

# **PROCLAMATION**

## *Official International Walk to School Day*

**WHEREAS**, hundreds of children could be saved each year if communities take steps to make pedestrian safety a priority.

**WHEREAS**, a lack of physical activity plays a leading role in rising rates of obesity, diabetes and other health problems among children and being able to walk or bicycle to school offers an opportunity to build activity into daily routine.

**WHEREAS**, driving students to school by private vehicle contributes to traffic congestion and air pollution.

**WHEREAS**, an important role for parents and caregivers is to teach children about pedestrian safety and become aware of the difficulties and dangers that children face on their trip to school each day and the health and environmental risks related to physical inactivity and air pollution.

**WHEREAS**, community members and leaders should make a plan to make immediate changes to enable children to safely walk and bicycle in our communities and develop a list of suggestions for improvements that can be done over time.

**WHEREAS**, children, parents and community leaders around the world are joining together to walk to school and evaluate walking and bicycling conditions in their communities.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Karen Darch, President of the Village of Barrington, Cook and Lake Counties, on behalf of the Village Board of Trustees and the Village of Barrington, do hereby proclaim October 5, 2011, "International Walk to School Day" in the Village of Barrington and encourage everyone to consider the safety and health of children today and every day.

*Dated this 26th day of September, 2011*

---

*Karen Darch  
Village President*