

# Speaker to deliver anti-drug message

BY CASEY HANS  
STAFF WRITER



A mid-Michigan woman active in the substance abuse field will kick off October Drug Awareness Month in the Farmington area this year, which Penny Norton, prevention coordinator for the Mid-State Substance Abuse Commission, will be the keynote speaker at the fourth annual kick-off breakfast, scheduled to begin at 7:15 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 1, at Glen Oaks Country Club.

A former high school biology teacher who has spent the past 14 years working in substance abuse prevention, Norton also is project director for a public alcohol awareness initiative called FACE — Facing Alcohol Concerns Through Education.

Her topic will include "Advertising's Effect on Consumption."

A full month of activities is planned, beginning with the kick-off breakfast. All the events will highlight the theme of "Alcohol and Tobacco — The Most Abused Drugs."

The month is spearheaded by the local anti-drug group, Farmington Families in Action, with the help of numerous other community agencies and groups.

Tickets for the breakfast are \$10 and will only be sold in advance. Call Linda Enberg at 476-2303 for more information or to make reservations.

"It's such a tremendous problem — maybe the biggest problem in America today," said Andy Young, who is coordinating publicity for the anti-drug month. He sees the annual effort as a "counterattack against drugs, alcohol and tobacco — pointing out the savings in health costs and the quality of life."

New this year is a student breakfast scheduled for Sept. 24 at the Community Center of Farmington/Farmington Hills, where 78 selected high school and middle school students will hear keynote speeches on the alcohol and tobacco theme.

A number of other community activities are planned during October, including:

• Twenty area churches, temples and synagogues will participate in the Religious Weekend Oct. 2-4, doing various drug awareness programs with their respective congregations in a multi-denominational effort.

• Also Oct. 2-4, there will be an Alcohol Free Pledge Weekend, where Families in Action members are challenging the community to abstain from alcohol and tobacco throughout the weekend, and to encourage family and friends to do the same.

• On Sunday, Oct. 25, the Farmington Area YMCA will sponsor Family Day from 1-5 p.m. A \$1 donation is requested for the day, which will include family activities and games and use of the YMCA facilities. Call Sue Brooks at 553-4020 for more information.

Businesses also are getting into the act. On Oct. 9-11, the Valvoline Instant Oil Change on Grand River in downtown Farmington will donate \$2 from each oil change to benefit Farmington Families in Action. Special promotions also are planned. On Oct. 21-25, the Little Professor Bookstore at Grand River and Halsted will donate 15 percent of all regularly priced books to benefit FFIA.

Other promotions include the Oct. 14 Smoke Out Day, when a community-wide effort against smoking is being encouraged; a student rap music contest with an anti-drug theme; and the Oct. 21 "Wear Red Day" which is designed to pin a red ribbon on everyone in a show of support. Ribbons can be ordered from Sue Dulish at 474-8815.

and Courtney Watson.

**SUPER READERS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS** — Itay Almag, Tommy Arnett, Katya Barouch, Brandon Barajas, Emily Beam, Laurel Blumer, Chad Boruta, Russell Boruta, April Brock, Meghan L. Brown, Erin Comstock, Aayana Corden, Marya Corden, Cassandra Daily, Drew De Oris, Jay Desai, Brian Donahue, Shanel Eastman, Laura Flaugher, Olga Fleming, Jeffery Fraser, Julie Fraser, Julie Fraser, Charlie Garth, Jessi Gordon, Joshua Gordon, Alyse Grossman, Michael Hallak, Ronen Hallak, Matthew Hard, Cindy Herman, Eliza Hutchinson, Emily Jaffe, Melanie Kalisch, Phillip Kalisch, William Kallas, Nathan Keen, Moira Kessler, Julie Ketchum, Saheen Khan, Vikram Kinni, Mike Kotowski, Lauren Krolowski, Bethany Labs, James Labs, Eli Lakritz, Gregory Lavigne, Kendrick Lee, Peflin Lee, Nicholas Lesnau, Rachel Lipsun, Jenna McClure, Tara McClure, Becky McDonald, Kelley McLenn, Kristofer Matlock, Joshua Mayo, Amit Mehta, Laura Meili, Anjali Modi, Caleb Montgomery, Elizabeth Montgomery, Rebekah Montgomery, Sandra Montgomery, Frances Murphy, Andrew Neff, Daniel Novinson, Matthew O'Connell, Marilyn O'Conner, Jonathan Pohl, Sander Rampish, Justin Robbins, Candice Boumgarth, David Roubart, Tracy Roubart, Joshua Sadwal, Jacob Sasek, Chris Sayles, Julia Schlapacasse, Smitta Sehgal, Ben Stephenson, Elizabeth Stephenson, Johanna Stephenson, Nathaniel Stephenson, Sandra Stoller, Katie Streit, Riwan Tahir, Saema Tahir, Michael Turner, Dan Tuzczak, Ann Trowbridge, Bari Turetzky,

