

SARASOTA COALITION ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE NEWSLETTER

# Month in REVIEW



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## Teen Driver Challenge

Now, parents, can help their teens become better and safer drivers through a FREE 12 hour, 2 day **Teen Driver Challenge**. The hands-on course designed to give teens the experience they need to drive safely under the supervision and training of Sarasota County Sheriff's Office staff.

The course will be offered twice a month, on a quarterly basis.

The next Teen Driver Challenge:

### January 15-16, 2010 (North County)

- Classroom: Criminal Justice Center, 2nd Floor, 2071 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota
- Driving Range: 664 West Price Blvd, North Port (next to North Port High School)

### January 29-30, 2010(South County)

- Classroom: Sheriff's Office South District HQ, 4531 State Road 776, Venice
- Driving Range @ 664 West Price

Boulevard, North Port (next to North Port High School)

For more information, please contact Sarasota County Sheriff's Office Youth Services at (941) 927-4190.



To download a registration form, go to [www.sarasotasheriff.org](http://www.sarasotasheriff.org) click on the **Teen Driver Challenge** button.

## NOPE Candle Light Vigil Recap

The Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse hosted the 3rd Annual NOPE Task Force Candle Light Vigil at North Port High School's Performing Arts Center on Thursday, October 29th. Josh Taylor from ABC 7 served as the Master of Ceremonies. North Port Police Chief Terry Lewis, North Port City Commissioner David Garofalo, and SCoSA Executive Director Curt Lavarello welcomed the crowd of about 130 attendees. The founder of FAADA, Cindy Harney, served as the keynote speaker for the event. Testimonials were given by Jennifer Carlson, Jessica Payne, TJ Adler, and Ashleigh Willhite. Pastor

John Walker from the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office offered words of reflection and a moment of silence as the crowd gathered to honor the memory of those lost to substance abuse. There were also special appearances by the North Port Police Department Honor Guard, the North Port High School Vocal Ensemble and Mixed Chorus, and Piper, Officer Scott Smith, from the North Port Police Department. Plans for next year's NOPE Vigil are underway and those interested in assisting with the planning should contact SCoSA at (941) 377-7736.

### Board of Directors

**Sherri T. Reynolds, Chair**  
 Sarasota County School Board

**Lt. Tim Enos, Vice-Chair**  
 Sarasota County Sheriff's Office

**George Flack, Treasurer**  
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**Liz Bumpus, Secretary**  
 Sarasota County Health Department

**Tom Randle, Past-Chair**  
 Sarasota Coastal Credit Union

**Curtis S. Lavarello**  
 SCoSA, Executive Director

**Rose Chapman**  
 Jewish Family & Children's Services

**Honorable Charles Roberts**  
 Judge, 12th Judicial Circuit

**Charles Brown**  
 Gold Coast Eagle Distributing

**Lisa Maier**  
 Hanley Center

**Scott Dennis**  
 ABC 7

**Honorable Larry Eger**  
 Public Defender, 12th Judicial Circuit

**Our Mission:**  
*To promote substance abuse free environments through increased community awareness and advocacy.*

# SARASOTA SHINING STARS

## SAVE THE DATE! March 18, 2010

Please join us at our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Shining Stars Recognition & Awards Luncheon set for Thursday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota as we honor our Citizen of the Year and present a special Shining Star Award. The event will also feature keynote speaker, Dr. Anthony J. Schembri, former Secretary of the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. Dr. Schembri was the basis for the hit television show *The Commish* and former Police Commissioner in New York. Also, invited is R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; the nation's sixth "Drug Czar".

Past recipients of the Citizen of the Year Award include:

- 2009 – Carl L. Weinrich, YMCA
- 2008 – Judge Andrew Owens, Jr.
- 2007 – Judge Robert Bennett
- 2006 – Attorney Robert Rozin

Tickets for this well attended event are \$50.00 per person and a VIP Sponsor table is \$800.00. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. For additional information or to be added to our event mailing list, please call our office at (941) 377-7736 or e-mail [Amy@SCoSA.org](mailto:Amy@SCoSA.org).

The Coalition's Citizen of the Year Award recipient is a member of our community who has been nominated for accomplishing good deeds related to the prevention of substance abuse in Sarasota County. Further, this person by his or her exploits and good deeds related to the prevention of substance abuse in Sarasota County improved the lives of others without consideration for his or her own credit.

### Project AIM Update:

### Early Bird Kiwanis Club of North Port

Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse, Inc. [SCoSA] is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization that advocates for substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment through collaborative efforts. Since its inception in 1999, SCoSA has played a vital role in reducing substance abuse and its destructive impact in Sarasota County.

Are you interested in taking a real step in making our community a Substance Abuse Free Environment?

Please complete this form and mail it with your membership dues and/or contribution to:

**Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse, 701 McIntosh Road, Sarasota, Florida 34232**

**Type of Membership:**  Individual [\$25]  Not for Profit Organization [\$100]  
 Family [\$50]  For Profit Organization [\$150]

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Staff / Support

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**Carol Sikora**  
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*Would you like to receive our monthly newsletter?*

*Email Carol at:*

**[Carol@scosa.org](mailto:Carol@scosa.org)**

*For a list of substance abuse treatment and intervention resources, visit our community resources page at:*

**[www.scosa.org](http://www.scosa.org)**



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