

Ohio Youth Speaks Out

A recent study by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America published in the February issue of the Telegraph-Forum stated that teen use of Ecstasy has leveled off, but most American Teens see no great risk in experimenting with the drug. Obviously, there is still a big problem.

"Hi, I'm Carla Groves, and I'm not comfortable with this problem. I'm a junior at Wynford High School in Bucyrus, and involved in many activities. My anti-drug role model as I'm growing up has been my DARE officer, Deputy Tim Ley. He has reached me on many levels on building my self-esteem and saying "NO". He also has encouraged me to be a very strong person and to express my attitude towards drugs and anything related that is here within my hometown. As the Ohio Representative in the National DARE Advisory Board, I'mwilling to share my beliefs on drugs and substance abuse anywhere, anytime. If you would like me to come and share youthful insights at your DARE graduations, you can contact me through Deputy Ley, at Crawford Co. SO. I DARE you!!"

Are you Ready for the Next Step?



Have you ever considered becoming one of Ohio's most respected DARE Officers? Are you responsive to instruction, do you have personal initiative, and the ability to effectively communicate with adult learners?

A recent DARE Officer graduate said this of the Ohio Mentoring Staff, "They have helped me more than they probably realize. Please tell them "thanks" for me. I have already done this through e-mail but maybe if you let them know what a great asset they are to the DARE community and that "rookie" DARE officers, like me, think the world of them, maybe our simple thank you will mean a whole lot more." For more information on the next Mentor Officer Training scheduled to be held Sept. 7-12, 2003 in Pennsylvania, please call the DARE Ohio Office at (614) 761-9498.



Effective Legislation Needed To Regulate Tobacco

Despite promises in the '98 state tobacco settlement to stop targeting kids, the tobacco companies are spending record amounts to market their deadly products-nearly \$9.6 billion a year, or \$26.2 million a day according to a recent report by the Federal Trade Commission. With effective authority over tobacco products, the FDA can stop these harmful and deceptive practices. In 2002, strong bipartisan legislation to grant the FDA the authority it needed was introduced to the US Senate, the "Youth Smoking Prevention and Public Health Protection Act" (S.2626). It was modeled after the FDA provisions that were contained in the 1998 comprehensive tobacco bill. A similar bipartisan bill was introduced to the house and has gained over 140 co-sponsors. These bills would give the FDA the authority to stop tobacco marketing and sales to our children and subject tobacco products to the same consumer protections, such as ingredient disclosure, product regulations, and truthful packaging and advertising that apply to other products. The need for FDA authority over tobacco products has never been greater. Smoking costs our nation more than \$75 billion a year in health care expenses, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Every day, 5000 kids try their first cigarette and another 2000 kids become addicted smokers. Congress can reduce this terrible toll by granting the FDA effective, meaningful authority over tobacco products.

DARE Offered to "Home School" Students

Warren County Sheriff Deputies Don McGlothlin and Ken McCloud "DARE to be Different" in spreading their anti-drug message. The team shares teaching duties of the DARE program to a dozen home-schooled children in grades 6 through 8, who meet weekly for the classes and to socialize, in the Veritas Christian Co-op. A 12 year-old sixth grader expects the lessons learned will come in handy when he goes to public high school. These DARE Officers have tapped into another resource of teaching children that haven't been reached before.

DAO Association Patches for Sale

If you are interested in acquiring one, contact your District Rep or the DAO Office (614) 761-9498.
Cost is \$3.00 each.

COPS N' RODDERS CLUB

The Cops N' Rodders Club was established in 2001 for law enforcement officers (active and retired) to display their vehicles which include: Hot Rods, Street Rods, Muscle Cars, Custom, and Classic or Antique cars. Funds received from car shows support the "Critical Incident Response Service" which is available to law enforcement or support personnel. DARE officers are invited to attend, with no entry fee, to compete for a special DARE trophy. Shows scheduled for 2003 are:

- July 13, 12pm-4pm -- Independence Ohio
- July 19, 8am-2pm – Tallmadge Ohio
- July 26, 12pm-4pm – Akron Ohio
- August 17, 8am-3pm – Parma Ohio
- August 23, 12pm-4pm – Whitehall Ohio
- September 7, 12pm-4pm – Wadsworth Ohio

For more information: Please contact Larry Hudson (614) 224-5700 or Bill Brasella (330) 644-4416

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

- Congratulations to Officer Bill Reese, Brimfield Twp PD, for receiving the MADD DUI Award, for the most arrests/convictions for DUI in his department.
- Congratulations to East Liverpool DARE Officer Tom Hildebrand for receiving the Department of Ohio Ralph Arms/Larry Thall Law Enforcement "Officer of the Year Award".
- Condolences to Officer Phil Moran, Rocky River PD, on the passing of his wife.
- Get well wishes to Felix Forman, retired DARE officer Bay Village PD. He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer.
- Get well wishes also, to Ron Wahl for gall bladder surgery. He returned to work on Monday, March 17th.
- Get well to DAO President Vicki Yendriga on her recent surgery. Good to hear you're back on your feet Vicki!

National DARE Officers Conference, **June 23-26, 2003** in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Training updates available for: Facilitation (6 hrs.), Elementary (3 hrs.), Middle School (3 hrs),*(must currently be certified in middle school)

To register: Go to www.dare.com click on National Conference.

✧D.A.R.E. OHIO WEBSITE✧

D.A.R.E. Ohio Website (www.dare-oh.org)

The D.A.R.E. Ohio website is about to undergo an amazing transformation. Right before your eyes, the website will offer new and exciting features. Included in this change will be direct links and contact information for your Executive Board Members and District Representatives. There will also be links for the training schedule as well as downloadable registration forms and on-line registration.

New areas will include a photo gallery for submitting your favorite electronic pictures. There will also be a password protected "Members Only" area. This will include an on-line membership directory and a discussion or bulletin board area for the exchange of ideas and information. Also included in the members only area, will be an on-line submission form for the "Family Assistance Fund".

We hope to have the new website format up and running prior to June 1st and we are actually running ahead of schedule. If you are interested in submitting photos for the website, please forward them to the webmaster at tsullivan@oacp.org.

Juveniles Offered Alternative to Court

Northfield Village Police recently opened a satellite office to house JURY, Juveniles Uplifted to Responsible Youths, a diversion program for juvenile offenders. The office is not as intimidating as the Police Department. The diversion program was created in 2001 to handle Northfield youths who commit minor misdemeanors, such as curfew violations, some types of petty theft, unruly behavior, and underage drinking and smoking. The youths and their families meet with DARE Juvenile Officer Lia Calalesina at this office, where they attend an informal hearing. Those youth who refuse this hearing will be referred to Juvenile Court with an official complaint. But if they consent to the unofficial hearing they will not have a Juvenile Court record. The youths are to follow the diversion program guidelines and are also given a minimum of 6 months probation. They will be referred to the courts if they break their probation. It is said, the kids realize that they are doing something to make up for the crime.