

**YOUTH CRIME WATCH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY**  
**"SPOTLIGHT" ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**  
**DECEMBER 2007 EDITION**  
*HAPPY HOLIDAYS!*

**Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County** school programs (clubs) are being very proactive in coordinating and implementing a plethora of youth crime prevention initiatives in their schools. YCW of Miami-Dade County Coordinators have conducted several YCW Introduction (Reporting Crimes) presentations at the schools' First Organizational YCW Club Meetings and Installation Assemblies.

**The Miami-Dade Red Ribbon Week Campaign (October 23-21)** was once again an astounding success on the essential initiative of educating MDCPS students on Drug Prevention. Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County along with other law enforcement/crime prevention agencies visited a multitude of schools to conduct Drug Prevention assemblies & presentations. Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County alone served 9,090 students by conducting 47 Drug Prevention presentations in assemblies & classrooms; McGruff the Crime Dog participated in most of the Elementary school assemblies. Numerous YCW school programs spearheaded their schools' Red Ribbon Week Campaigns. Special kudos goes out to the YCW School Programs of Edison Park Elementary, Henry M. Flagler Elementary, Silver Bluff Elementary, Phillis Wheatley Elementary, Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center, Lake Stevens Middle, and Ronald Reagan/Doral Senior High for their superlative efforts in coordinating the Red Ribbon Week Campaign at their respected schools.

**The redesigned Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County website** is up and running. The address is [www.youthcrimewatch-miamidade.com](http://www.youthcrimewatch-miamidade.com). Learn more about Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County by visiting the website. There is a wealth of information on the site that includes: YCW components, goals, curriculums, activities, program implementation, awards, forms, events, and even youth crime prevention educational handouts. You can also log on to the websites of Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County supporters & collaborators in the Crime Prevention Links section . We wholeheartedly thank Danielle Mickey of Lucidus Corporation for her webmaster expertise in redeveloping the YCW of Miami-Dade County Website. So log on to [www.youthcrimewatch-miamidade.com](http://www.youthcrimewatch-miamidade.com); It is simply out of site!!!!!!

**Holiday Safety** is of the utmost importance because the holidays is a time when children & adults are more vulnerable to be victims of theft and other crimes. People shop more at this time of year than at most other times.

Therefore, the following are some resourceful Safe Shopping tips for children to review with their parents:

Tell a security guard or someone who works at the store if you see a bag or package that doesn't seem as if it belongs to anyone.

Keep careful track of all your bags and other packages. If you leave one behind, it could get stolen.

Be sure not to buy more than you can carry safely; it's very hard to walk when you can't see. If you need to buy a lot in one place, divide it up with the rest of your family, or see if someone who works at the store can help you carry it to your car.

Know your home phone number and address, and your parents' work and cell phone numbers, or write these numbers on a card and carry it with you.

Have a plan if you get separated from your parents. Know where to meet them and how to get in touch with them if you can't find them.

Be careful of strangers. If someone you don't know offers anything to you or asks you to go somewhere with him or her, run away and tell your parents or a trusted adult immediately.

Keep these tips in mind and have fun shopping with your family.

*Resource: National Crime Prevention Council*

## **YCW School News- *October/November 2007***

**Silver Bluff Elementary's** YCW school program have been very instrumental in creating and promoting a safe school environment. They effectively manage the Reporting Crimes/Warning Signs component of their YCW program by having student members rotating morning posts every two weeks and are extremely proactive in reporting incidents that occur. They also spearheaded a fundraising drive for UNICEF with the help of the school patrols. The groups collected a total of \$240.00. During Red Ribbon Week, the YCW student members verbally presented Drug Prevention/Red Ribbon History educational information during the morning announcements. YCW School Advisor Leila Germtoth and her YCW student members deserve a safety gold medal for their youth crime prevention ingenuity at Silver Bluff Elementary.

**Michael Krop Senior High's** YCW School Program coordinated a school-wide Domestic Violence campaign. They started the campaign by spearheading a Clothesline Project. 49 YCW student members stayed after schools to design shirts in honor of domestic violence victims. The shirts were displayed in the front of the school. A parent noticed the shirts and commented on the importance for students to observed this and open up. The parent was a victim herself. The student who were putting up the shirts stood there in amazement as she shared part of her story.

Also in part of the school's successful Domestic Violence education initiative, Alexis Wilson of Miami-Dade Schools Police conducted a moving Domestic Violence presentation to students and faculty. Her personal story and insight motivated several female students to discuss their domestic violence situation to school counselors and teachers for assistance and guidance. We thank YCW School Advisor Kim Ferreira and her YCW student members for their leadership and inspiration in implementing this invaluable campaign.

