

## WHAT'S YOUR ANTI-DRUG?

The Sussex County Coalition for Healthy and Safe Families, a program of the Center for Prevention and Counseling, asks area school children to share their anti-drug as we all work together to keep Sussex County youth drug-free.

Lounging out in the soft bean bag chair, snuggling up with my small teddy bear. Sitting at the shore on the hot smooth sand, or sitting on a hard chair playing in band. Playing field hockey the game I like best, barely have enough breath to finish the rest. I have a best friend; her name is Monique — she is very fun and extremely unique. Headbands and bracelets and earrings and shoes, all the things girls like and definitely not booze. Holiday pins and decorative socks, eating Frito Lay chips right out of the box. Collecting snow globes every place I go, a favorite hobby I like to show. Go rafting on rapids and sharp rigid rock, our rafts always travel in one huge flock. My family, my friends and pets too, all the things that matter to me not to you. Walking on the boardwalk, feeling the ocean breeze, always bring a jacket so I don't freeze. My family always gives me heartfelt kisses and hugs, this is why I will NEVER do drugs!

— Brianna Murray, Halsted Middle School

Drugs — they do not have a chance in my life. I would rather read a book than do drugs. My life is much too valuable to throw it away on drugs. I would rather play a game than do drugs. I will always say no to drugs. I would rather play with my friends at the park than do drugs. Friendship is my Anti-drug!

Azure Timmons, PS #12, Paterson

I like going to Ridge View Farm to ride all year round. I go after school and whenever I can. My favorite part of horseback riding is when I ride my pony, Snickers. When I ride I walk, trot, canter, jump, win ribbons, and sometimes gallop. I need a lot of stuff to ride — like boots, a saddle, bridle, and helmet to keep me safe. My anti-drug is horseback riding because it is a lot of fun for me!

— Elizabeth Hirsch, Sandyston-Walpack School

“The Chain Letter” — “Finally 12” — “Brand-new Emily” — “The Postcard” — “The Cupcake Queen” — “11 Birthdays” — reading is my anti-drug!

— Amanda Masucci, Sparta Middle School

Corner to corner, I run across the floor to get the momentum to tumble — up on the high bar, I push up into a handstand and hold it before I swing — on a four-inch-wide beam, I jump into a split leap — running toward the vault, I prepare to flip over it — gymnastics ... my anti-drug.

— Emily Stoveken, Immaculate Conception Regional School



Submitted Photos

Members of the Newton High School Robotics Team present their work at Green Hills Middle School.

