

Based on survey showing student drug abuses, districts in JoCo plan action

Drug and alcohol use among adolescents and teen-agers is a serious national problem.

In an effort to better understand the scope of drug and alcohol use among Josephine County youth, the Commission for Children and Families, in collaboration with Grants Pass School District 7 and Three Rivers School District, administered the American Drug and Alcohol Survey (ADAS) during the 2006-2007 school year. The survey was funded by the federal Drug Free Communities grant and administered to eighth-, ninth- and 11th-grade students.

"In order to create a

community norm where young people are able to remain drug free, it is necessary to understand what factors contribute to the decisions our children make today about drug use," said the commission. "Students were given an anonymous paper-and-pencil questionnaire that takes less than 35 minutes to complete.

"Similar surveys are given to students nationwide on an annual or biannual basis. The ADAS survey addresses questions about whether students have ever tried alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other illicit drugs, how often, and how much.

"Additionally, the survey assesses the attitudes

and perceptions of risk that young people hold toward drug and alcohol use. For example, 72 percent of boys and 71 percent of girls say that their parents would 'care a lot' if they drank alcohol.

While the use of alcohol, tobacco and marijuana remain the top three substances self-reported among students, rising numbers admit using prescription narcotics, methamphetamine, inhalants, and other dangerous substances.

Based on results of students from both school districts completing the survey, results show that 21 percent of eighth-graders, 36 percent of ninth-graders, and 47

percent of 11th-graders used alcohol during the previous month. Among eighth-graders surveyed who have tried tobacco, the average age that kids report first trying cigarettes is between 10 and 11 years of age.

The number of eighth-graders reporting use of marijuana during the past 30 days is 13 percent, down from 16 percent during 2005.

The Josephine County Commission for Children and Families, Substance Abuse Community Action Team, SACAT and the Local Alcohol and Drug Planning Committee will use the survey results to forward prevention strategies and efforts.

The ADAS report is available for review by phoning Karen Caskey, Drug Free Communities project coordinator, at 474-5234 or email kcaskey@co.josephine.or.us.

Information on individual school district results can be directed to Jann Taylor at Three Rivers School District, 862-3111; or Cheryl Norfleet at Grants Pass District 7 at 474-5709.

Where there's smoke, there's fire

Do you have smoke detectors in your home?

When is the last time you checked the batteries?

Did you take one out because it was beeping? That is telling you that you need a new battery, said Illinois Valley Fire District (IVFD).

Smoke detectors do save lives because when working properly they can provide an

early warning that smoke is in the house.

Do you have fire drills with the family and pets? Do you know how they will respond to the sound?

If you need help with the proper placement of smoke detectors and extinguishers, or have any question about being fire safe phone IVFD at 592-2225.

Tales from the Police Blotter

(Editor's Note: Factual information for 'Blotter' is provided by official law enforcement agencies. All persons listed are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. Charges can be amended or dismissed.)

Wednesday, June 27

*In O'Brien, gunshots were heard shortly after 8 a.m. The caller thought it might be someone upset about barking dogs.

*A stolen pickup truck was discovered near Rough and Ready Creek. Somehow, its tires and radiator were missing.

*On Caves Avenue, a caller said that his ex-girlfriend had assaulted him, shoving him into a wall and aggravating an existing injury. Deputies stood by while she packed her belongings and left.

*A woman in the 24000 block of Redwood Hwy. was advised of her civil options after she reported that a man had been attempting to break into her home.

*Out Deer Creek Road an orange-yellow flare was sighted in the air for approximately a minute. The caller stated that it did not look like fireworks.

Thursday, June 28

*A cell phone and small handbag were reported lost at a Cave Junction watering hole the night before.

*Gates and "No Trespassing" signs have been no deterrent to would-be rivergoers, who were reported to have run over them with vehicles and caused other damage on private property on Schumacher Street.

*No action was taken against an underage person who attempted to purchase alcohol from the state liquor store in Cave Junction. Originally confiscated, his ID was returned.

