

# FLORIDA SHERIFFS ALL POINTS BULLETIN



VOLUME 16 • NUMBER 2 • SUMMER 2006

## Computer Detective's Foray Into "MySpace" Leads to Capture of Homeland Security Official

**Kudos to computer crime units for their tireless efforts**

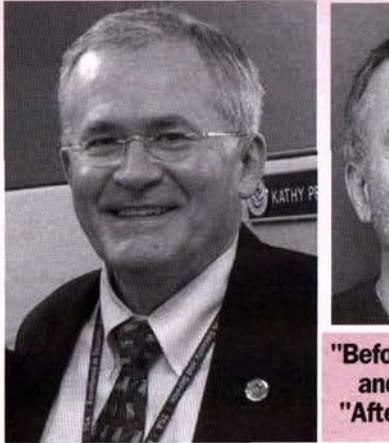
By Carrie Rodgers

Polk County Sheriff's Office Public Information

Detective Charlie Gates of the Polk County Sheriff's Computer Crimes Unit fired up his agency-issued laptop computer during the second week of March 2006 with the intent of setting up an account on the popular My Space Web site.

One of Detective Gates' primary duties is investigating online sexual predators, and his unit knew the My Space Web site was a potential place where online predators might lurk. Gates wanted to use the profile of a 14-year-old girl from Lake Wales that the unit had had success with in the past on AOL sites, so he logged into the AOL account to get the profile information. The Instant Messaging (IM) name on the profile was "lakewalescutie."

While Gates logged into My Space and prepared the profile there,



Brian Doyle

someone using the IM name of "bkkhhome1" sent him an AOL instant message. Although Gates was not online to chat with anyone, his investigative instinct kicked in and he returned the chat request.

Little did he know that his actions would result in the arrest of an extremely high-profile federal government official.

**"Here was a man with top U.S. security clearance, and in one of the highest positions within Homeland Security in Washington, telling a 14-year-old girl ... in explicit and graphic sexual detail what he'd like to do to her."**

*Way too much information*

Within minutes of initiating the online chat, the man chatting with Gates (who, of course, was posing as a 14-year-old girl) told Gates that his name was Brian Doyle and that he was a deputy press secretary for

the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Gates had heard many braggarts lie to impress others online, so he was skeptical. But when the man continued to tell Gates his home address, home tele-

phone number and work telephone number, Gates suspected he was telling the truth.

When Gates went in to work the next day and ran the man's information, it surprisingly checked out. During several subsequent online chats and telephone conversations with Brian Doyle, Gates and his partner, Detective Sandy Scherer, began to build their case against him. They also notified their supervisors, who in turn notified the Inspector General (IG) Office of Homeland Security,

that they were investigating one of their men.

Doyle gave out information so freely, they were concerned about what else he might possibly be doing with the sensitive information he dealt with on a daily basis. Here was a man with top U.S. security clearance, and in one of the highest positions within Homeland Security in Washington, telling a 14-year-old girl online and over the phone in explicit and graphic sexual detail what he'd like to do to her. He also emailed her 16 different digital

*Continued on page 4*

## Youth PALs, Listen Up

The Lake County Police Activities League Cycling Team is hosting the inaugural "Lake Louisa Junior Classic," August 19, and youth from all over the state (and beyond) are invited. Junior races will be held from 8 a.m. to noon, with age groups divided by: Under 9, 10-13, 14-15 and 16-17. Online registration is available at: [www.sommersports.com](http://www.sommersports.com). There will also be on-site registration, Friday, August 18, from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Prizes are offered in all age groups, with separate prizes for girls and boys.

An awards ceremony and picnic will follow the event, from noon until 4 p.m. The BBQ is provided by the Lake County Sheriff's Office and all proceeds will benefit the Lake County Police Activities League.

Find lodging information (cabins and group sites) at [www.floridastateparks.org/lakelouisa](http://www.floridastateparks.org/lakelouisa), or call 352-394-3969. For more information, visit: [www.sommersports.com](http://www.sommersports.com), or contact LCSO Deputy Tom Brown at: 352-536-5480.

## Sheriff Top Employer

Leon County Sheriff Larry Campbell received two awards recently for helping Sheriff's Office employees who are serving in the military. The National Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve recognized him for adopting personnel policies that make it easier for employees to serve in the National Guard and Reserve. About a dozen LCSO employees have served in Iraq and Afghanistan and Sheriff Campbell has made sure that they don't lose pay and other benefits while serving. Sgt. Ron O'Brien, who

served in Iraq, nominated his Sheriff, who is now in the running for the national Freedom Award. Congratulations, Sheriff Campbell.

## Sheriff and Advocate

Seminole County Sheriff Don Eslinger was recently tapped to serve on the national Board of Directors of the Treatment Advocacy Center (TAC) in Arlington, VA. The TAC is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to removing barriers to treatment of severe mental illnesses. The group educates legislators and the media on the benefits of assisted treatment in an effort to decrease homelessness, jailings, suicide, violence and other devastating consequences caused by lack of treatment.

Sheriff Eslinger has long promoted mental health reform. He was one of the first to sound the alarm that county jails were becoming "treatment facilities" for those suffering from mental illnesses, since Florida closed so many of its mental hospitals and also led the charge in Baker Act Reform. He was invited to testify before Congress at hearings on two bills concerning the diversion of people with severe mental illnesses from the criminal justice system.

APB would like to offer a hearty congratulations to Sheriff Eslinger on this new appointment.

*For more information on the Treatment Advocacy Center, visit their Web site: [www.psychlaws.org](http://www.psychlaws.org).*

## Law Enforcement and Citizens Combine Efforts at CIT Conference

The Florida Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Coalition is hosting this year's National CIT Conference in Orlando,

Sept 25-27, 2006. The Theme is "Community Collaborations Making a Difference for People with Mental Illnesses."

