

# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH!

On Sunday evening, April 10, three youths broke into a home on Darcy Forest Drive. They did so by kicking in the front door. The residents were not at home at the time of break in, but arrived shortly thereafter and saw the teenagers running from the property. The would-be thieves ran in the direction of the older homes on Clark Place, and were too far away to allow for any identification. The police responded, but not in time to make any arrests. Earlier that same evening, the youths also may have unsuccessfully attempted to break into a home on Darcy Green Place.

## **Actions You Can Take to Improve Public Safety**

- ☛ Turn on your outside lights – front and back.  
(Hard to remember? Try using light sensors to turn them on at dusk, or simply use the new energy-saving, fluorescent-style light bulbs, and leave them on 24-hours a day. It's very cheap insurance.)
- ☛ Install dead bolt locks and set them with 3-inch screws.  
(For existing locks, replace the short screws with 3-inch screws.)
- ☛ Use timers to activate inside lights after dark.
- ☛ Purchase a security service for sounding an alarm and summoning police.  
(Or buy a sign that says you have such a service -- even if you don't.)
- ☛ Mark your valuables with an engraving tool from Operation ID.  
(And display a sticker on your door or window advertising that fact.)
- ☛ Take in your neighbors' newspapers when they are away.
- ☛ Ask a neighbor to take in your newspapers while you're away.
- ☛ Keep an eye open when you're out in the community. Say "hello" to strangers, and let them know you're aware.
- ☛ Be safe, not sorry. Report *any* suspicious activity to the police.

## **Special Discussion of Safety Issues – April 26**

**Come to the homeowner's association meeting at the Wheaton Library, 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, April 26. We'll have a special discussion on public safety issues.**