*Fishing licenses were checked at Bolan Lake.

*On Norman Road at 4:49 p.m. a man was trespassing, and he was not welcome.

*A "rowdy" group of young people were said to be setting firecrackers alight in Jubilee Park around 5:30 p.m.

*Increased traffic of young people to Seats Dam out Airport Drive has resulted in vandalism, a caller said. Numerous street signs were run over or broken down. The county public works department was notified.

*Cave Junction's city recorder was notified that a "Stop" sign had been knocked over on S. Junction Avenue around 8 p.m.

Friday, June 29

*Despite a report of a loud explosion in the 5000

block of Westside Road around 10 a.m., a person contacted by Illinois Valley Fire District personnel said that there had not been one.

*A 911 Dispatch Center call-taker advised a young man that he could not take another person's television set, even though the person owes him money.

*Someone nearby had been burning marijuana for two days, said a caller from Caves Hwy. near Chapman Creek Road.

*Loud vehicles were racing up and down E. River Street, a caller complained at 9:40 p.m.

*Gunshots and loud "bomb" noises had been disturbing her animals all night long "for several weeks," said a Honeybee Lane resident.

*Loud music, many voices and the sound of one person screaming were heard at 11:14 p.m. over an open cell phone line traced to an address on Caves Avenue. The call-taker continued to listen, thinking it might be a disturbance. But noting that the voices began to discuss their colleges, and hearing music, the incident at 11:41 p.m. was pegged as a party.

Saturday, June 30

*People who refused at 2:40 a.m. to be quiet in a rented room in Illinois Valley were contacted by a deputy. The occupant's unregistered guests left on foot at that time.

*At 12:06 p.m. a motel guest was said to be refusing to leave. Deputies removed the 57-year-old man, warning him about trespassing.

*Fire involving slash, debris and tree litter was reported off Draper Valley Road at 2:49 p.m. The .78-acre blaze was at an old logging site on county property on Indian Creek Road.

*A tenant nearby had been screaming since 6 a.m., said a resident in the 300 block of Schumacher Street. The caller thought the screamer, who was alone, might be a threat to herself.

*A white gas stove with a black handle was reported stolen from the 23000 block of Redwood Hwy.

*While at a CJ convenience store, a young woman threatened to kill her 16-year-old daughter, according to a concerned citizen.

*Some 30 carloads of teen-aged party-goers were gathering near the green bridge on Eight Dollar Mountain Road, someone said at 8 p.m.

*A couple of teen-aged boys, who appeared to the caller to be intoxicated, were said to be stepping into traffic on Caves Hwy. on purpose around 9:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 1

*Chaz Albert Lindsey,

22, was cited under two Medford Police warrants charging failure to appear (FTA) on original charges of third-degree theft.

*At 12:48 p.m. a "very bad accident" occurred in Downtown Cave Junction, sending five people to hospitals and demolishing half the Pizza Pit building. (See *I.V. News*, July 4, 2007; plus a follow-up story elsewhere in this issue).

*"Stop" signs were reported uprooted and knocked down by imbecilic individuals around the Holland Loop area.

*Extra patrol was conducted around the Pizza Pit wreckage around 11:30 p.m.

Monday, July 2

*While walking her leashed dog around CJ, the canine lunged for a cat, a woman said. The cat's

owner then screamed and turned a water hose on her.

*A two-shot .22-caliber Derringer was found on the loading dock at the Cave Junction Post Office two days earlier, a caller said. It was requested that a deputy retrieve the weapon, as federal law prohibits storing weapons at post offices.

*Two rented outhouses were dragged around the parking lot at Illinois River "Forks" State Park, effectively destroying them, reported an Oregon State Parks employee. It was noted that the crappers had a \$2,200 replacement value.

*James Wesley Kendall, 41, was cited on a charge of FTA on original charges of possession of a controlled substance and endangering the welfare of a child.

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