and Courtney Watson.

**PRE-READERS** — Debi Ackerman, Ivan Adelson, Julia Anderson, Leslie Anderson, Scott Andrusiak, John Armstrong, Christopher Atallah, Stephen Augen-stein, Samantha Bachar, Alese Bagdol, Preethi Bapna, Chad Baranik, Luke Bawulski, Lisa Beam, Kari Berlinger, Samantha Berlinger, Jared Bernan, Jill Borshe, Carl Bleich, Keith Boruta, Valerie Boruta, Lisa Mary Bruciale, Adam Britten, Colene Brockman, Chris Callahan, Amy Cantor, Chelsea Carlsberg, Whitney Chudwick, Allison Chapman, Katie Champion, Andrea Chunn, Rachel Ciccone, Tricia Cook, Matthew Cooney, Daniel Crawford, Zachary Crawford, Alexandra Daily, Deirdra Daily, Samantha Daily, Rebecca Darnbrook, Maya Dassanayake, Emily Davis, Scott De Oris, Raj Desai, John Dunahue, Claire Dowell, Kelsey Doyle, Meredith Doyle, Ashley Falson, Jonathan Grimm, Jill Flaugher, Anthony Franchina, Jeffery Fraser, Andy Gahrysiak, Andrew Garipey, Michael Garipey, Sean Giovanni, Steven Goldstein, Andrew Gossman, Alan Grandstaff, Paul Greenwood, Ryan Grimm, Cary Hague, Amanda Hartmann, Cary Heikila, Anna Heinrich, Rachel Heinrich, Evan Henri, Ross Henri, Theo Hicks, Brock Hixon, Cynthia Janowicz, Scott Janowicz and Jennifer Johnston.

**BEECHVIEW ELEMENTARY** — Terri Banks, Neal Bhott, Matthew Britten, Alexander Bryant, Kelly Anne Cothory, Nicholas DeCook, Renee DeCook, Christopher Diehl, Douglas Dorando, Kevin Downey, Kristen Glynn, Jimmy Hagemann, Katie Hagemann, John Kluka, Julie Kluka, Shawn LaFray, Beth Lee, Julie Mazanka, Andrea Mozanka, Sarah Morrison, Patrick Murphy, Brett Laird, Kirk Laird, Lakeisha Pearson, Ross Pennington, Robert Reading, Thomas Reading, Justin Roumsey, Nicholas Roumsey, Caryn Roumsey, Stacia Snyder, Alexander Smith, Michael Smith, Katie Stef, Anna Stuart, Alex Stuart, Eric White, Michelle White and Jessica Yurasek.

**GILL ELEMENTARY** — Ryan Baranik, Emily Darnbrook, Brian Garipey, Amanda Greenwood, Rose Greenwood, Christy Hague, Curtis Hargitt, Jarah Hargitt, Cody Heikila, Jillian Heikila, Vinson Hillawi, Katie Hoyng, Ashley Hurley, Jessica Janowicz, Elizabeth Maue, Lauren Munterey, Melissa Pluzkowski, Natalie Polito, Patricia Margo Sakata, Steven Schalek, Natalie Schauer, Joanne Smith, Elizabeth Steffe, Sheetal Trivedi

and Courtney Watson.

Other Reading Club members will be announced in upcoming editions of the Farmington Observer.

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