

SADD is RADD

STUDENTS AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS

The official newsletter of Oneida County High School SADD Chapters

A MESSAGE FROM Oneida County Executive Anthony J. Picente, Jr.

Dear Students:

I wanted to take a moment to commend you on your decision to take part in the Students Against Destructive Decisions program. The SADD program has expanded from a program with a focus on saying no to drinking and driving to becoming a peer leadership group dedicated to preventing all destructive decisions, such as underage drinking, drug use, impaired driving, teen violence, and teen depression, amongst others.

Many destructive decisions could be prevented if students truly understood the negative consequences that could result from these actions. By making the decision to become a member of this peer leadership group you have shown that you have the maturity to realize the profound impact these actions could have on not only the student, but their family and friends as well. You have taken the first step, and I encourage you to become actively involved and to encourage your friends to do so as well.

I also want to extend my appreciation to the advisors of this organization, who provide invaluable leadership to SADD. With their help, we try to provide the best prevention and intervention tools possible. It is imperative that we continue to do what we can to raise awareness among our youth of the effects that these destructive behaviors could have, and encourage our students to help their peers make good decisions.

Once again, I congratulate you on your decision to join SADD. I think you will find the program rewarding and insightful, and will provide you the knowledge to not only make the right decision yourself, but also help your peers to do the same.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Picente Jr.
Oneida County Executive

DID YOU KNOW?

That 5000 Teens die every year due to Teen Alcohol use. **DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE OR GET IN A VEHICLE WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN DRINKING**

WHATS IN A NAME

So how did we come up with the name; **SADD is RADD** ----It was submitted by Camden high School student Katie Marnell and after I did some investigating as to what exactly RADD meant, it was the name chosen for the official **SADD NEWSLETTER**. The Newsletter will highlight the good things that our local High School SADD chapters are doing. For Katie's winning entry, the Camden High School SADD chapter will be given a Pizza party, compliments of The Department of Traffic Safety –STOP DWI. Thanks to all the chapters who submitted names, they all were terrific. By the way, RADD is today's' youth's lingo for **cool** and yes, **being a member of your SADD group is cool**, so **SADD IS RADD**.

Thank you to County Executive Picente and the STOP- DWI PROGRAM for supporting this Newsletter!

SADD HISTORY

For 30 years, **SADD** has been committed to empowering young people to lead education and prevention initiatives in their schools and communities. Founded as Students Against Driving Drunk in 1981 in Wayland, Massachusetts, SADD has grown to become the nation's dominant peer-to- peer youth education and prevention organization with thousands of chapters in middle schools, high schools, and colleges. In 1997, in response to requests from SADD students themselves, **SADD** expanded its mission and name and now sponsors chapters called **STUDENTS AGAINST DESTRUCTIVE DECISIONS**. **SADD** continues to endorse a firm "NO USE" message related to the use of alcohol and other drugs. With its expanded focus, **SADD** now highlights prevention of all destructive behaviors and attitudes that are harmful to young people, including underage drinking, substance abuse, impaired driving, violence, and suicide.

Department of Traffic Safety-STOP- DWI sponsors Teen Traffic Safety Education Program



The Oneida County Department of Traffic Safety – STOP-DWI will be sponsoring its annual Teen Traffic Safety Education Program, visiting eight schools districts from April 26 – May 5. The spring awareness program is interactive in design and the information delivers an invaluable lesson, just before Proms, Senior Balls and Graduation. **The program features a DWI Traffic Safety Simulator, along with The New York State Police "Roll Over Simulator and Seat Belt Convincer. The Insight House is also present with its dangers of smoking presentation. The State Department of Transportation is also on hand educating students on the importance of safe driving in WORK ZONE areas. A video**

highlighting making good choices will also be presented. Thanks goes out to County Executive Picente and Department of Traffic Safety-STOP- DWI coordinator Mike Colangelo for making this worthwhile program available. The schedule is as follows: April 26, Westmoreland HS; April 27, Clinton HS; April 28, VVS; April 29, Oriskany HS; May2, Proctor HS; May 3, RFA; May 4, Holland Patent HS; and May 5 Whitesboro HS.

**ONEIDA COUNTY STOP- DWI PROGRAM
200 BASE RD—SUITE 3
ORISKANY, NY 13424 —736- 8946**

HAVE IDEAS

Do you have IDEAS or want something included in upcoming newsletters? If so, contact Tom Giruzzi, Oneida County Youth Bureau—798-5027 or tgiruzzi@ocgov.net.

SADD HAPP'NINGS

SADD HAPP'NINGS will highlight all the great things that our local SADD Chapters are doing to spread the importance of making positive choices. (SADD HAPP'NINGS was a newsletter name submitted by the Clinton Middle School SADD Chapter—thanks Clinton).