The conference is designed to highlight effective community partnerships between the law enforcement, courts systems, consumers and families. In addition to law enforcement, the conference agenda will be geared to behavioral health professionals, judges, court personnel, advocates and the general public.

For more information on the program, contact Michele Saunders, 407-574-7182, or E-mail her: [michele.fpic@adelphia.net](mailto:michele.fpic@adelphia.net). There's also a helpful website: <http://cit.fmhi.usf.edu>. ☀

## FLORIDA SHERIFFS ALL POINTS BULLETIN

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## EDITOR'S INSIGHT

### The Face of Young Victims of Sex Crimes

By Julie S. Bettinger



#### Still no answers

I've continued to ask that question over the years. At times, I've blamed it on ignorance – the betrayer didn't realize how absolutely devastating his actions could be, including leading his victim into a life of dangerous promiscuity, self-destructive drug use and crime. As I met other survivors of sexual abuse, I blamed it on a sick pattern, passed down from generation to generation; like it was part of their genetic makeup.

Still, the perpetrator was an adult; the victim, a child. They should know better, I reasoned.

A new twist in my pondering of this question came up recently when I learned about the case of a high-level Homeland Security official trying to lure what he thought to be a 14-year-old girl, going by the MySpace identity of "lakewales-cutie." As you may have read in our cover story, justice prevailed. Thanks to creative tactics and persistent efforts, the Polk County Sheriff's Office Computer Crimes Unit nailed Brian Doyle, deputy press secretary for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

So what's his excuse? He's not only an adult and "should know better," he's a trained top security official who should really know better, including what was at stake (for his intended victim as well as himself, his family, friends and co-workers).

My mind can barely comprehend this increased level of betrayal.

Unfortunately, it seems, there are many more Brian Doyles out there. Business is at an all-time high for Computer Crime Units all over the country. In fact, the Polk County Sheriff's Office has expanded its online patrol and netted 20 online-predators in a recent sting. All these men arrived at a house planning to have sex with whom they thought was a minor they met online.

Those charged with soliciting sex from a child (or other offenses) included theme-park workers, a law student and a retiree. The correspondence took place over a period of six weeks, with detec-

tives posing as boys and girls ages 13 through 15. Polk County Sheriff Grady Judd said many of those arrested acknowledged the risk and even said they had been suspicious about walking into a bust. But all were willing to pay the price. And somehow, they were able to justify their actions.

Having met the faces that represent their intended victims and witnessed the destruction that this kind of behavior can have on young lives – a lifetime of hurt – I still don't get it. And perhaps in this life, I never will.

But, I'm grateful for all of the tragedies that will be averted as a result of tedious and tricky work by our computer crime units. You're the unsung heroes of today. Thanks for saving young lives and future generations.

Thanks also to people like Ken Wooden, founder of Child Lures Prevention ([www.childluresprevention.com](http://www.childluresprevention.com)). The Florida Sheriffs Association invited Wooden to make a presentation at a summer conference years ago and FSA was among the first law-enforcement organizations to endorse his program. He has since expanded his work and it's receiving wide acclaim as a "research-based initiative that is proven to be effective in safeguarding children and youth."

Ken, please keep up the good work. Perhaps we'll see a slow down in the sexual predator side of our business...and that would be a good thing.

*Julie*

#### Florida Sheriffs Association Calendar 2006-2007



- FSA Annual Summer Conference, North Daytona Beach Hilton Resort, Daytona Beach, July 30-Aug. 2, 2006
- FSA's 15th Annual Southeastern Car Evaluation and Fleet Management Training Conference, Tampa Airport Marriott, October 2-6, 2006
- FSA Jail Administrators' Workshop, Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, December 10-14
- FSA 2007 Mid-Winter Conference, Sandestin Golf & Beach Resort, January 28-31, 2007

# Capture of Homeland Security Official

continued from page 1

pornographic images and movies.

## The capture

On April 4, 2006, three days before Doyle's 56th birthday, Detective Sandy Scherer and her supervisor, Lt. Garry James, flew to Silver Spring, Maryland, to meet with local law-enforcement officers and officials with the Homeland Security IG Office. Scherer, posing as "lakewalescutie," had called Doyle at work earlier that day and told him that her mother would not be home that night and that she had finally obtained that Web cam Doyle had encouraged her to purchase so that she could send nude photos of herself to him. Upon hearing that, Doyle promised the "girl" that he'd go straight home from work and wait for her online.

Sitting in an undercover vehicle just down the street from Doyle's home that night around 7:00, Scherer used her agency laptop and got online. While she chatted with Doyle, officials from the IG Office and deputies from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office knocked on his door. Doyle came to the door, leaving his chat screen with Detective Scherer up and running on his computer. Doyle went into custody peacefully while the federal agency served a search warrant on his home, seizing, among other things, his personal computer. They would end up conducting their own investigation into his activities.

As Doyle was led in handcuffs to the waiting patrol car, his arrest was recorded by several local news cameras that had camped outside his

home, and the images were broadcast all over the world. The Polk County Sheriff's Office – miles away – had sent out a media release at 8:00 p.m. notifying the media of his arrest, and within minutes they arrived on his lawn in Maryland.

Back in Florida, the media arrived in droves for the 9:00 p.m. news conference that same evening in Lakeland, which was broadcast live on several local and national news networks. That week, Sheriff Grady Judd provided dozens of television interviews, including programs on CNN, Fox News, MSNBC, CBS News and Good Morning America.

## Frenzy continues

The media feeding frenzy isn't over yet. The agency continues to receive phone calls from New York, Miami and Washington, D.C., wanting updates on the Doyle court hearings. His extradition to Polk County for his first appearance hearing was big news in Florida, as the cameras recorded his every move – the walk into and out of the courtroom, the walk into book-in, the fingerprinting and processing at the jail and the lawyers posting bond. And, should the case go to trial in Polk County, his appearance will likely be one of the larger media events to happen in the county seat of Bartow.

