

MEDINA COUNTY JUVENILE AND PROBATE COURT NEWSLETTER

JUDGE KEVIN W. DUNN APRIL 2016

CLOVERLEAF JUNIORS AND SENIORS EXPERIENCE SIMULATED OVI CRASH JUST BEFORE PROM

Cloverleaf High School juniors and seniors witnessed an emergency response to a mock car crash April 19, on their school's front lawn. The presentation, conducted once every two years prior to prom, is designed to encourage students to refrain from drinking. Presenters included local fire and police departments, Juvenile Court, Waite & Sons Funeral Home, and University Hospitals' MedEvac.

The scenario played out this year by Drama club members included six students on their way to prom getting involved in a car accident when student driver, Michael, chooses to drink and drive. Michael allegedly causes a car crash due to his impairment. Two students played the role of fatal victims, while the other three victims sustained injuries.

Junior and senior class students gathered around the mock crash site to hear Kevin Rych narrate the crash scene. Students watched as emergency response workers used the Jaws of Life to pry the roof off of one car. They also witnessed Michael receiving a field sobriety test by an Ohio State Highway Patrol Officer.

"Michael's passenger was thrown through the front windshield and has landed on the front hood," Rych tells the students. "At the time of impact, she also hit the front door post causing major facial and head trauma. The impact has also caused large tears of both her lungs and liver. She did not survive the trauma her body has taken. She will be covered with a sheet and removed from the scene as time permits. Right now, all efforts will be directed towards those still alive."

After all of the student actors were safely removed from the wreckage, the student audience made its way to the school's track for the next segment of the presentation. Groups of students traveled around the field to learn what



First responders arrive on the scene of the simulated OVI crash at Cloverleaf High School

happens after a fatal car crash. They heard from medical personnel who treat the injured, law enforcement officers who have experienced these situations first hand, and funeral directors who explained the process of planning an unexpected service for a loved one.

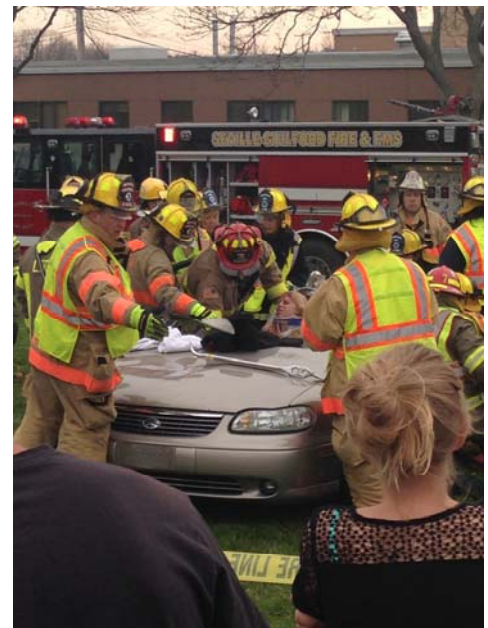
Chief Magistrate Susana Lewis also spoke to the students about the charges and consequences an impaired driver would face in this situation. The driver received two counts of Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, a felony of the second degree, and three counts of Aggravated Vehicular Assault, a felony of the third degree.

"He is under 18, but he could be bound over as an adult," Magistrate Lewis explained. "He is facing mandatory prison time and a mandatory suspension of his license for the rest of his life. But it's much more than that. He will have to live with the guilt that two lives were lost because of his reckless decision and others were injured. His future is forever changed for the worse. There is no do-over or time machine to go back and change a horrible situation

like this. Was it really worth it for one night of drinking?"

Magistrate Lewis urged students to be wise and truly think about the consequences of their actions. She encouraged them to consider the impact a crash like this would have on the driver and victims and also on their families, friends and the community. She told students they need to intervene if they see someone drinking, even if there will be negative repercussions from their classmates.

Rych also left the students with words of encouragement to think before they act. "This type of situation is not uncommon and has happened right here in this county in recent years. The hope of Cloverleaf Schools, Law Enforcement and Fire Departments is that each one of you will be impacted to be cautious when making decisions in the future."



Firefighters and emergency personnel use the Jaws of Life to remove an injured passenger from the second car involved in the mock crash.

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COMMUNITY MEMBERS GATHER FOR 28TH ANNUAL SHARE CLUSTER BREAKFAST

Community members from local agencies and Court personnel joined Medina County Share Cluster for their 28th annual Share Cluster Breakfast April 22 at Williams on the Lake. This breakfast celebrates the organization's dedication and work toward non-violent, drug-free living.

"This is a very powerful group of individuals," said Medina County Juvenile and Probate Court Administrator and Share Cluster Co-Chair Sharon Danko. "Medina County is very lucky to have the energy, resources and experience this group of individuals brings to the table."

During the breakfast, attendees had the opportunity to view the three finalist videos for the Medina County Suicide Prevention Coalition video contest.

Miles Howell from the Medina County Career Center representing



Share Cluster breakfast attendees view this year's Putting a Face on Prevention video

Buckeye High School earned first place for his video submission, taking home \$1,000 and earning \$500 for his school. In a close second were students from Cloverleaf High School while third place went to students also from the Medina County Career Center.

In addition to the suicide coalition PSAs, this year's outstanding seniors, in conjunction with Brunswick Area Television, created the annual "Putting a Face on Prevention" video where

teens explain why they choose to live a drug-, alcohol-, and violence-free life, citing positive role models in their families or their aspiration to be a positive role model themselves.

Also taking home the annual Community Service Award was Detective David Pries from the Medina County Sheriff's Office for his work and dedication to the safety of the community.

Share Cluster is comprised of members from local schools,

Cornerstone Wellness, Medina County Home, Juvenile and Probate Court, the Juvenile Detention Center, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Rape Crisis Center, Medina District Library, Medina County Drug Abuse Commission (MCDAC), Medina County Health Department, Medina County Sheriff's Department, Solutions Behavioral Healthcare, Inc., the Children's Center of Medina County, and United Way of Medina County.

GIRL SCOUT CADETTES TAKE GOLDILOCKS TO COURT



The Girl Scout Cadettes with Judge Kevin W. Dunn.

A group of Girl Scout Cadettes stopped by the Medina County Juvenile Court April 27, to meet Judge Kevin Dunn and tour the Court of Common Pleas before conducting a mock trial of Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Judge Dunn explained the types of cases he hears in his Courtroom. He showed the girls who sits where during a hearing and an example of a transcript typed by a Court reporter. He sent the Cadettes off to conduct a trial of their own.

The Cadettes played the roles of prosecutor, defense attorney, defendant, witnesses, and judge in the mock case of *State of Ohio v. Goldilocks*. "This is

fun because I want to be a judge or an engineer when I grow up," said Cadette Kaylee, who played the role of judge.

In the end, the case was left with a split verdict. Goldilocks was found guilty of criminal trespass and theft. She was not found guilty of charges of burglary and criminal damaging. "They were so well-prepared and interested in the entire process, said Chief Magistrate Susana Lewis. "They were excited to meet Judge Dunn, and learn about the Court and the process of a trial. It was really neat to see them absorb all of the information and play it out."