

D & A News

Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc.

(Single County Authority)

Winter 2006/2007

Three Dedicated Members Honored for Board Service



Thomas L. Johnston, Jr.

Peggy Berkley, Thomas L. Johnston, Jr., and Cathy Wigton were honored during the fall of 2006 for their service on the Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission's Board of Directors. These three members represent a combined 21 years of service on the board.

Thomas L. Johnston, Jr. served on the board from 2000-2006. He served as Board President from September 2003 to October 2006, and as Vice President from September 2002 to September 2003. Throughout his time on the board, Mr. Johnston was a member of the Finance, Program, Personnel, and Wellness Center Committees. (continued on page 2)

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LCDAC Sponsors 2nd Annual Media Contest

The Lawrence County Drug & Alcohol Commission, Inc. sponsored its second annual 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, alternatives to drug use, or the dangers of drug use by teenagers. The commercials could be based on themes such as holidays, prom, or graduation.



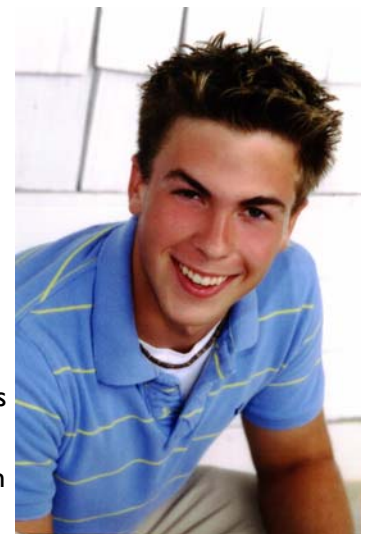
Third place winner Louis Robinson

The LCDAC received numerous entries, and three prizes were awarded:

First place – David Burns, Senior at Wilmington Area High School

Second place – Alexis Kukus, Senior at Wilmington Area High School

Third place – Louis Robinson, Sophomore at Neshannock High School



First place winner David Burns

Winners received gift cards and the opportunity to record their commercials. All three winning entries may be heard on local radio stations Froggy 95.1 (FM) and 1280 WKST (AM) and on the LCDAC website (www.lawsca.org). Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to all who participated in the contest.

Three Dedicated Members Honored for Board Service (from page 1)



Peggy Berkley

Peggy A. Berkley served on the board from 1997 to 2006, initially as an Ex Officio member representing the local Department of Health and later as a voting member. Peggy served on the Program and Personnel Committees.

Cathy Wigton has been a member of the LCDAC board from 2000 to 2006. She served on the Program, Personnel, and Wellness Center Committees.



Cathy Wigton

Tom, Peggy, and Cathy have all been very active board members and provided valuable insight and guidance into the direction of the agency. The SCA board and staff would like to thank them for their service to the community.

Signs and Symptoms of Narcotic Use

Over the past year, Heroin and OxyContin[®] abuse has continued to increase in Lawrence County. Both of these substances belong to a class of drugs known as Narcotics. Some of the other drugs that fall into this category are Percocet, Darvocet, Vicodin, Lortab, Codeine, and Demerol. These drugs can be injected, swallowed, snorted, or in some cases smoked. Narcotics are drugs that induce sleep, relieve pain and dull the senses. When these drugs are abused, they have very serious withdrawal symptoms, are highly addictive, and can even be deadly. The user's body can become dependant on the drug and quickly build tolerance, which means that they will need higher levels of that drug to get the same effects. This can easily lead to an overdose. If the user tries to stop taking the drug they will experience many negative effects, such as vomiting, diarrhea, sleeplessness, anxiety, and severe pain in their muscles and bones.

Some signs that someone is abusing opiates are constricted (pin point) pupils, droopy eyelids, watery eyes, clammy or itchy skin, loss of appetite, sniffles, cough, nausea, lethargy, drowsiness, and nodding. Some of the general and long-term effects of Narcotics include lowered heart rate, blood pressure, respiratory rate, and body temperature, poor concentration, psychological and physical dependence, mood swings, severe constipation, menstrual irregularities, lung damage, skin infections, seizures, and coma. If you or someone you know is abusing drugs or alcohol and would like help, please call the Lawrence County Drug and Alcohol Commission at 724-658-5580.