For now, our detectives will continue to chat online with men like Doyle, who use computer technology to seduce and hurt children. They will build their cases and file charges and put more of these predators in jail. It would be nice if all our cases ended like this one – with the offender behind bars, or at home without a computer and mandated by the court to stay away from children, awaiting trial on charges of Transmission of

Harmful Material to a Minor and Using a Computer to Seduce a Child. Most assuredly, they will not all be as sensational, from a media standpoint, as this case. But being propelled into the national spotlight had one positive outcome – it helped make more parents aware of just how vulnerable their children are. And if this case being told on national television prevents just one child from becoming a victim, then all the hot lights and early morning tapings and media trucks parked in the grass were well worth it.

To computer crimes detectives everywhere: keep up the great work.

Contact Carrie Rogers via e-mail:  
[CRodgers@polksheriff.org](mailto:CRodgers@polksheriff.org). ♦



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# Clay's Juvenile Crime Deputies Spend Summer Nights "Party Crashing"

By Mary Justino

Clay County Sheriff's Office  
Public Information Coordinator

Summer months...open house parties...drunk driving...late-night criminal mischief...curfew and probation violations.

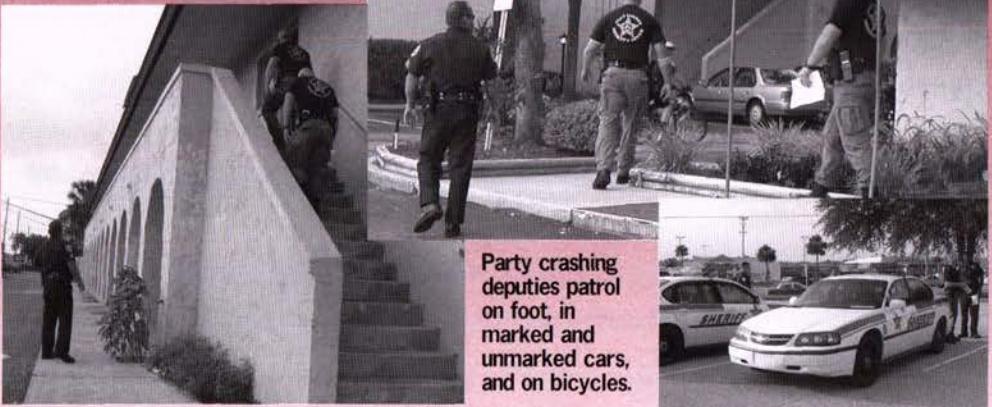
What's the common thread in Clay County? The underage 21 crowd.

The solution is a coordinated effort by a team of Clay County Sheriff's Office Deputies to locate teens and young adults and to strictly enforce curfew and drinking ordinances. Deputies involved are from the agency's Juvenile Crime Unit and spend their non-summer months as school resource officers. They know these teens, they know their hang-outs and they are coming to the party.

Prompted by a recent increase in school and auto vandalism, rumors of excessive teen alcohol consumption and reports of "over-the-top" open house parties, Clay County Sheriff Rick Beseler decided it was time to take back the night.

"Law-abiding residents have to know they can go to bed and not wake up to find their neighborhoods trashed," Beseler says. "We aren't talking about a large cross section of our local teens. What we are seeing is the same small pockets of groups committing offenses over and over. They are our target," he adds.

Just last month an incident occurred so extreme that it put this



Party crashing deputies patrol on foot, in marked and unmarked cars, and on bicycles.



Clay County Sheriff's Office utilizes their school resource officers during the summer months keeping tabs on kids. The Juvenile Crime Unit deputies above review the operations plan and the laws governing Open House Parties, the curfew, etc. Photos by Mary Justino, Clay County Sheriff's Office.

initiative – already in the planning stages – on the fast track. Thirty teenagers piled into an Orange Park home and, along with the owner's 17-year-old son, partied till dawn while the homeowners were out of the country. One teen from the party stole a neighbor's truck and ran over another teenager in the street – not once, but three times. Miraculously, the victim survived. The driver was arrested, as was the underage party host. While state statute applies only to suspects 18 and older, Clay County's Open House Party ordinance has no age limit.

## DJJ in the mix

Another component of this operation involves the Department of Juvenile Justice. As Deputies encounter teenagers at malls, parking lots and 24-hour restaurants, they conduct NCIC and FCIC checks on them. If a DJJ or court-ordered sanction is on record and violated, the teen is arrested.

The drinking teens often are located after a resident calls the CCSO Communications Center to complain about a disturbance. Deputies then arrive en masse to "crash the party," finding students intoxicated on alcohol purchased by their of-age friends. On one recent Friday night, deputies arrested one adult for hosting an open house party, arrested three juveniles for possession of alcohol, cited six for curfew violations and served three juvenile pick-up orders for probation violations.

Sgt. Darin Lee planned that evening's effort and says the reactions of those arrested is what is surprising. "They (teenage party

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## "Party Crashing"

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goers) act as if they are completely ignorant of the drinking-age laws and don't understand why we can't just release them after they are caught with alcohol or intoxicated," Lee says. "They beg us not to call their parents. But, of course, we do for their own safety and the safety of the community."

Even more encouraging are the

steps being taken by Clay County judges to make sure the arrests stick and the message hits home. One defendant was recently sentenced by County Judge Timothy Collins to 19 days in the county jail on an open house party conviction. The same judge also issued two no-bond warrants for the arrest of two adults on VOP Open House Party. In addition, store clerks who sell alcohol to minors are facing jail time; no longer mere pre-trial intervention once common in

those cases.

