

THE CRIME WATCHER



Chief Kehl offers the following safety tips for Halloween:

Give and accept wrapped or packaged candy only.

Only go to houses that you know the owner.

Have children bring treats home for adult inspection before they are eaten.

A parent or adult should accompany children when they are trick-or-treating.

Carry a flashlight and stay within your neighborhood; only visit homes you know.

Use make-up or face paint instead of masks.

Choose costumes that are flame retardant.

Wear light-colored clothing, short enough to prevent tripping. Add reflective tape to dark colored costumes.

Watch for vehicle traffic and use caution when crossing the street.

Fishers Trick-or-Treat hours will be on Wednesday, October 31, 2007 from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM.

DON'T MISS OUR FIRST ANNUAL CRIME WATCHERS APPRECIATION DINNER!!



Mark the date!! The Fishers Police Department, along with the Fishers Community Prosecutor, is hosting our first annual Crime Watchers Appreciation Dinner on Wednesday, October 17th from 6pm until 8pm at the police department. It is a time to enjoy some dinner, meet some other Fishers residents and celebrate all that we have accomplished with Crime Watch over the years.

As most of you will recall from your initial organizational meeting, the Fishers Police Department has benefited from our crime watch groups over the years in so many ways and this is our opportunity to thank everyone. Fishers is a safer community due to your efforts and your dedication to prevention. The partnership

with the police department has expanded to include 35 neighborhoods and we expect to eventually begin a senior watch program through our Safety Links program.

In addition to the chance to socialize,

Tess Woods, an education specialist from the victim services provider Prevail, will be joining us to talk about the services Prevail provides to victims of crime in Fishers.

Make your reservations early! Please send an email to Sgt. Gerry Hepp at heppg@fishers.in.us or call 595-3300 to RSVP.

Did you know.....

Neighborhood Watch can trace its roots back to the days of colonial settlements, when night watchmen patrolled the streets. The modern version of Neighborhood Watch was developed in response to requests from sheriffs and police chiefs who were looking for a crime prevention program that would involve citizens and address an increasing number of burglaries.

Launched in 1972, Neighborhood Watch counts on citizens to organize themselves and work with law enforcement to keep a trained eye and ear on their communities, while demonstrating their presence at all times of day and night. (The program took off quickly: in just ten years, NSA data showed that 12 percent of the population was involved in a Neighborhood Watch.)



4 Municipal Drive
Fishers, Indiana 46038



Lori A. Spillane
Fishers Community
Prosecutor
317-595-3300 or
spillanel@fishers.in.us

For more information on the Fishers Police Department Crime Watch Program— Please call or email Sergeant Gerry Hepp at 317-595-3300 or heppg@fishers.in.us



Fishers Police Department

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Fishers, Indiana 46038
317-595-3300
FAX 317-595-3344

Fishers Town Council

Scott A. Faultless, President
Daniel E. Henke, Vice
President

Stuart F. Easley
Eileen N. Pritchard
Charles P. White
David C. George
Arthur J. Levine

Clerk-Treasurer

Linda Gaye Cordell

Town Manager

Gary A. Huff



FISHERS POLICE
DEPARTMENT

Phone: 317-595-3300
Emergency: 911
Non-Emergency: 317-773-1282

WWW.FISHERS.IN.US

Indiana Statistics

July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

Indiana Domestic Violence Victims
Served in Emergency Shelter
Adults - 5,018 Children - 4,199
Out of State Domestic Violence
Victims Served in Emergency
Shelter - 550
Total Number of 24-Hour Shelter
Days - 160,189
Total Number of Crisis Line Calls -
108,634
Total Domestic Violence Deaths -
79
(Indiana Coalition Against Domestic
Violence)

*October is "Domestic Violence Awareness
Month"*

Each year during the month of October the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence joins with other state coalitions and domestic violence programs across the country to commemorate the lives of victims of domestic violence and to raise awareness about the issue of domestic violence. The goal is to educate the public about the effects of domestic violence on families and to find ways in which we can all work together to promote safety and eliminate domestic violence in our communities. Neighborhood Watch groups play a key role in crime prevention strategies that includes prevention of family violence.

Abused women turn to extended family, friends, and neighbors before they reach out to organizations or professional service providers. Law enforcement, courts, and child protection agencies are usually last on their list. Community members also know the cultural values, traditions, and practices that support violence, as well as those that can be used appropriately to intervene and stop violence. The first step is to recognize domestic violence and to take action—this is not a "private matter."

There are many resources available to Fishers residents. Prevail is a nonprofit victim services provider with specially trained employees and volunteers available 24 hours a day to help victims or anyone who has questions about domestic violence. The Fishers Police Department as well as the Fishers Community Prosecutor are available to answer questions, provide materials and resources or make presentations to your neighborhood if requested. When neighbors care, everyone wins.

WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence can be defined as a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner. Domestic violence can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that intimidate, manipulate, humiliate, isolate, frighten, terrorize, coerce, threaten, blame, hurt, injure, or wound someone.

- **Physical Abuse:** Hitting, slapping, shoving, grabbing, pinching, biting, hair-pulling, biting, etc. Physical abuse also includes denying a partner medical care or forcing alcohol and/or drug use.
- **Sexual Abuse:** Coercing or attempting to coerce any sexual contact or behavior without consent. Sexual abuse includes, but is certainly not limited to marital rape, attacks on sexual parts of the body, forcing sex after physical violence has occurred, or treating one in a sexually demeaning manner.

- **Emotional Abuse:** Undermining an individual's sense of self-worth and/or self-esteem. This may include, but is not limited to constant criticism, diminishing one's abilities, name-calling, or damaging one's relationship with his or her children.
- **Economic Abuse:** Making or attempting to make an individual financially dependent by maintaining total control over financial resources, withholding one's access to money, or forbidding one's attendance at school or employment.
- **Psychological Abuse:** Causing fear by intimidation; threatening physical harm to self, partner, children, or partner's family or friends; destruction of pets and property; and forcing isolation from family, friends, or school and/or work.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels. Domestic violence

occurs in both opposite-sex and same-sex relationships and can happen to intimate partners who are married, living together, or dating.

Domestic violence not only affects those who are abused, but also has a substantial effect on family members, friends, co-workers, other witnesses, and the community at large. Children, who grow up witnessing domestic violence, are among those seriously affected by this crime. Frequent exposure to violence in the home not only predisposes children to numerous social and physical problems, but also teaches them that violence is a normal way of life - therefore, increasing their risk of becoming society's next generation of victims and abusers. Sources: National Domestic Violence Hotline, National Center for Victims of Crime, and Women'sLaw.org.

**See the signs.....
Be the solution.**