

Shattering Myths Of Teen Use Of Alcohol

BY ELIZABETH JOHNSON

EJOHNSON@ANTONMEDIALOGROUP.COM

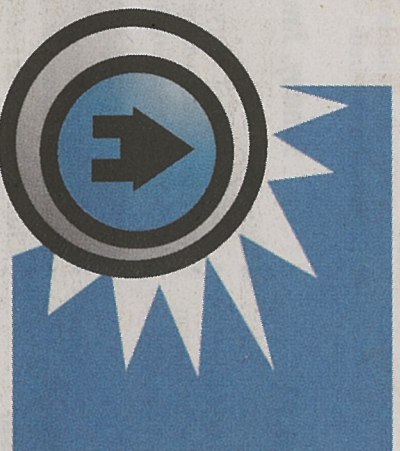
Manhasset CASA invites parents, residents and students to recognize National Drug Facts Week and attend Dr. Stephen Dewey's Alcohol, Drugs and the Teen Brain at the Manhasset Public Library on Thursday, Jan. 26, at 7:30 p.m. The program aims to show how science can shatter the myths about alcohol and drugs.

Dewey, an investigator at the Center for Behavioral & Molecular Imaging at the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research at Northwell Health, will show what he sees every day through his research. He will discuss how the teen brain is affected by underage drinking, marijuana and other drugs and will present "the facts and just the facts."

The Power of Parenting Series is sponsored by the Honorable Jack M. Martin, Manhasset Public Library and Manhasset CASA. Mandarin translation is also available. A one hour community service will be provided to all students in attendance. Space is limited and registration is required through CASA's website at manhassetcasa.org or go to their signup genius link at www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0e4ea8a923a64-2017.

Research shows that people who start drinking before the age of 15 are four times more likely to develop a substance abuse problem at some point in their lives (National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, Sept. 2016). In Manhasset, students self-report alcohol use above national norms

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with 38.3 percent of 10th grade students and 65.6 percent of 12th grade students having alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, hard liquor—more than just a few sips) in the last 30 days (2015 Bach Harrison Prevention Needs Assessment Survey).

Manhasset CASA recently hosted Executive Director Kym Laube of HUGS, Inc. in a special presentation to Manhasset CASA's Sector meeting regarding underage drinking not be a rite of passage. She spoke of the importance of positive alternatives in the prevention of risk behaviors. As

a mother, she has raised two boys. She gave a comprehensive look at addiction on Long Island and it's impact on youth. Look beyond the drug of the day or crisis of the moment, and spoke of the changes needed to be made as a culture, move towards a comprehensive and effective avenue for change.



Dr. Stephen Dewey

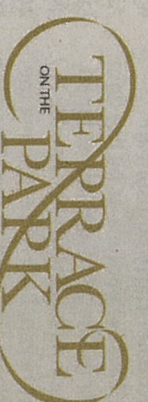
Middle school and high schoolers attended an afterschool meeting featuring Elaine Pasqua who spoke about Surviving The Party outlined the stages that occur in the teen brain as you consume alcohol and how your ability to make coherent decisions declines as well as brain function declining and can ultimately cause death through alcohol poisoning. With interactive exercises she performed with students, they were educated about the spread of sexual transmitted disease caused by alcohol and impairment. The program introduced the concept of having fun without life-altering consequences or regrets.

For more information about the Power of Parenting Series or to become a member of Manhasset CASA, go to www.manhassetcasa.org. Like them on Facebook.

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