These "party crashing" deputies will be at work throughout the summer months, developing sources and collecting intelligence about planned parties. Their work will help to protect these juveniles from their own poor judgment and shield residents from the teens' often illegal behavior.

Contact Mary Justino via e-mail: [mjustino@claysheriff.com](mailto:mjustino@claysheriff.com). \*

## Pinellas SO Technology Projects Make Deputies More Efficient

By Sgt. Jim Bordner  
Public Information Officer  
Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Writing traffic tickets and running tags are two of the more routine law-enforcement functions. But now, the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office has integrated verbal response and mobile ticket-writing technology into these routine duties for better officer efficiency and productivity.

Currently, all Pinellas County Sheriff's Office's patrol cars are equipped with a laptop computer for dispatch and messaging purposes. These laptop computers use cellular telephone technology to receive dispatched calls and transmit messages while deputies are on patrol.

### *Once manual, now electronic*

A function of the laptop computer allows deputies to simply enter a license plate number and receive registration information as well as check to see if the vehicle has been reported stolen. Software designed specifically for the Pinellas County



Verbal response and mobile ticket writing technology are increasing officer efficiency and productivity at Pinellas SO.

Sheriff's Office provides a verbal response within seconds indicating the make, model, year and color of the vehicle to which the tag is assigned. The Advanced Audible Data Messenger (AADM) software then automatically conducts a driver license check and an inquiry to determine if the registered owner has an active arrest warrant or even if the person is a known terrorist. AADM software also includes an alert tone and verbal confirmation of the tag in the event it or the car has been

reported stolen.

"The greatest benefit of providing the information to the Deputy verbally is the prevention of unnecessary distraction while driving," says Pinellas County Sheriff Jim Coats.

Part of this technology upgrade involves the installation of Mobile Ticket Writers. Originally, only deputies assigned to full-time traffic or DUI enforcement duties had Mobile Ticket Writers installed in

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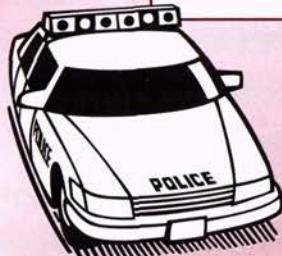


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## Pinellas SO Technology

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their cars. Since that time an additional 490 Pinellas County Sheriff's Office cars have been outfitted with this equipment.

The Mobile Ticket Writers are an addition to the existing laptop computer and involve the installation of hardware, including a magstripe reader and an impact printer. A federal grant provided funding for this equipment as well as some additional software. The new equipment, along with existing AADM software, will allow Deputies to complete a Uniform Traffic citation, a DUI citation, a Written Warning citation or even a Florida Uniform Boating Citation in the car. This initiative makes Deputies more efficient by reducing the amount of time spent handwriting traffic tickets.

### Just fill in the blanks

After stopping a traffic violator, a Deputy uses the citation template on the computer screen. The information from the last tag and name checked will automatically appear in

the appropriate blocks. If someone other than the registered owner is driving the vehicle, the Deputy must only slide the person's driver license through the magstripe reader to perform a computer check on him or her.

After completing a driver license check and warrant check, the AADM software will automatically enter the driver information on the citation. The deputy then must enter the location of the violation and select the offense committed from a preformed drop-down list. Once this information is entered, the deputy inserts a Uniform Traffic Citation into the printer and finishes the process. The citation is now ready to present to the violator. If a second citation is in order, the deputy need only change the violation and insert another citation into the printer.

The ability to complete and print a citation or citations in this way has reduced the time for traffic enforcement significantly. "Stopping a traffic violator took 20 minutes or more," says Traffic Enforcement Squad Deputy Matthew Ingoglia. "Now, it's frequently finished in five to six minutes."

The time saved is not limited to that of the deputy. With the implementation of the Mobile Ticket Writ-

ers, violators are released sooner than in the past and in most cases take along a more legible copy of a traffic citation than if it were handwritten.

After a citation is printed, data is electronically transferred to the Records Section saving clerical time traditionally involved in manual entry. Because the deputy on patrol did not have to handwrite information onto the citation that would later be typed into a computer by a clerk, the Mobile Ticket Writers also reduces the opportunity for errors.

Mobile Ticket Writers include the addition of software to complete and print Florida Traffic Crash Reports and related diagrams while at a crash scene. According to information provided by the Florida Division of Motor Vehicles, Pinellas County has almost 788,000 drivers and 1,120,000 registered vehicles.

By working more efficiently through technology, Pinellas County Deputies have more time to focus on other law enforcement duties while eliminating driver distractions on our roadways.

Contact Sgt. Jim Borner via e-mail, [jbordnerjr@pcsonet.com](mailto:jbordnerjr@pcsonet.com), or call (727) 582-6221. ♦

## Now Playing at a Book-in Facility Near You

By Carrie Rodgers

Polk County Sheriff's Office Public Information

Residents who are booking their loved ones out of the Polk County Jail are now being kept well-informed, and even entertained, thanks to the installation of a jail



booking information video that plays continuously on a television posted there. The idea originated when the detention support personnel, work-

ing the booking window, voiced their concerns to supervisors that the general public constantly walked up to the window and asked the same questions over and over. They were starting to impede the progress of the booking facility. The typical questions asked included: When is my loved one getting booked out? What takes so long?

The agency's Audio-Visual Production Unit, which is fairly new, produced the 15-minute video

using civilian personnel as hosts and featuring Sheriff Judd's greeting and introduction. The video, which runs on a continuous loop, shows the booking-in and booking-out processes from start to finish. Readers who are familiar with jail facilities know that these can take hours per inmate, which is often confusing to the general public. The video helps illustrate each step an inmate takes – from the initial medical review, to the issue of hygiene kits, to the assignment into one of our two jail facilities. Likewise, it goes into the same detail of the booking-out process when an inmate is bonded out.