**Phillis Wheatley Elementary's** YCW School Program did a remarkable job in taking the lead in implementing the school's Red Ribbon Week campaign. A mass amount of Red Ribbon Week posters & messages were displayed throughout the entire school campus. The premier portion of the campaign was a successful Red Ribbon Week parade in the school neighborhood which preceded a Red Ribbon Rally in the school cafeteria. McGruff the Crime Dog led the parade and YCW of Miami-Dade County Coordinators presented on Drug Prevention at the rally. We thank YCW School Advisors Lastazer Hammett and Shanease Grant and their YCW student members for their enlightening Red Ribbon spirit.

### **YCW at Youth-Oriented Community Events *October/November 2007***

**MDPD Cutler Ridge District "Candle Light Walk & Stand Against Crime" March & Rally on Friday, October 12 (*March participation & McGruff the Crime Dog appearance*)**

**Commissioner Audrey Edmonson's "Fun Day" Community Event on Saturday, October 27 (*CCW/YCW Materials Exhibit Booth & McGruff the Crime Dog appearance*)**

**City of Miami Lakes' "Bike Rodeo" Community Event on Saturday, November 3 (*CCW/YCW Materials Exhibit Booth & McGruff the Crime Dog appearance*)**

**City of Surfside's Crime Prevention Fair on Thursday, November 15 (*CCW/YCW Materials Exhibit Booth*)**

**The Falls Shopping Center's Holiday Parade on Saturday, November 17 (*McGruff the Crime Dog appearance*)**

### **YCW School Assemblies & Events- *December 2007 & January 2008***

- \* *Bullying Prevention classroom presentations at Edison Park Elementary on Monday, December 3 at 8:45 a.m.*
- \* *Holiday Safety classroom presentations at Thena Crowder Elementary on Monday, December 3 at 11:00 a.m.*

- \* *Holiday Safety classroom presentations at Thena Crowder Elementary on Tuesday, December 4 at 9:00 a.m.*
- \* *Anger Management classroom presentations at South Miami Middle on Wednesday, December 5 at 11:30 a.m.*
- \* *YCW Introduction (Reporting Crimes) Presentation at First Organizational Club Meeting at Orchard Villa Elementary on Wednesday, December 5 at 1:00 p.m.*
- \* *Holiday Safety classroom presentations at Thena Crowder Elementary on Thursday, December 6 at 9:00 a.m.*
- \* *YCW Introduction (Reporting Crimes) & Bullying Prevention presentations in PTA Meeting at Winston Park K-8 Center on Tuesday, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.*
- \* *Anger Management classroom presentations at Edison Park Elementary on Monday, January 7 & Tuesday, January 8 at 11:30 a.m.*
- \* *YCW Bullying Prevention Assemblies including McGruff the Crime Dog at West Laboratory Elementary on Tuesday, January 8 at 8:30 a.m.*
- \* *Anger Management classroom presentations at Thena Crowder Elementary on Tuesday, January 8 at 1:00 p.m.*
- \* *Bullying Prevention classroom presentations at E.W.F. Stirrup Elementary on Wednesday, January 9 at 9:30 a.m.*
- \* *Anger Management classroom presentations at Edison Park Elementary on Wednesday, January 9 & Thursday, January 10 at 11:00 a.m.*
- \* *Anger Management classroom presentations at F.S. Tucker Elementary on Thursday, January 10 at 11:15 a.m.*
- \* ***YCW of Miami-Dade Parade at Coral City Middle on Friday, January 11 at 8:30 a.m.***
- \* *YCW Bullying Prevention Assemblies at South Miami Heights Elementary on Tuesday, January 15 at 8:45 a.m.*
- \* *YCW Introduction (Reporting Crimes) Presentation at First Organizational Club Meeting on Wednesday, January 16 at 9:00 a.m.*

- \* *YCW Installation Assembly at Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center on Friday, January 18 at 7:30 a.m.*
  
- \* *Anger Management classroom presentations at Thena Crowder Elementary on Tuesday, January 22 at 1:00 p.m. & Thursday, January 24 at 11:30 a.m.*

**YCW Weekly Award Recipients- *October & November 2007***

**Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County recognized as National Crime Prevention Council's "Crime Prevention Program of the Year"  
*October 1-5***

**YCW School of the Week *October 8-12*  
Lakeview Elementary**

**YCW Advisor of the Week *October 15-19*  
Gianeris Silva of Ronald Reagan/Doral Senior High**

**YCW School of the Week *October 22-26*  
Thena Crowder Elementary**

**YCW School of the Week *October 29-November 2*  
Phillis Wheatley Elementary**

**YCW School of the Week *November 5-9*  
Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center**

**YCW School of the Week *November 12-16*  
Gulfstream Elementary**

**YCW Advisor of the Week *November 19-23*  
Lynda Jimenez of Gulfstream Elementary**

**YCW School of the Week *November 26-30*  
Silver Bluff Elementary**

***Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County is a program of  
Citizens' Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County***

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***Youth Crime Watch of Miami-Dade County is partially funded by:  
Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Miami-Dade Board of County  
Commissioners***