Oneida County currently has 11 schools with active SADD chapters:

Holland Patent High School (new chapter 2010)

Advisor: Sherry Kennerknecht

Officers: President, Meghan Quintanilla; Vice President, David Sandbrook; Treasurer, Lacie Cushman; Secretary's), Emily Fletcher and Ericka Bradley

Holland Patents (HP) newly formed SADD chapter, under the enthusiastic leadership of Sherry Kennerknecht has literally hit the ground running with events each month. From participating in a Youth Summit revolving around the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse to volunteering in the Oneida Youth Bureau's Intergenerational initiative, where the youth helped senior citizens with general yard clean-up. In November the HP SADD group sponsored The Great American Smoke out, distributing handouts, and pamphlets to students on how to quit smoking. The month of December brought the awareness of Drunk/Drugged driving to life. Students painted their faces white, as if they were not their, to illustrate what happens when you drink and drive and collide. A guest speaker spoke about her life experience of losing two teenage friends, who died in a drinking while driving accident. There wasn't a dry eye in the place... The group has been active learning about HIV/STD's and TEEN dating violence. ***Keep up the good work HP, you are making a difference!***

Oriskany High School:

Advisor: Erin Breheny

Officers: President, Stephanie Copeland; Vice President, Brianna Worth & Taylor Clynn; Secretary, Christina Graziadei; Treasurer, Kristin Courtney

Oriskany's SADD chapter under the leadership of Erin Breheny continues to do great things. The SADD group (35 + students) is currently planning for their annual "SADD WEEK, which coincides with Prom, Senior Ball and graduation time of year. This years theme is the value of FRIENDSHIPS. Students will participate in activities to let their friends know how important they are, and why they want to keep them safe and healthy. A wall will be created where friends can share why they value each others friendship, while posting pictures of good times shared. ***Great stuff, Oriskany! Keep spreading the news!***

Clinton Middle School:

Advisor: Mary Beth King

Officers: President, Maddie Soultz, Treasurer, Lizzy Diamond

Under the leadership of Mary Beth King great things continue with Clinton's SADD chapter. They are currently working a Party in the Court Yard w/ Kiss FM. This years theme, KICK BUTTS DAY, the dangers of smokeless tobacco. Shirts have been designed and will read "YOU CHEW" S... YOU LOSE... Clinton will also participate in the Teen Traffic Safety Education program. ***Continue the good work, Clinton, you are making a difference.***

Camden Central High School

Advisor: Richard Meyers

**Officers: President, Megan Keil; Vice President, Aubry Coon;
Secretary, Kelcy Forbrag; Treasurer, Mitch Hughes**

The Camden SADD chapter started the school year off and running as Erie Insurance awarded them with a Lookin' out Grant to do many safety initiatives. Erie Insurance and Stop DWI have made it possible for our club to do activities without the need for students to fundraise, leaving precious time for students to engage in worthwhile activities.

At Camden's Homecoming Parade we decorated our advisor's truck with safe driving messages and used it as a float. Many people attended the Homecoming Parade and the message was well received by the public. Even the advisor's puppy, Cindy Lou acted as our mascot, dressed in a Camden's cheerleader outfit and drew everyone's attention to our message.

Rome Free Academy:

Advisor: Holly Yardley

Officers: President, Emily Ingalls; Vice President, Jena Robertson; Secretary, Kim Hardin; Treasurer, Tiffany Marineau

Under the new leadership of Holly Yardley the RFA SADD chapter is aggressively working to increase participation. They recently held a candy distribution, in hopes of getting students involved. Each candy bar had a message on it; don't drink and drive or text and drive, just to name a few. RFA will be hosting the Teen Traffic Safety Education Program on Tuesday May 3rd. ***Stay positive RFA and keep spreading the news!***

Whitesboro:

Advisor: Jennifer Delay

Officers: President, Meghan O'Connor, Vice President- Secretary Laura Sowalskie; Treasurer, Lauren O'Shaunessy

Under the direction of Advisor Jen Delay and Fashion Marketing teacher, Mrs. Murphy the Whitesboro SADD chapter presented its 3rd annual SADD fashion show, with a portion of the proceeds going to MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving). Thank you to all the student models who took part in the event and also to our many sponsors. ***Nice job W'Boro!***

Westmoreland:

Advisor: Pam Sidelko, President, Nick Leone, Vice President, Mike Jennings, Treasure, Garrett Biek-sza, Secretary, Laura Wessing, Parliamentarian, Sara Dampf

The Westmoreland SADD chapter has had an active year getting out positive messages. The Seatbelt Smarties initiative gave all who were wearing their seatbelts smarties the next day. Mock tails have also been served, as well as a BYOB day, where you bring your own banana and banana splits were made. The group also had a collection and bought toys for the St. Lukes pediatrics wing. ***Great stuff, Westmoreland, keep up the good work!***

Other Active Chapters;

New Hartford High School: Advisor, Michele Gordon

Remsen Central High School: Advisor, Priscilla Hepburn

Sauquoit Valley Middle School: Advisor, Tammy Purrington

Vernon Verona Sherrill High School: Cheryl Houle