So far, the video has met with positive reviews. Meanwhile, the booking clerks are free to help their customers without having to stop and explain each step of the process to each new person and answer the same questions over and over. The video has been so successful that plans are now in place to set up informational videos on television screens in each of the four district substations throughout the agency.

In this age of new technology, the Polk County Sheriff's Office is eager to use any means necessary to keep the public well-informed.

Contact Carrie Rogers via e-mail:  
CRodgers@polksheriff.org. ☀

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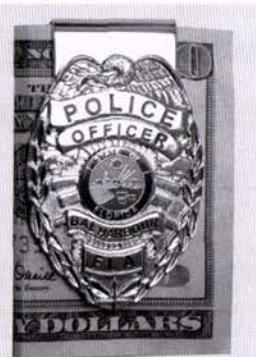
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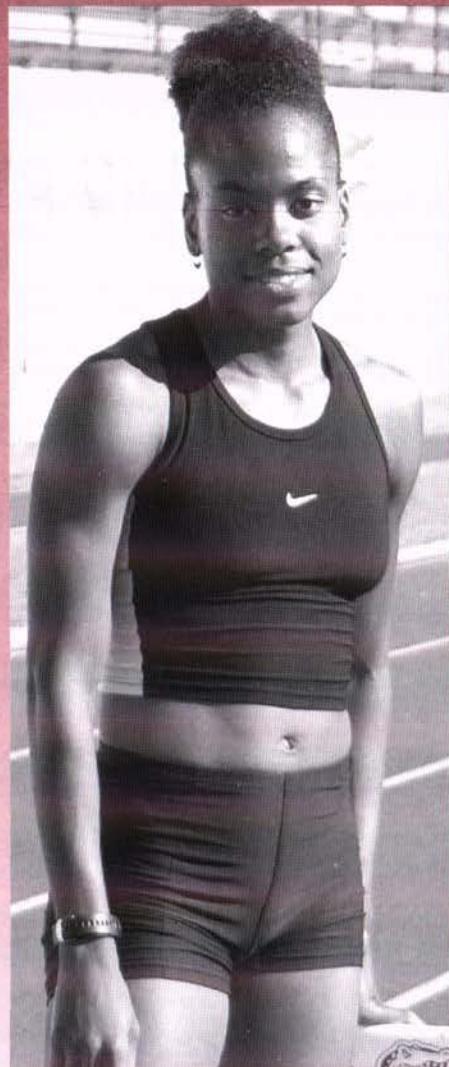
# Alachua County SO's Olympic Hopeful, Cara Evans

Working full-time in the challenging field of law enforcement is enough to sap the energy out of even the most youthful among us. So, who would think of combining a Sheriff's Office career with training for – say – the Olympics?

Meet Cara (pronounced "Car-uh") Evans, a 27-year-old U.S. track and field Olympic contender. Evans, the assistant Teen Court Coordinator at Alachua County Sheriff's Office, qualified for nationals this past April. She ran 57.54 seconds in the 400-meter hurdles. For those of us who don't know much about the event, that's one time around the track, while leaping over 10 hurdles.

It seems Evans has a few other hurdles to overcome before making it to the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, China. For starters, she has to keep competing. That requires weekend travel to sites where "unattached" athletes can compete – mostly with college teams. It's not a sport like football, where you have programs and activity all over the country. She often travels to destinations such as Arizona or California, though occasionally the meets will be within driving distance from Gainesville, at locations such as Auburn or Atlanta.

Each year, Evans also must earn her spot. Then, in 2008, her times for the Olympic Trials must be good enough to make the top three.



In addition to training for the 2008 Olympics, Cara Evans works with the Teen Court program at the Alachua County Sheriff's Office.

Evans has come close before. In the 2004 trials, she was ranked 12th. It's important to note, too, that age 30 is the "peak" for most track-and-field athletes, which means she'll have an edge in 2008.

## Making ends meet

The fact that the peak comes relatively late in life usually narrows the competition, Evans says, as not many people are able (or willing) to make the sacrifices needed to maintain the rigors of training.

For instance, Evans' day begins at the gym lifting weights at 6 a.m.



She is at work by 9. She then takes a mid afternoon break for a three-hour track workout, and returns to work the early evening shift until around 8 p.m.

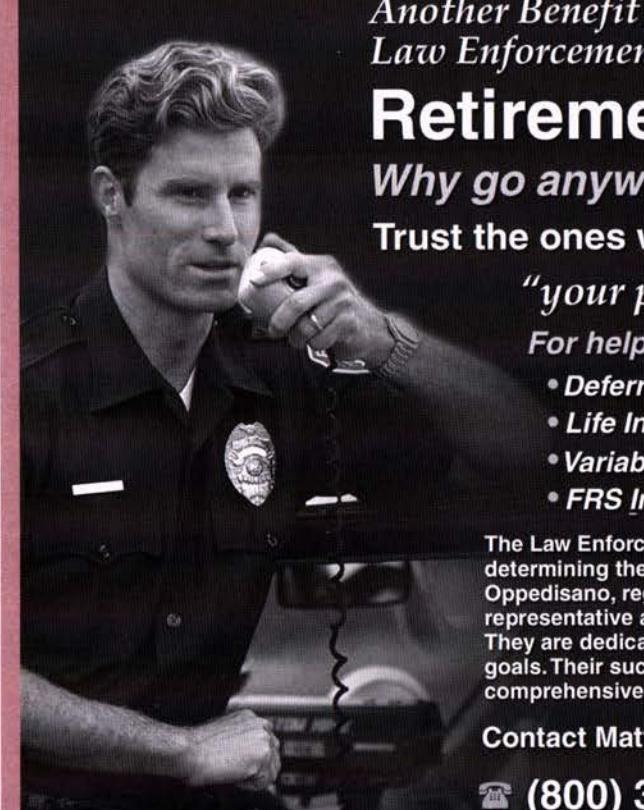
"It's quite draining," Evans says. She tries to surround herself with other athletes in training to stay focused and not get discouraged.

