

# D & A News

Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc.  
(Single County Authority)

Volume 6  
Winter 2006

## Roger Williamson Retires



Roger Williamson

Roger Williamson, Case Manager, retired in September after eleven-and-a-half years of employment at the Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission.

Roger's career in the drug and alcohol field spans a 28-year period, with an additional seven years in other counseling services. Roger completed his bachelor studies at the College of Wooster and obtained a Masters of Education degree in Guidance and Counseling at Bowie State University in Maryland. He has obtained certification as a Licensed Professional Counselor and a Certified Addictions Counselor.

Roger's dedication to his work and clients, his many years of experience, and his energetic personality have made him an asset not only to the agency, but also to the entire community. Even in his retirement, Roger cannot simply leave behind the career he loved; he will continue providing services as a training consultant.

The LCDAC Board of Directors and staff would like to thank Roger and wish him the very best in his retirement.

## LCDAC Sponsors First Annual Media Contest

During the fall of 2005, the LCDAC sponsored a media contest for all Lawrence County high school students. The contest was designed to heighten student awareness of the dangers of drugs and alcohol. It also provided an opportunity for students to reverse peer pressure and send a positive message against the use of drugs and alcohol. Students were asked to create a 60-second radio commercial that included a message against drug use; for example, the benefits of a drug-free life or the dangers of drug use by teenagers.

Winners received Wal-Mart gift cards and will have the opportunity to record their commercials for use on a local radio station.

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Erica Flynn -  
First place winner

## The Bully-Free Zone

The Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission launched a brand new anti-bullying program in the elementary schools of Ellwood City. With the help of Joe Sarbo and Stacey Cox from Communities That Care, the program was introduced to

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### LCDAC Sponsors First Annual Media Contest (continued from page 1)

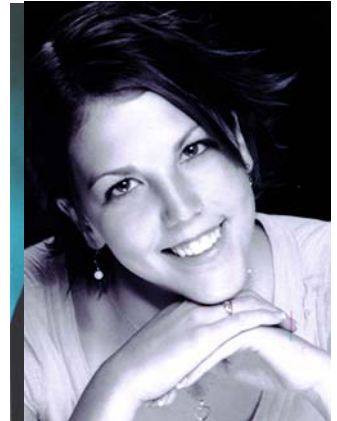
The LCDAC received numerous entries and awarded prizes to the following students:

**First place** – Erica Flynn, Senior at Wilmington Area High School

**Second place** – Catherine Hanssen, Junior at Wilmington Area High School

**Third place** – Jessica Hardie, Senior at Lincoln High School

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all who participated in the contest.



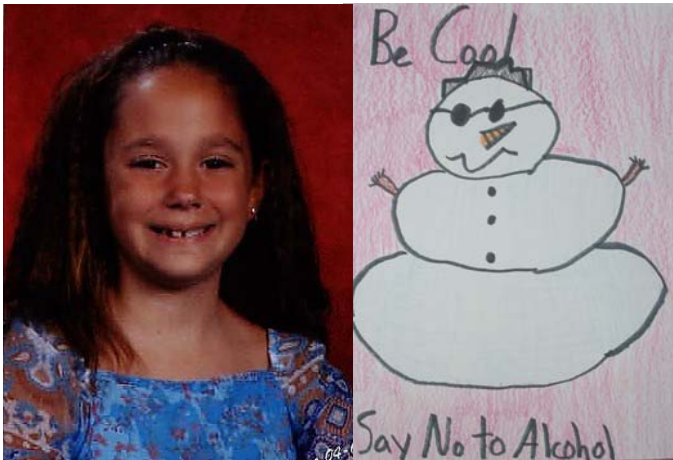
Catherine Hanssen

Jessica Hardie

### Local Students Win State-Level Poster Contest

Two local winners of the LCDAC 2005 Annual Alcohol Awareness Poster Contest, Kyler Lum, a fourth-grade student at New Castle Christian Academy, and Marina Seamans, a fourth-grade student at St. Vitus, were also recognized at the state-level contest sponsored by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. The PLCB received more than 1400 posters from students across Pennsylvania, but chose to reward only 41 at the state level. Of the 41 posters, eleven were chosen as Grand Prize winners, which will be reproduced for distribution by the PLCB in the form of posters, bookmarks, and t-shirts. Marina's poster was chosen as one of the Grand Prize winners.

All selected posters were placed on display in the Rotunda of the Capitol in Harrisburg for two weeks in October. The winners were also invited to the capitol on October 27, 2005 for a Poster Contest Ceremony.



Marina Seamans



Kyler Lum

### Free Drug and Alcohol Family Educational/Support Group

Do you have a loved one who is abusing drugs or alcohol? To gain education/information on drugs and alcohol, come to the ongoing Family Educational/Support group provided by **Highland House, Inc.** Topics for the groups include Addiction and the Disease Concept, Current Drug Trends, Access to Services, Co-Dependency, etc. The groups meet from 5:00 - 6:30 on Monday evenings at the Highland House Outpatient Facility, located at 125 E. North St., Suite 507, New Castle, PA. For more information, call Highland House at 724-654-7760.

