

# FISHERS POLICE DEPARTMENT

May 2007

Volume 1



## THE CRIME WATCHER

### Is Your Car Locked?



Fishers  
Community  
Prosecuting  
Attorney  
Lori A. Spillane

As spring arrives, the Fishers Police Department is asking everyone to watch for suspicious activity. Warm weather attracts families to parks and other public places. Please remember to lock your vehicle when you park. When parking at home, please park in a garage or remove all valuable and lock all doors. Keys should never be left in a vehicle. The Fishers Police Department wants to help you prevent thefts in your neighborhood. Always keep your eye out for suspicious activity near open garages or vehicles. A few easy steps of prevention is worth it to keep you from becoming a victim of crime!



**Crime Watch was  
established in 1994**

#### *General Objectives of Crime Watch*

- Neighbors getting to know each other.
- Removing the fear of not knowing your neighbors.
- Organize people for crime prevention objectives.
  - Increase awareness of existing crime.
  - Become observant for suspicious activity.
  - Report crime and suspected crime.
- Encourage cooperation with law enforcement agencies.
  - Mark property and serial numbers.
  - Reduce incidences of crime.
- Be safer and feel safer in your neighborhood.
  - Keep in communication, such as via :
    - Phone
    - Letter
    - E-mail
    - Newsletter
    - Door to door
    - Public Meetings

### The Orchards of Sunblest

*A new crime watch block captain reported the following:  
(March 2007)*

My son came home last night around 9:00 pm and he said when he turned left on to Creekside Lane he noticed a man sitting in the grass near the trees between two houses. He said something did not look right. I immediately called the homeowner. She is a single mom with a 17 year old daughter and I wanted to warn her not to go outside. She said she would call the other neighbor and the police. Today, she stopped by to tell me that she did call the Fishers Police Dispatch line and they immediately sent 2 cars to her house. The police found and identified the intoxicated man. I'm proud of my son for being attentive to alert me to the situation and was thrilled that my first crime watch case ended with a successful conclusion!

**When neighbors look out for each other, we all benefit!**

**FISHERS POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

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**Fishers Police**

## How to start your neighborhood

### Crime Watch Group

Neighborhood Watch operates to educate participants in the principles of deterrence, delay, and detection. The program depends on a communication network organized with four levels of participants - the resident, block captains and co-captains, the Fishers Community Prosecutor and a Fishers Police officer.

The first thing that you need to do is contact the Fishers Police Department for Crime Watch publications as well as for help in training members in home security, crime reporting skills, and for information on local crime patterns. Next you need to select a coordinator and block captains to be responsible for organizing meetings and relaying information to members. Most importantly, you need to recruit members. Make sure that you invite all members of the community to participate, including new families, the elderly, working parents, and teenagers. Invite your neighbors to an organizational meeting. The Fishers Police Department and the Community Prosecutor will make a presentation and help you get started.

## What does the new Fishers Community Prosecution Program mean to Crime Watchers?



**A new crime prevention  
resource comes to  
Fishers**

Lori A. Spillane  
Fishers Community Prosecutor  
317-595-3312

The mission statement of the Fishers Community Prosecution Program details the role of the community prosecutor: “[T]o work in partnership with the Fishers Police Department, other agencies and community groups to aggressively and creatively combat crimes that impact our quality of life.” Having a deputy prosecutor located in the Fishers Police Department allows more frequent access to this important part of the justice system and an additional resource for identifying and solving community problems.

Lori Spillane, Fishers first Community Prosecutor, works with the Fishers police officers to assist in their investigations, review cases and gain an understanding as to the issues existing in the Fishers neighborhoods. That is where Crime Watch fits in. She will be attending Crime Watch meetings and listening to the residents’ concerns and provide a voice for the community when prosecution occurs on a Fishers case. In addition to responding to residents’ public safety concerns, the community prosecutor is responsible for devising unique responses to these concerns and work with police officers to devise proactive prevention strategies.

How can your Crime Watch group help the Community Prosecutor?

- Get involved and attend regularly scheduled Crime Watch meetings
- Share information with the police and Community Prosecutor
- Call the Fishers police if you witness a crime and work with the Community Prosecutor to ensure that offenders are held accountable
- Visit the Fishers Police Department to receive community problem-solving resources.