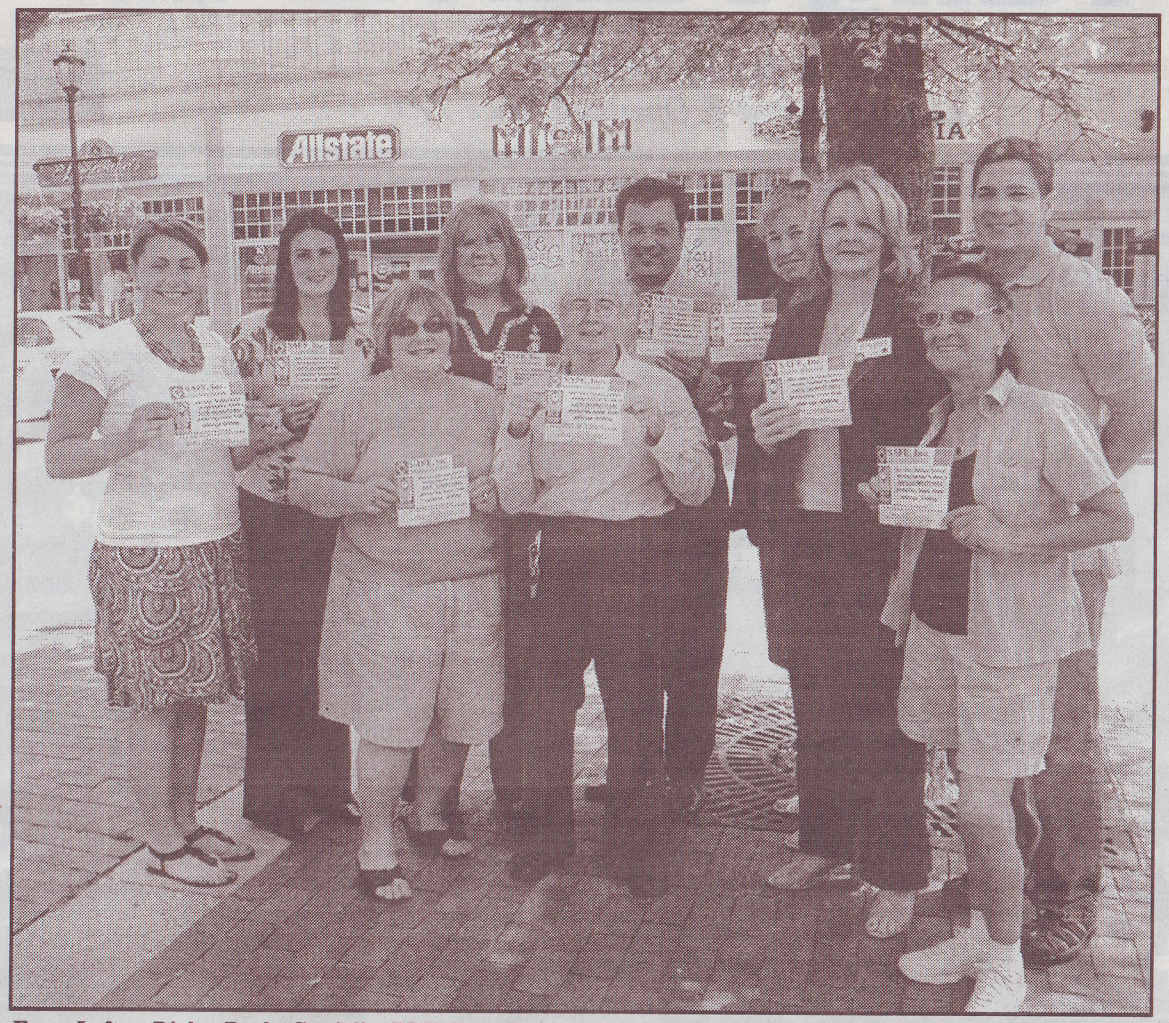
SAFE'S PRIDE COALITION PARENT COMMITTEE

Glen Cove Business District Works to Protect Teens from Underage Drinking

The City of Glen Cove has been experiencing alcohol and substance abuse problems within its youth population for several years. The need for prevention strategies and consistent law enforcement of underage consumption and sales has been an ongoing goal for SAFE Inc.'s PRIDE Coalition, originally formed in 2004. In 2009, SAFE Inc. received a second five-year Drug Free Communities Support Grant to fund the efforts of its Coalition to change community norms, values and policies about alcohol and substance abuse.

The Downtown Business Improvement District is an active member of the Coalition along with 11 other community sectors. In their continued dedication to protecting Glen Cove youth from the dangers of underage drinking, the Glen Cove Business Improvement District has adopted a new initiative called "SAFE Downtown." Funded by the Office of Alcohol and Substance Abuse Services Enforcement of Underage Drinking Laws Grant, stickers will be displayed in the windows of businesses that support the enforcement of underage drinking laws in Glen Cove. There are 12 community sectors that work together to achieve this goal, including the business community, youth, parents, the school district, media, youth serving organizations, law enforcement, religious organizations, civic organizations, healthcare professionals, legal agencies and various other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse. With the combined efforts of these 12 sectors to enforce underage drinking laws and provide ongoing prevention and education, the Coalition will continue to be successful in providing a safer Glen Cove.



From Left to Right: Paula Castiglia, PRIDE project coordinator; Sharon Harris, executive director, SAFE Inc.; Susan Challender, BID member; Maureen Basdavanos, deputy mayor; Mary Jirsa, BID member; Charles Parisi, president of the BID; Fran Koehler, executive director, Downtown BID; Jennifer Rehm, director of the Atria; Alvin Batista, BID member; Mary Cooper, BID member.

Glen Cove's Substance Abuse Free Environment (SAFE, Inc.) was established in 1981 to combine the strengths of the public and private sectors in the Glen Cove community to provide alcohol and drug prevention services. In 2004, and again in 2008, SAFE, Inc. received a Drug-Free Communities Support Program Grant from the Office of National Drug Control Policy, making it one of only 224 agencies nationwide to be so awarded. The PRIDE Project Coalition is overseen by SAFE's board of directors and co-chaired by executive director Dr. Sharon E. Harris and Glen Cove School District Director of Administrative Services Dr. Joseph Hinton. The board is made up of parents, police personnel, educators, and health care, financial and business professionals.

For more information regarding SAFE Inc., the PRIDE Coalition, or SAFE Downtown., contact PRIDE Project Coordinator Paula Castiglia at (516) 676-2008 or visit www.safeglencove.org.