Finding a sponsor would make the going easier, of course, but to date she hasn't attracted the attention of a sportswear company like Nike or Reebok. And, while some athletes are supported by

*Continued on page 13*

## Support for Cara Evans

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office is hoping to recruit sponsors for employee Cara Evans while she trains for the Olympics. If you'd like to help, send checks payable to ACSO Employee Fund, to the attention of: Aimee Rush, Alachua County Sheriff's Office, 2621 S.E. Hawthorne Road, Gainesville, FL 32641-7546.



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# "Pawsabilities" Unleashed

By Lt. Patricia Brown  
Corrections Division  
Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office

The Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office Drug Farm population grew by two in late December 2005. That's when two 8-week-old Labrador retrievers, Tivo and Tash, arrived at the Drug Farm for training – all the way from California.

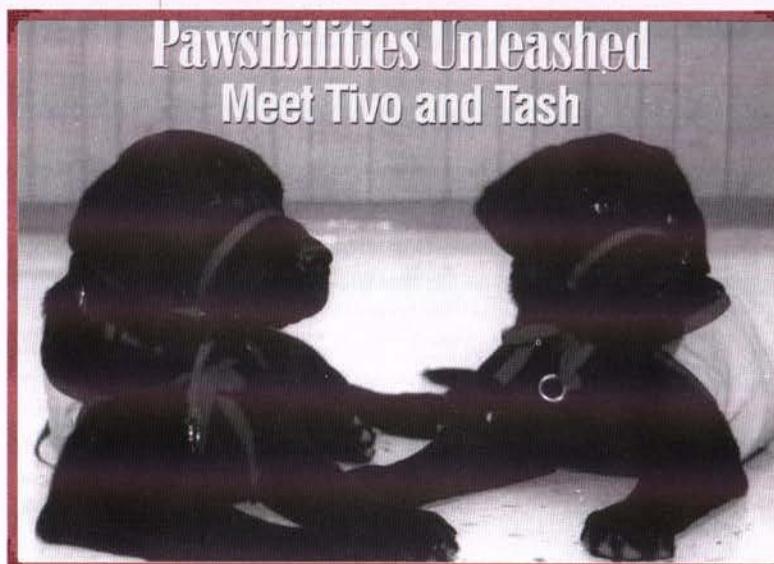
The Sheriff' Drug Farm is one of five substance-abuse awareness programs to provide a continuum of treatment alternatives to traditional incarceration for drug-and alcohol-addicted offenders. It's a unique collaborative effort between the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, State Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, the judiciary, clerk's office and the Florida Department of Corrections' probation and parole division.

The Palm Beach Sheriff's Drug Farm provides intensive drug treatment within a minimum security jail setting. It is located on the same grounds as the stockade, also operated by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office.

The concept of training service dogs at the farm was the brainchild of Palm Beach County's Public Defender Carey Haugwout and Sheriff Ric Bradshaw. The Public Defender's Office, in conjunction with Animals 101 Canine Companions Inc., worked tirelessly to bring the program to fruition.



From left, D.I. R. Butts, Crystal Baca, Christine Blake , Sgt. R. Harris, D.I. A. Rollins, Jennifer Hall, Lt. J. Jackson , Laura Doer and D.I. K. Torrence.



## Puppies on patrol

Female Drug Farm residents will train the puppies under the guidance of the Southeast Regional Puppy Program. The animals will live inside the Drug Farm dorm. Tivo and Tash will receive 14 months of training, after which they will transfer to Orlando for advanced training. Upon completion, the two will become skilled companion dogs to assist disabled citizens.

In addition to the benefits the dogs will provide the disabled, they also are being used to teach new skills and responsibilities to residents. The

pilot program, named "Pawsabilities Unleashed," was so named as the residents can only explore the possibilities with their little "paws" as companions.

The program has been implemented at no cost to the Sheriff's Office and taxpayers of Palm Beach County, as all supplies and food have been provided by donations and program participants.

The puppies receive regularly scheduled veterinarian care at no cost by Dr. Michael Berkenblit, who is also a social companion for the pups. He volunteers to take the puppies home on the weekends to get them acclimated to real-world surroundings. They accompany him to stores and are exposed to social settings as well as other animals, including his cat.

*For more information, contact Lt. Jeff Jackson at Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Drug Farm: 561/688-4944. ☑*

## **Corrections Brief** **TB Program Meeting**

Sponsors of the Florida Corrections Tuberculosis Program are hosting a gathering of all personnel from corrections, jails, detention facilities and Sheriffs' Offices on July 28 at the Central Florida Reception Center in Orlando.

The FCTP is held twice a year at various locations around the state through a coordinated effort between the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Department of

Corrections, the Florida Sheriffs Association and the American Lung Association of Florida. The goal of the FCTP is to provide a forum for persons from various settings to understand and address the impact TB has on Florida as a result of the offender/inmate population.

Attendance is recommended for all Corrections and Detention Administrators, Health Service Administrators, Risk Managers, Safety Coordinators, Nurses and Physicians working in and around

corrections and public health.

Registration forms can be found online: [http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease\\_ctrl/tb/Calendar-Training\\_Ops/calendar.htm](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/tb/Calendar-Training_Ops/calendar.htm).

