

Red Mango Serves Up Support For Healthy Youth

CASA's "Talk. They hear you." campaign gains momentum

By **MANHASSET PRESS STAFF**

MANHASSET@ANTONNEWS.COM

Local Plandome merchant Red Mango is spearheading a fundraiser in support of Manhasset CASA and the SCA's missions to reduce underage drinking and further the best physical, mental, social and ethical interests of Manhasset youth. The appeal is linked to Manhasset's Elementary School Concert Nights on May 6, 7 and 15 and supports Manhasset CASA's "Talk They Hear You" Underage Drinking Prevention Campaign. Red Mango will give 20 percent of purchased items to the SCA and CASA if they bring in or mention the promotional flyer. Find it at manhassetcasa.org or manhassetcasa.org.

"Red Mango is happy to support two wonderful organizations that do so much for the youth in the Manhasset community," stated Angelique Rosado, manager, Red Mango Manhasset. "This Red Mango fundraiser offers a great opportunity for our organizations to fund raise — but more importantly to engage parents of young children in the

conversation to prevent underage drinking," stated Renee Press, SCA executive president. "And with Manhasset teens reporting they started regular use of alcohol between the ages of 13 and 15, it's so important for our 5th and 6th grade parents to begin that conversation now," added Lisa Belinsky, Manhasset CASA executive director.

Whether running errands or going for frozen yogurt with your child, it's important for parents to be ready when their kids have questions about alcohol since they turn to parents for answers and advice. Manhasset CASA suggests parents spend time with their child to start an open honest conversation about drinking. Because some questions can be difficult to answer, it is important for parents to be prepared. The following are some common questions and answers about underage drinking:

I got invited to a party. Can I go?

Ask your child if an adult will be present at the party or if he or she thinks children will be drinking. Remind your child that even being



Red Mango's fundraiser supports Manhasset CASA and the SCA's mission to further healthy youth and promotes the "Talk. They hear you." Underage Drinking Prevention Campaign. Pictured left to right: Liz Tomaselli, Munsey Park SCA president; Lisa Belinsky, Manhasset CASA executive director; Angelique Rosado, manager, Red Mango Manhasset; and Kristin Mulholland, Shelter Rock SCA president.

at a party where there is underage drinking can get him or her into trouble. Use this time to establish or reinforce your rules about alcohol and outline the behavior you expect.

(or dad) that I wouldn't drink."

Why do you drink?

Make a distinction between alcohol use among children and among adults. Explain to your child your reasons for drinking; whether it is to enhance a meal, share good times with friends, or celebrate a special occasion. Point out that if you choose to drink, it is always in moderation. Tell your child that some people should not drink at all, including underage children.

What if my friends ask me to drink?

Helping your child say "no" to peer pressure is one of the most important things you can do to keep him or her alcohol-free. Work with your child to think of a way to handle this situation, whether it is simply saying, "No, I don't drink," or saying, "I promised my mom

You drink alcohol, so why can't I?

Remind your child that underage drinking is against the law, and for good reason. Point out that adults are fully developed mentally and physically so they can handle drinking. Children's minds and bodies, however, are still growing, so alcohol can have a greater effect on their judgment and health.

Why is alcohol bad for me?

Don't try to scare your child about drinking or tell him or her, "You can't handle it." Instead, tell your child that alcohol can be bad for his or her growing brain, interferes with judgment, and can make him or her sick. Once children hear the facts and your opinions about them, it is easier for you to make rules and enforce them.

For more information on talking with your child about alcohol, go to underagedrinking.samhsa.gov or manhassetcasa.org.

NEWS BRIEF

The Sweetest Place in Manhasset Craves Baked Donations

The SCA Fair needs goodies for the bakery at the fair. Drop off your goodies at Tammy Kelly's home at 139 Rolling Hill Rd., on Friday, May 2, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Donations of individually wrapped baked goods can also be dropped off at the fair.

Baked goods suggestions include

decorated or undecorated cupcakes, brownies, cookies, cakes, pies, and rice krispy treats.

No glasswares. Label all items, if possible. Email Lisa Fanuka, sfanuka@aol.com or Tammy Tam Kelly T2kelly65@verizon.net with any questions.