

Councilwoman Bonner announces Rocky Point's Drug Awareness Forum

posted on 3/12/2010 2:07:46 PM

Farmingville, NY - With teen drug use alarmingly on the rise all across our local communities, the North Shore Youth Council and the Rocky Point High School Shared-Decision Team will be cosponsoring a sequence of forums on this daunting issue.

The initial forum will be held on Tuesday, March 23rd at 7:00 PM at the Rocky Point High School Auditorium. Guest speakers will be Fr. Frank Pizzarelli of Hope House Ministries; and Sheriff Vincent Demarco will discuss "Test Don't Guess" and "Social Host Laws."

On Monday, April 19th at 7:00 PM, the second forum will take place, also at the Rocky Point High School Auditorium. The guest speakers will be Dr. Stephen Dewey, discussing "The Effects of Drug Use on the Adolescent Brain" to be followed by Jerry Gentile, founder of "Parents Against Drug Dealing."

"Discussing drugs with your kids can be difficult. Heroin is cheap, readily available and potent enough to addict a first-time user. It can kill a child with a single use, and is in all of our neighborhoods and schools" said NSYC Executive Director Janene Gentile. "These forums will alert parents to many of the issues surrounding drug use, and can become a catalyst for better and more opens lines of communication with your children."

Informational handouts regarding treatment providers will be available from the High School and Middle School substance abuse councilors, and from the North Shore Youth Council. Free Baby sitting will be provided by the RPHS Interact Club and child psychology students for parents with small children.

"As a parent, I've been well aware of the presence of drugs in our schools and the peer-pressure and temptations confronting our children," said Councilwoman Jane Bonner. "The North Shore Youth Council, and Janene Gentile, have long been committed to helping area youth and their families cope with today's challenging environment" "I wholeheartedly support these informational forums and urge all concerned residents to attend," the Councilwoman concluded.

To paraphrase Suffolk DA Tom Spota "Heroin is a plague in Suffolk County... The time to act is now!"

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