

White Ribbon event promotes domestic violence prevention

By **Mary Ann Bragg**

Posted Mar 3, 2015 at 8:47 AM

Updated Mar 3, 2015 at 9:02 AM

White Ribbon Day is meant to call on men to stand up in solidarity, wear a white ribbon and take a pledge to oppose violence against women and girls.

SOUTH YARMOUTH - Cape Cod's 3rd annual White Ribbon Day will be held from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Thursday at Cape Cod Irish Village, in a collaborative effort of Independence House Inc., the Yarmouth Police Department and the Cape and Islands District Attorney's office.

White Ribbon Day is meant to call on men to stand up in solidarity, wear a white ribbon and take a pledge to oppose violence against women and girls.

The free event will feature speakers from state government, law enforcement, nonprofit groups that advocate against domestic violence and students that participate in violence prevention from Barnstable, Dennis-Yarmouth Regional and Falmouth high schools. Men of all ages are invited to attend.

The Wellfleet Board of Selectmen issued a proclamation naming March 5 "White Ribbon Day" in the town, and all municipal employees are urged to wear a white ribbon during the week of White Ribbon Day. Selectmen want to take tangible steps to raise awareness and support survivors of violence as well as hold offenders accountable, according to the proclamation.

The White Ribbon Campaign began in 1991 by a group of men committed to ending men's violence against women, through education, discussion and action. The campaign was founded after fourteen female students were targeted because of their gender and killed by a gunman on Dec. 6, 1989 at Ecole Polytechnique in Montreal, Canada.

Independence House, located on Cape Cod, provides resources, counseling and advocacy to address and prevent domestic and sexual violence. For information, visit independencehouse.org.

The Cape Cod Irish Village is located at 822 Route 28 in South Yarmouth.