### The Bully-Free Zone (continued from page 1)

the children by our puppet friends from *On Applebee Pond*, a prevention program developed by the Mercer County Behavioral Health Commission, Inc. The remainder of the program, targeting students in fourth through sixth grade, consists of individual classroom lessons on bullying awareness, recognizing a bully, dealing with a bully (as a victim and/or bystander), and how to prevent bullying from occurring.

The students of Northside Elementary, Hartman Elementary, Perry Elementary, and Walnut Ridge Elementary are taking a stand against bullying and making their schools a Bully-Free Zone!



The puppets from Applebee Pond introduce the bullying program

### LCDAC Participates in First Boo Fest



Tracey Rodgers, Jennifer Salem, and Jaclyn Hanna (Prevention Specialists) take a break at the Boo Fest

The Boo Fest, sponsored by Adult Literacy Lawrence County/ Family Choices, was held Saturday night, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, at Cascade Park. More than 700 children attended this outside event despite the cold, windy, and rainy weather.

Children dressed up in their Halloween costumes and followed the trail of Jack-O-Lanterns to make crafts, play games, listen to stories, and receive their bag of goodies. Representatives from the Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission read the book *Spookley, the Square Pumpkin* by Joe Troiano. This story is about a pumpkin that was teased by the other pumpkins for being square. In the story, Spookley proved that being different can be a wonderful thing. After the story, the children created their own unique pumpkin that could be any color, shape, or size.

## Do You Want to Quit Smoking?

**FREE Smoking Cessation Classes & FREE Nicotine Replacement Therapy** are available (see eligibility requirements below).

To register for a FREE Smoking Cessation Program or to learn more about **FREE Nicotine Replacement Therapy**, contact:

**Jameson Health System** (724) 656-4270

Or

**Family Health Council** (724) 658-6681  
(Specializes in serving pregnant women and women with children)

Smoking cessation classes are free to all Lawrence County residents. To be eligible for free Nicotine Replacement Therapy, an individual must be a Lawrence County resident of at least 18 years of age, must be participating in a Jameson or Family Health Council cessation program, and must be **uninsured**.

### LCDAC Welcomes a New Case Manager



Mike Weaver began working at the LCDAC in October. Mike, who earned a Bachelor of Science in Applied Science degree from Youngstown State University, has been working in the drug and alcohol field for nine years, three of which were spent as a drug and alcohol counselor in the Lawrence County Jail.

### LCDAC Corporate Board Members

Susan Ascione - *Vice President*  
Peggy Berkley  
Thomas Johnston, Jr - *President*  
Erica Mooney  
Jesse Moss  
Judge Dominick Motto  
Georgia Ross - *Secretary/Treasurer*  
Deborah Taylor  
Nick Turco, Jr.  
Cathy Wigton  
Marcy Wilson



### LCDAC Staff

Rebecca Abramson - *Chief Fiscal Officer*  
Tarra DeRosa - *Student Assistance Program Specialist (7-12)*  
Jaelyn Hanna - *Student Assistance Program Specialist (K-6)*  
Filianne Green - *Case Management Specialist*  
Julie Jendrysik - *Case Management Specialist*  
Darcy McKinney - *Case Management Supervisor*  
Tracey Rodgers - *Tobacco Prevention Specialist*  
Jennifer Salem - *Student Assistance Program Specialist (K-6)*  
Raschelle Smith - *Prevention Specialist*  
Judy Thompson - *Executive Director*  
Kristin Vivelo - *Case Management Specialist*  
Barbara Wagner - *Clerk Typist*  
Linda Ward - *Secretarial Supervisor*  
Mike Weaver - *Case Management Specialist*  
Kevin Webb - *Prevention Program Specialist*

### Educational Presentations Available

LCDAC staff is available to provide educational presentations regarding alcohol, tobacco, and/or other drugs. If your group is interested, please call Kevin Webb at 724-658-5580.

### Treatment Available

Do you know someone who has a problem with alcohol or drugs? The LCDAC Case Management staff can help! We'll provide a free confidential assessment and referral. Based on eligibility, we have funding available for treatment services. Call 724-658-5580.

### Educational Material Available

The LCDAC is a Regional Alcohol and Drug Awareness Resource (RADAR) Network Associate Center, affiliated with the PA Department of Health. As a RADAR site, we can provide you with free pamphlets, posters, and other materials regarding alcohol, tobacco, drug, and other health-related issues. For more information, please call Kevin Webb at 724-658-5580.

### Newsletter Mailing List

To add or remove your name from our newsletter mailing list, call Raschelle Smith at 724-658-5580.

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