



News Release

FROM: Chambers of the Chief Judge
19th Judicial Circuit
Lake County
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Waukegan, Illinois

RALLY HELD AT COLLEGE OF LAKE COUNTY

Circuit Judge Diane Winter welcomed over four hundred students from Lake County schools who were given the opportunity to attend the Red Ribbon Rally held Wednesday morning, October 12, at the College of Lake County. The event is sponsored by the 19th Judicial Circuit Court in partnership with the Lake County Regional Office of Education and the College of Lake County. The annual Rally is presented to middle school aged students to increase their awareness of the unfavorable effects that tobacco, alcohol and drugs can have on their lives.

Red Ribbon Week is dedicated to DEA Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena and others who have lost their lives fighting drug trafficking in the United States. Since 1985, Red Ribbon Week is observed in the month of October and is one of the oldest and largest drug prevention programs in the country.

In honor of Agent Camarena, the Lake County Health Department presented the annual awards to individuals and organizations who have promoted or supported substance abuse prevention. This year's recipients were Anna Heinrich and the Lake County Underage Drinking Prevention Task Force.

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Anna is a senior at Carmel Catholic High School and is an active member of the Lake County Chapter of REALITY Illinois. Teens in REALITY Illinois promote healthier communities and a cleaner environment by advocating tobacco-free park policies.

The Lake County Underage Drinking Prevention Task Force began in the winter of 2006-2007 to address underage drinking after several tragedies involving teens occurred in communities across Lake County.

State's Attorney Michael J. Waller presented five schools, Gavin Central, Gavin South, Stanton School, Miguel Juarez Middle School and Lotus Elementary with grants from the State's Attorney's Office Drug Forfeiture Funds.

The Rally included a multimedia production presentation by Camfel Productions entitled "Get A Grip! Making a Case for Self-Control." The 40-minute production demonstrated for the students how to exercise self-control in difficult situations and when they are faced with negative influences.

Other entertainment was provided by the Zion-Benton's NJROTC Color Guard, the Waukegan High School Band and Color Guard, and "Red Ribbon Rap" by Miguel Juarez Middle School.

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