

PROCLAMATION

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 2010

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence remains an intolerable violent crime with public health implications for every person in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and violence impacts women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds, many of whom can and do experience acquaintance rape, stranger rape, sexual assault by an intimate partner, gang rape, incest, stalking, serial rape, date rape, ritual abuse, sexual harassment, child sexual molestation, prostitution, human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted by National Victim Center, 1.3 women age 18 and over in the U.S are forcibly raped each minute; 78 per hour; 1,871 per day, or 683,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, one in four female college students reported they had been victims of attempted or completed rapes; 80% were victimized by boyfriends, friends, or acquaintances; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 91% of rape and sexual assault victims are female, and nearly 99% of the offenders in single victim offenses were male; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our entire population about what can be done to prevent sexual assault, support survivors and their significant others, and ensure that survivors are not re-victimized; and

WHEREAS, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing crimes against citizens living in Illinois, through increased awareness and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Barrington strongly supports the dedicated efforts of the Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault and rape crisis centers throughout the State to encourage every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts to end sexual violence, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with crucial services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KAREN DARCH, President of the Village of Barrington, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2010 as ***SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH*** in the Village of Barrington, and urge all citizens to commit to taking action against rape and sexual assault.

Given, under my hand and seal of the Village of Barrington this twelfth day of April, 2010.

Karen Y. Darch
Village President