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

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 cessation program, and must be **uninsured**.



SYNAR

The SYNAR survey was established in 1992 when Congress enacted the ADAMHA (Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Mental Health Administration) Recognition Act. The Act is named for its sponsor, former congressman Mike Synar of Oklahoma. The purpose of SYNAR is to reduce the sale and distribution of tobacco products to youth under the age of 18. There are requirements of the law that include:

1. A State law prohibiting the sale or distribution of tobacco products to persons less than 18 years of age.
2. Random, unannounced inspections of both over-the-counter and vending machine outlets for tobacco products to produce credible annual estimates of the statewide sale rate of tobacco products to minors.
3. A report from the State to the Secretary of Health and Human Services demonstrating progress toward the goal of no more than 20 percent of purchase attempts by youth resulting in obtaining products.

The SYNAR survey is designed to provide a statewide estimate of the rate that the retailers sell tobacco products to minors. Using trained youth under the age of 18 to attempt to purchase tobacco products is recommended as a reliable method for states to estimate retailer compliance levels with the tobacco access law.

Over the past ten years, Pennsylvania's SYNAR survey results declined from 56 percent to 8 percent in 2005. During the summer of 2006, the Single County Authority (SCA) Tobacco Control Program conducted the SYNAR survey in Lawrence County. None of the 13 stores included in the survey sold tobacco products to minors. Congratulations to the tobacco licensees of Lawrence County for limiting the access to tobacco products by Lawrence County youth.

2005/2006 Prevention Highlights

- The SCA's Prevention Unit provided alcohol, tobacco, and other drug (ATOD) education to 9,405 youth through single and recurring services.
- The SCA delivered evidence-based programs to approximately 2,100 students in six school districts.
- The SCA educated approximately 1,350 adults through various programs, an 18 percent increase from last year.
- The prevention unit impacted 8,130 residents through ATOD-free alternative activities, a 93 percent increase from last year.
- The SCA collaborated with the Lawrence County DUI Program to sponsor two Responsible Alcohol Management Program (RAMP) trainings for 69 server/sellers of alcohol in the county.
- The SCA disseminated more than 25,800 alcohol, tobacco, drug and other health-related materials at no cost to schools, agencies, residents, etc.

LCDAC Welcomes New Staff



Butch Combs, Case Management Specialist
and
Jennifer Brown, Tobacco Prevention Specialist

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 Tuesday evenings at the Highland House Outpatient Facility, located in the Central Building at 101 S. Mercer St., Suite 202, New Castle, PA. For more information, call Highland House at 724-856-7348.

LCDAC Corporate Board Members

Susan Ascione - *President*
Judge J. Craig Cox
Reverend Kenneth Kauffman
Mike Krisuk
Erica Mooney
Jesse Moss
Georgia Ross - *Secretary/Treasurer*
Deborah Taylor
Glenn Todd - *Vice President*
Nick Turco, Jr.



LCDAC Staff

Rebecca Abramson - *Chief Fiscal Officer*
Jennifer Brown - *Tobacco Prevention Specialist*
Butch Combs - *Case Management Specialist*
Tarra DeRosa - *Student Assistance Program Specialist (7-12)*
Jaclyn Hanna - *Student Assistance Program Specialist (K-6)*
Filianne Green - *Case Management Specialist*
Julie Jendrysik - *Case Management Specialist*
Darcy McKinney - *Case Management Supervisor*
Tracey Rodgers - *Prevention Specialist*
Jennifer Salem - *Student Assistance Program Specialist (K-6)*
Raschelle Smith - *Prevention Specialist*
Judy Thompson - *Executive Director*
Kristin Vivelò - *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, drugs, and other health-related issues. For more information, please call Kevin Webb at 724-658-5580.



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

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To add or remove your name from our newsletter mailing list, please call Kevin Webb at 724-658-5580.

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