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Westlake Parent Connection

Helping parents keep their kids safe and healthy since 2003

A Parent to Parent Network (P2PN) Affiliate

Email Information Blast

December 12, 2008

Congratulations to Kathy McGinty!

Congratulations to WHS Chemical Abuse Coordinator, Kathy McGinty, recipient of the 2008 ODE Safe and Drug Free Schools Asset Builder Award for her work with Leadership Challenge. [<press release>](#)

[<More info about the award>](#)

[<More about Leadership Challenge>](#)

Know! Warns Against Promotion of Alcohol holidays

Know!, a program of Drug-Free Action Alliance is advising adults to celebrate holidays responsibly and to remember that young eyes are watching and learning.

The holidays are a wonderful time of celebration. During the festive holiday season, there are many parties and friendly gatherings that we all look forward to attending. In our society, too often, alcohol plays a large role in holiday celebrations.

Parents are the single most important influence on a child's decision not to smoke, drink or use drugs, according to a study by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University ([Malignant Neglect: Substance Abuse and America's Schools](#), 2001). Children pay attention to what parents say and also what parents do, so make sure you model behaviors that you want to see your child emulate.

Know! to use the holidays as a time to talk about your family values and the role of alcohol in your celebrations.

- § When celebrations include alcohol, talk with your child about how adults can consume alcohol responsibly.
- § Discuss the dangers when adults make poor alcohol choices.
- § Plan alcohol-free parties so youth can see that you can have fun without alcohol.

More information about the Know! program can be found at www.HelpThemKnow.com or you can find more information about healthy holiday party celebrations by [clicking here](#).

Parent Programs – Save the Date

March 12, 19, and 26

***From Binge to Blackout* Book Club** [<more info>](#)

7:00 – 8:00 pm

A limited number of books are available for \$10.00 (They are regularly \$15.00). [Contact us](#) for more information.

Borders Books -
Promenade Westlake

Be sure to visit our blog at
www.frombingetoblackout.blogspot.com.

April 2, 2009

***From Binge to Blackout* Author Visit** [<more info>](#)

7:00 pm

Make plans to join us when Chris and Toren Volkmann visit the west side this spring! Admission is free and open to all.

Learwood Middle School
Avon Lake

Student Book Club at WHS

Kathy McGinty has invited students from SADD and Leadership Challenge to read, ***From Binge to Blackout*** by Chris and Toren Volkmann. Over 40 students signed up for a book club to form after winter break. The book club is open to all WHS students. Both the English and Health Departments are considering ways to promote the book.

WHS Students who read the book are invited to meet the authors at a student-only "Meet & Greet" at Porter Library on April 2nd.

All are invited to attend the Volkmann presentation that evening.

Other local schools are encouraging students to read the book and participate in the "Meet & Greet" as well as the author presentation.

Contact [Kathy](#) for more information on the WHS activities.

Westlake Wellness Coalition Update

The second meeting of the Westlake Wellness Coalition will take place February 17 at the Westlake Rec Center from 9:00 – 12:00. Participants will share what steps their groups have taken to better support Westlake youth. [<more info>](#)

Next WPC General Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, January 7 at 7:00 pm at Porter Library for the WPC general membership meeting.

All are welcome - Be informed - make a difference!

Support the WPC

Your financial support not only allows the WPC to provide important programs for the community, but also serves as a tangible sign of community support for the WPC vision – making Westlake a community that is known for its parental outreach and is free from underage alcohol and tobacco use, illegal drug use, and violence.

Please make a contribution today – every little bit helps! [Download a donation form.](#)

The WPC is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

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As always, this blast is FYI. Feel free to pass it along!

Let us know what you're hearing from the community about the WPC.

Contact us at: parentcon@westlakeparentconnection.com

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