Cash

**Public Relations**

McCormick Agency, Inc.

**Website Management**

websessionshosting.com

Larry Cohen

**Founder**

Ted M. Hires, Sr.

**Executive Board**

Scott Adams

Treasurer

Kathy Cold

Ken Jefferson

Stephen Joost

Nancy McGowan

Dan Powers

Sheriff John Rutherford

Michael A. Rutledge

Terry Tillman

John Turknett

Lou Webber

Rev. Garry Wiggins

V. Wayne Williford

Board Chairman

Charles Wilson



**Ask the Mayor**

by Mayor John Peyton

# Journey Oversight Measurements

I recently joined other city leaders at the University of North Florida for a presentation by Criminology & Criminal Justice students as they released their final report on the progress of *The Jacksonville Journey*. Dr. Mick Hallett, chair of the Criminology & Criminal Justice department and ex-officio member of *The Jacksonville Journey Oversight Committee*, charged his graduate students with researching *Journey* progress and devising a system for measuring the program's success. This system and other report findings will serve as a vital resource as the Oversight Committee continues to monitor *Journey* programs.

When I first launched *The Jacksonville Journey* initiative in late 2007, this community was reaching a turning point. We were coming to the realization that we needed to fight crime in Jacksonville with an unprecedented level of community cohesion. We

agreed to combat this problem from multiple angles and work together to decrease the victimization of families and business owners. We then set out to implement long-term programs designed to increase quality of life and safety for our citizens. And, we've come a long way since then.

The community-driven *Jacksonville Journey* Committee devised a roadmap to guide our efforts. My office worked very closely with City Council to pass millions of dollars in *Journey* funding, both last year and for the current budget year. And every day, we see more evidence that *Journey* programs are helping to ensure a safe future for Jacksonville.

Because of our efforts, we're engaging at-risk youth in this community at unprecedented levels. Fifteen new Team Up locations have opened and serve more than 1,800 children each day. *Journey* programs sent more than 2,900 children to summer camp last year. We reopened the Juvenile Assessment Center and

assisted more than 5,000 youth; 84 students were awarded scholarships to local colleges.

Most importantly, violent crime is down 15 percent since this time last year, and the murder rate is down 22 percent for the same period. While these statistics do not yet reflect a trend, they most certainly indicate progress.

Now, thanks to the dedicated efforts of Dr. Hallett and his policy class, we can better gauge our progress thus far, and the Oversight Committee will have a tool for effectively measuring the successes and challenges associated with *Journey* programs in the future.

This report is yet another example of the communitywide effort to support this historic anti-crime initiative. It will benefit our community by aiding the Oversight Committee as they continue to gauge progress and readjust to challenges encountered, thereby ensuring the long-term success of *The Jacksonville Journey* project.

*The Justice Coalition began in 1995 because one man's priorities were changed. Ted Hires was the average businessman working 60 to 80 hours a week and looking out for himself until that day when he and his staff were held at gunpoint and robbed. Being a victim of crime, Ted found the criminal justice system worked harder for the criminal than the victim. As a result of Ted's experience, he formed a (501C3) non-profit organization, the Justice Coalition, and is making an effort to change the Fourth Judicial court system for the better.*

*Since 1995, the Justice Coalition has been fighting crime every step of the way. Fugitives captured are through a partnership with local media and law enforcement agencies.*

The Justice Coalition's

## Victims' Advocate

A free newspaper supporting victims' rights published monthly by The Justice Coalition. The opinions of contributing writers are not necessarily those of the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate or the Justice Coalition. The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate welcomes both editorial and photographic submission, but they cannot be returned. Please allow six weeks for a response to submitted works. Calendar information is welcome but must be submitted one month in advance of the event.

©Copyright 2010, The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate. All rights reserved.

The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate makes every effort to verify the information contained within; however, it assumes no responsibility for claims of advertisers. Should the publication be responsible for a reporting error, it will use twice the amount of space to print a correction. Advertising rates and information are available upon request. The Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate retains the right to refuse questionable or offensive advertising as deemed by the publication and will not be held liable for false claims by an advertiser(s). Advertiser purchases right of publication only.

All correspondence to the Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate should be sent to:

Justice Coalition's Victims' Advocate

1935 Lane Ave., South, Suite 1 • Jacksonville, Florida 32210

Phone: (904) 783-6312 • Fax: (904) 783-4172

### THE JUSTICE COALITION'S OBJECTIVES

- To be available for innocent victims of violent crime
- To educate the general public on criminal justice issues
- To be pro-active in the fight against crime

## Advertising Deadline

The deadline for advertising copy for the **February 2010 Edition** of the JUSTICE COALITION'S VICTIMS' ADVOCATE is **January 10, 2010.**

## THE SECRET WORD GAME

CONGRATULATIONS TO DECEMBER'S WINNER, JERRY CARRIS. THANKS FOR PLAYING.

Hidden in the text of the Victims' Advocate is the SECRET WORD for the month of January. The rules are simple:

1. Find the word.
2. Telephone the Justice Coalition office 783-6312.
3. The first person who telephones the correct Secret Word wins a Gift Certificate to Sonny's Real Pit Barbeque Restaurant.
4. You can only win once in a twelve month period.

**SO START SEARCHING!**

Exclusions: no persons employed by the Justice Coalition, Sonny's, nor their families are eligible.

OUR EMPLOYEES ARE THE  
 BEST IN THE BUSINESS  
 FOR 46 YEARS



**W.W. GAY MECHANICAL CONTRACTOR, INC.**

**388-2696**