

Lyndhurst Neighborhood News MAY 2013

FROM THE LYNDHURST MUNICIPAL COURT...

As Judge of the Lyndhurst Municipal Court it has been, and continues to be my mission to be a visible example of hard work and dedication, through education, rehabilitation and adjudication, thus creating a greater public service to the citizens served by the Court.

- Judge Mary Kaye Bozza

Community Outreach Since 2001, we have strived to reach out to our communities through a Program we call "Make the Right Choice." Make the Right Choice Programs are educational by nature. They provide medical, psychological, clinical and legal education to Defendant's affected by substance abuse. Attendance is a mandatory condition of sentencing. Defendant's listen to the experiences of those proud of their sobriety after they have faced consequences of poor decisions related to use, abuse and/or addiction to alcohol and/or drugs. Defendants are offered the opportunity to interact with the speakers, the clinicians and the Court's personnel after the presentations. The Programs are funded through the Court's Special Projects pursuant to O.R.C. 1901.26. Lunch is served during the question/answer session. The Judge believes "breaking bread" always facilitates open exchange. Currently, we have two different programs. One is a Make the Right Choice Program customized for Women and the other is customized for Men. Issues of substance abuse are different for men and women. Separating the Program by gender allows the clinicians and speakers to address the specific needs of each gender with no inhibitions.

Now, after thirteen years on the bench in Lyndhurst, Judge Bozza is saddened to acknowledge the increase use of Opiate drugs in our area by the young people. She finds a serious need for parents and guardians to be educated, strengthened and supported with regard to this epidemic. As an extension of the Make the Right Choice Program, Judge Bozza and her staff have organized a Parent Support Group. Speakers present topics that include education of addiction, resources available and counseling that addresses grief, guilt and enabling.

Future Program Dates...

Parent's "Make the Right Choice Program" is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2013

Women's "Make the Right Choice Program" is scheduled for Friday, May 31, 2013

Men's "Make the Right Choice Program" is scheduled for Friday, July 19, 2013

For more information, Please contact Patti Anderson at (440) 461-6500 extension 205

School Projects, Mentoring and Externships As part of Judge Bozza's educational outreach programs, she is actively involved in senior project programs for students from local high schools and mentoring programs for new lawyers through the Supreme Court of Ohio's "Lawyer to Lawyer Mentoring Program".

In May 2013, Judge Bozza welcomes Eric, a senior from Brush High School. Eric will spend approximately 30 hours per week observing in the Courtroom and Clerk's office daily function as part of his senior project.

Abigail, a second year law student, will begin an Externship with our Court from May 6, 2013 through August 11, 2013.

On March 15, 2013, Judge Bozza attended Career Day at the Mayfield Middle School. The setting was a classroom where approximately 75 students, ages 11-14, joined three 30-minute modules to meet Judge Bozza and ask questions about how she became a Judge. Judge Bozza gave the students a judicial quiz with a chance to win a little prize for correct answers. The resulting questions and answers were awesome!

On March 23, 2013, Judge Bozza enjoyed a lovely afternoon with the Hillcrest Women's Club where she was the keynote speaker. The questions and answer hour, focusing on traffic safety and operations at the Lyndhurst Court was informative and enjoyed by all who attended.

On May 17, 2013, Judge Bozza will speak at the Chapter 2 meeting at the D'Amico Center in South Euclid.