For resources related to TB in jails and corrections settings, visit the Florida Department of Health Web site: [www.doh.state.fl.us/diseasectrl/tb](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/diseasectrl/tb), or contact: Toni Lisa Johns, R.N., Disease Control, Bureau of TB & Refugee Health, via e-mail: [Toni\\_Johns@doh.state.fl.us](mailto:Toni_Johns@doh.state.fl.us), or phone: (850) 245-4316. ☀

## **Congrats to Martin SO SWAT Team**

The Martin County Sheriff's Office SWAT team walked away with the top prize at the 13th Annual Southeastern SWAT Competition held this past May in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

Teams from across the southern U.S. competed for trophies, thousands of dollars in prizes and—of course—bragging rights.

SWAT competition is the closest thing to the "real life" adrenaline and stress that the team can endure.

Events in the competition in-



Detective Joe Kakufka takes aim.

cluded: Two Man Challenge, Hostage Rescue, Pistol Shoot-off, Rappel Rescue, Officer Rescue, Clear and Advance, Shotgun Rock, and Sniper Shooting.

Congratulations, Martin SWAT



team members! Thanks for making sure Florida brought home the prize. ☀

## **Alachua County SO's Olympic Hopeful, Cara Evans**

*Continued from page 10*  
their employers, working in public service puts Evans at a disadvantage.

Still, she says Alachua County Sheriff Stephen Oelrich has been very supportive, and so have her co-workers and supervisors. It helps that she's known in the agency. After attending the University of Florida on scholarship, she graduated and went to work with ACSO first in Dispatch, then Records. She's now enjoying working in the diversion program for first-time offenders, called Teen Court.

To keep tabs on Evans, visit the U.S.A. Track & Field Web site: [USATF.org](http://USATF.org). Choose "Stats," at the top, then "Top Marks Lists." Look for the Outdoor Track & Field "Women" link. At last check, Evans was ranked 9th in the U.S.

Contact Cara Evans via e-mail, [clevans@alachuasheriff.org](mailto:clevans@alachuasheriff.org), or call: 352-367-4129 ☀

# Brevard County Offers Ticket Writing Program to other SOs

Swipe technology is being used to buy groceries, access secure office buildings and even to make donations at church. So, why can't law enforcement use it to capture vitals from the back of driver's licenses?

Well, they can. But, until now, the cost for commercially available technology to make it happen well exceeded most county budgets. Costs are estimated to run between \$4,500 and \$7,000 to equip a vehicle using a commercial vendor.

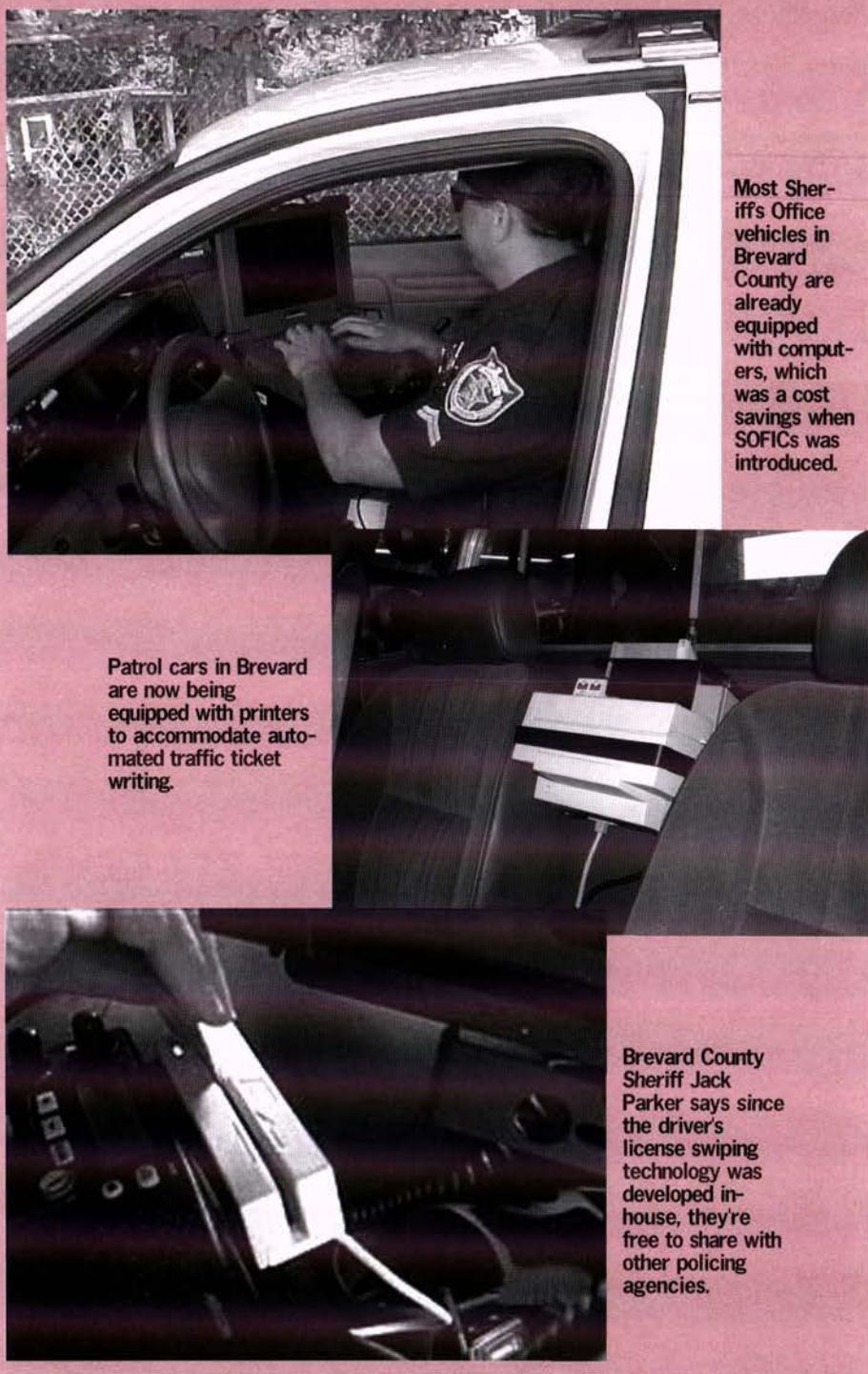
Brevard County Sheriff's Office Information Systems Manager Ray Dils decided an alternative was long overdue. After listening to deputies' frustration, he decided to develop his own automated traffic ticket writing program. The result: the State of Florida Integrated Citation System, or SOFICS.