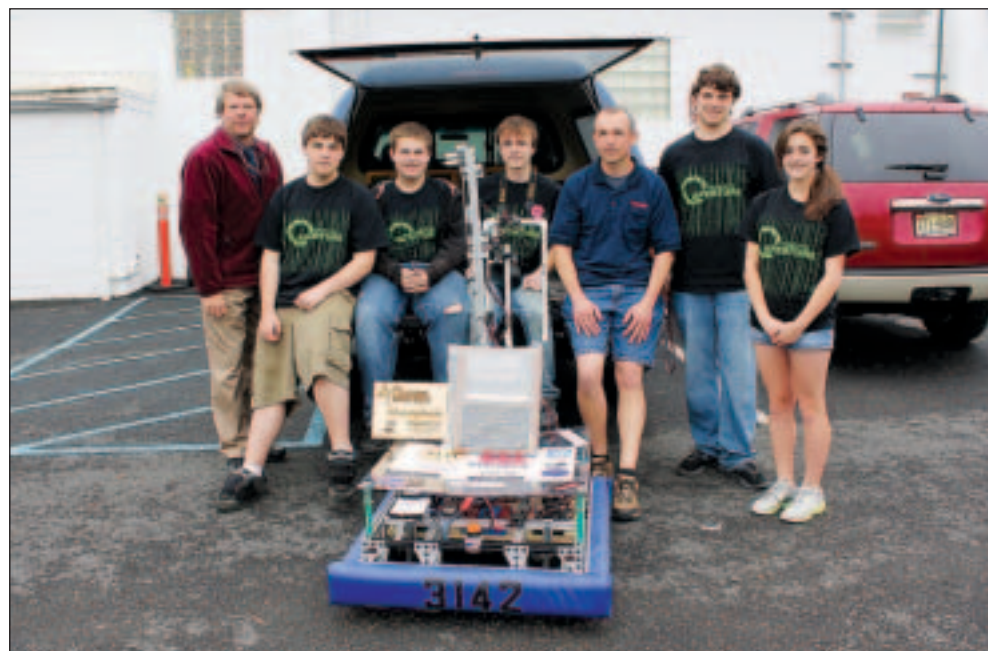
## Robotics team maintains success

NEWTON — Newton High School's Robotics Team continues to show its powerhouse skills and be recognized for outstanding achievements. The team recently was named Monty Madness 2011 Champions and coach James Hofmann was presented with the Woody Flowers Jr. Award.

Nine Team Aperture members made the trip to Montgomery High School with their 120-pound robot for the “LogoMotion” competition game that tests the workmanship of each robot as well as the skills of the four-member drive team. The team formed an alliance with teams from Ewing and Ambler, Pa., to compete against a total of 42 teams and take home the top prize in this regional event.

“I was in awe as I watched you all perform with the winning alliance. It was so humbling to be standing with two high power partners at the end of the matches in the center of the arena,” said Hofmann as he thanked his team for the extra effort and long hours spent retooling the robot for this competition. “Hard work and dedication really paid off big dividends.”

Hofmann, a technology teacher at Halsted Middle School in Newton and coach of the Newton High School FIRST Robotics Team, was nominated for the Woody Flowers Jr. Award by team members. The award recog-



Jim Hofmann, Todd Schabacker, Layne Darabaris, Shane Best, Thorlabs machine shop manager Pat Mulvoy, Ryan Wolfrum and Tess Bugay pose with the robotics team's robot, Neo.

nizes a team mentor who has done an outstanding job of motivation and encourages students to be problem solvers with strong communication skills.

“Mr. Hofmann was the one who helped us ‘Make it Happen,’ ” said Ryan Wolfrum, Team Aperture's Captain, “and without his constant support and understanding we would never had made it as far as we had.”

This is only the second year for a varsity robotics team at Newton High

School. Last year, the team won the FIRST 2010 Rookie All Star Award at New York City Regional competition and earned a trip to the world championship in Atlanta, Ga. This year in the same competition at the Javits Convention Center in March, the team won the 2011 Pit Safety Award.

This has been a busy spring for Team Aperture.

The group recently introduced their robot to middle school students at Green Hills School. The team showcased “Neo” and

demonstrated its newest creation — a pneumatic can crushing device.

- The team visited McGuire Chevrolet in Newton to learn about the technology behind the Chevy Volt EV operated car.

- The team also stopped by to thank Newton High School Principal James Tasker and also was able to show off Neo to Newton Mayor Kristin Becker.

- The team then stopped over to thank Pat Mulvoy of Thorlabs, who runs their machine shop.



## Students DARE to be drug-free

STILLWATER — Stillwater School fifth- and sixth-graders had their DARE graduation May 27. The Sussex County Sheriff's Department worked with students for this year's Drug Abuse Resistance Education program. Officers Dan Storey and Tim Hecht gave helpful tips and information to students while educating them about the abuse of drugs and alcohol. Sheriff Michael Strada and Sgt. John Gray also participated in the ceremony for the students. Linda Estock, Stillwater School's DARE coordinator, worked with the officers to help students understand the real life dangers of these substances. Anita Straway, Stillwater Township committeeewoman, gave each student a DARE T-shirt and hat.

TOP LEFT: From left, Anita Straway, Sheriff Michael Strada, Officers Dan Storey and Tim Hecht and Sgt. John Gray (seated) participate in the DARE graduation ceremony.



BOTTOM LEFT: Officer Dan Storey applauds the DARE essay winners. They are fifth-graders Alyssa Tassos and Tim Tighe and sixth-graders Steve Deren and Afton Goriscak.

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