

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Dave Phalen, Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE

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SAFE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Pickerington North & Central to Dance for Nationwide Children’s Hospital – Safe Communities Joins Group for Traffic Safety Initiative

[Lancaster, Ohio, March 12, 2013] A popular Dance Marathon will be held at Pickerington North this weekend as a part of a fundraising event for Nationwide Children’s Hospital. The event known as “Buckeyethon” has been held at a variety of Columbus High Schools, and is coming to Fairfield County on March 16, 2013. Pickerington North High School students and Pickerington Central High School students will combine their efforts to raise funds for the Hematology/Oncology Floors of the local hospital, and to help raise awareness of childhood cancer. Organizations involved from both schools include the Student Council, Club Hope, and the National Honor Society. The event dubbed “Rave to Save” will have students dancing from 6:00 p.m.-12 midnight.

A variety of local businesses have donated items to the event, and students can take time to participate in some of the extra activities that the school has planned during the fundraiser. One of the activities includes a partnership with Safe Communities of Fairfield County and Ohio SADD.

“We at the Safe Communities Program applaud these teens and their efforts to save the lives of children and to support the many measures that help families of these children at Nationwide Children’s Hospital,” noted Teresa C. Carper, Director for Safe Communities of Fairfield County. “But we wanted to do something to help save their lives as well.”

Safe Communities of Fairfield County has teamed up with Ohio SADD to provide information and education to students on safe driving. Traffic crashes are the number one killer of teens nationwide, and distracted driving is a major factor in many of these crashes. The Ohio Department of Public Safety, and the Ohio Department of Transportation have made it possible for students to try one of the new simulators for distracted driving while attending the event.

“Distracted driving crashes are becoming an epidemic in this community and beyond,” noted Sheriff Dave Phalen. “It is important to remember the slogan: ‘Stay Alive, Don’t Text and Drive’ any time any of us get behind the wheel of a motor vehicle.”

Since traffic safety issues are important to teens and their parents, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has plenty of tips and information to keep teens safe on the road. Visit their website at www.nhtsa.gov, and join the effort to save lives this weekend at Pickerington North High School.

PR031213
TO SERVE AND PROTECT