## Makes sense

Anyone who has ever received a parking or speeding ticket can probably see where there's room for improvement. It's difficult enough to figure out the nature of the charges, much less how you're supposed to pay, or what action you need to take.



*Brevard County Sheriff Jack Parker*



Most Sheriff's Office vehicles in Brevard County are already equipped with computers, which was a cost savings when SOFICS was introduced.

**Patrol cars in Brevard are now being equipped with printers to accommodate automated traffic ticket writing.**

Brevard County Sheriff Jack Parker says since the driver's license swiping technology was developed in-house, they're free to share with other policing agencies.

Think of the government side. All of this must be entered into a computer, at some point, and sent to the county clerk's office. Imagine you're the person trying to decipher the deputy's handwritten driver's license number and other vitals. And picture the stacks and stacks

of paper generated everyday – not to mention the potential for loss between the deputy's patrol car and the final destination.

With SOFICS, which took about six months to develop, deputies on patrol can now swipe the driver's license into their computers, fill in

## TRAINING

(continued from page 14)

a few fields using a letter or two or a pull-down menu, insert a blank citation and print. Four copies are generated, including one for the driver.

Even better: Information from the ticket is automatically sent to the Sheriff's Office records division to be verified. Next, it's transmitted electronically to the court. Talk about savings.

The \$215,000 that Brevard County Sheriff Jack Parker expects to pay to equip vehicles is much

easier to swallow than the \$2.3 million it would have cost using a commercial vendor.

According to Dils, the first prototype of SOFICS was tested in early 2005. BCSO has since hosted demonstrations and is assisting other law-enforcement agencies as they adopt the system at no charge.

Sheriff Parker says that since the technology was developed by a Sheriff's employee, they're free to share it. Dils has created a manual

and CD to ease the transition and reduce training time.

SOFICS continues to receive rave reviews in the field, and since Dils is the creator, he's able to make improvements fairly quickly. At last check, he was working to adapt the technology to fit credit-card size computers used by motorcycle officers.

For more information, contact Ray Dils at the Brevard County Sheriff's Office, via e-mail: [ray.dils@brevardsheriff.com](mailto:ray.dils@brevardsheriff.com). ☀

## Readers Talk Back

Our "K-9 Issue" last time around invited comments from readers who have had personal experience with these uniquely qualified "officers." We asked if readers thought the names of K-9s should be included on our Florida Sheriffs Association Law Enforcement Memorial wall. We thought we'd share what our e-mail and voicemail delivered.

*Lee County Sheriff's Office Investigator Frank Harris called to say:*

I firmly believe that God has a special place in heaven for K-9s, especially those in law enforcement that gave their lives to protect their human law officers and the general public. They certainly deserve our thanks and respect – just as human law officers deserve our thanks and respect. Since we give recognition to the humans who have made the ultimate sacrifice, I believe the K-9s also deserve recognition.

*K-9 Handler Matt Breen, with the Osceola Sheriff's Office, wrote:*

Good Morning. I just finished reading your article regarding K-9 officers and the unique bond between them. I have been a police dog trainer and a certified K-9 evaluator for the state of Florida for many years.

I started my police K-9 career almost 18 years ago. I have trained approximately 100 police dogs that are presently working, retired or were killed in the line of duty. I still participate in training police dogs with my agency and conduct state evaluations for other K-9 teams across the state. I personally have handled and trained five police dogs. All are gone now but I have a place in my heart for each one of them.

In 1996 I was tracking two suspects when my police dog and I became separated. My police dog, which was a German shepherd, K-9 Ajax, made con-

tact with one of the suspects and the violent encounter began.

During the apprehension, K-9 Ajax was held under the water and was drowned. It took several hours to locate the suspect and my dog. I remember having a sick feeling when the suspect was found hiding in a body of water, chest deep with several bite marks on his body. I knew my dog was dead but I was unable to leave the scene until he was found.

After an extensive search by myself and other K-9 handlers, I found my dog dead on the bottom. A day doesn't go by that I don't think of my dog, my partner and my friend. He not only was a police dog he was the protector of my family and kids. My youngest child and Ajax were the best of friends and played together. I even trained Ajax to be the outfielder during baseball practice in my front yard.

It was hard calling my wife and telling her over the phone that Ajax was dead. My kids cried, my wife cried and I cried.

Ajax was cremated and he is home again. He sits in a box by the front door and is still on watch.

I think a police K-9 memorial is long over due. Maybe, a large statue of a handler and his partner with names of our fallen friends. Thanks for your time.

(signed) Matt Breen, K-9 handler for life ☀

## FEEDBACK

**APB invites you to "talk back." If you have a comment about a topic in this publication, or anything else of interest to law enforcement readers, please let us know. Write to: Editor, All Points Bulletin, P.O. Box 12519, Tallahassee, FL 32317-2519, e-mail: [jbettinger@fisheriffs.org](mailto:jbettinger@fisheriffs.org). While we are not able to publish every letter, or answer them personally, we will do our best to get your comments represented in these pages. We reserve the right to edit for space and other considerations. For privacy reasons, we will only publish the initials and city or county of the writer, unless authorization is given.**

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