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Wednesday,
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2019

FRIENDS & NEIGHBORS

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PAGES 12-13: Community Engagements Bridge scores Senior events

People/Places

Preventive measures



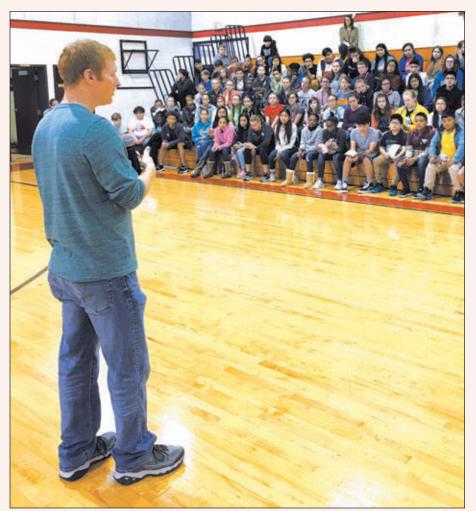


LIFESAVING LESSONS Cannon Brawley, a University of Tennessee at Martin graduate, visited Union City High School (above) and UC Middle School (at left) for Red Ribbon Week recently. He shared how nicotine and drugs can ruin not only their lives, but the lives of their loved ones as well. "The students and coaches really enjoyed the presentation,' Obion County Prevention Coalition coordinator Carla Aaron said. "Thank you, Cannon, for all your hard work to help educate our students on the dangers of drugs." Similar programs were held at schools across Obion County and Union City during Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 23-31).

Did you know?

Children of parents
who talk to their teens regularly
about drugs are 42 percent
less likely to use drugs than those
who don't, yet only a quarter of
teens report having these
conversations.





ROCKIN' RED RIBBON — The Red Ribbon Campaign is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation, reaching millions of young people dur-

ing Red Ribbon Week. Locally, guest speaker Josh Darnell went to Ridgemont Elementary School to share his story with sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders.



SHARING HER STORY — The 2019 National Red Ribbon Week theme was "Send a Message. Stay Drug Free." A few days ago, guest speaker Donna Newsom did just that as she shared

her story with Lake Road Elementary School's eighth-graders and encouraged them to stay drug-free. Similar activities were staged at schools throughout the county.

Red Ribbon Week urges youth: 'Send a Message. Stay Drug Free.'

The Red Ribbon Campaign® is the oldest and largest drug prevention program in the nation, reaching millions of young people during Red Ribbon Week®.

Among them are hundreds of students from Obion County and Union City schools.

The Obion County Prevention Coalition and the local health department coordinated activities in local schools recently as part of this year's Red Ribbon Week (Oct. 23-31).

Many local schools hosted guest speakers who shared personal experiences as they urged students to take the pledge to be drug-free.

The 2019 week's theme was "Send

a Message. Stay Drug Free."TM
What is Red Ribbon Week?

It is an ideal way for people and communities to unite and take a visible stand against drugs. Personal commitment to a drug-free lifestyle would be shown through the symbol of the red ribbon.

Why?

The Red Ribbon Campaign was started when drug traffickers in Mexico City murdered DEA agent Kiki Camarena in 1985. This began the continuing tradition of displaying red ribbons as a symbol of intolerance toward the use of drugs. The mission of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to present a unified and visible commitment toward the creation of a drug-free America.

Who?

National Family Partnership is the sponsor of the National Red Ribbon Week Celebration.

Take the National Red Ribbon Campaign Pledge and be a part of the creation of a drug-free America.

Parent Pledge

- As parents and citizens, we will talk to our children and the children in our lives about the dangers of drug abuse.
- We will set clear rules for our children about not using drugs.
- We will set a good example for our children by not using illegal drugs or medicine without a prescription.
- We will monitor our children's behavior and enforce appropriate consequences, so that our rules are respected.
- We will encourage family and friends to follow the same guidelines to keep children safe from substance abuse.

Youth Pledge

- I pledge to grow up safe, healthy and drug-free by:
- Understanding the dangers of drug use and abuse.
- Respecting myself and being
- Spreading the word to family and friends about the importance of being healthy and drug-free.

Photos courtesy of the Obion County Prevention Coalition; Page compiled by Chris Menees, Senior Staff Reporter



CLASS CHAT — The Obion County Prevention Coalition and Obion County Health Department kicked off Red Ribbon Week with Obion County Central High School's cosmetology class. Students discussed the importance of living a drug-free lifestyle, setting goals and remembering that all choices have consequences. Kelly Tittle Jones (right) and Ashley Smith (not pictured) shared their personal stories with the students at the invitation of teachers Sissy Nicks (left) and D'Anna Vancleave.