

Family Awareness Day Promotes Good Clean Fun

SUBMITTED BY SAFE, INC.

SAFE's Annual Family Awareness Day, held at Morgan Park on June 14, was created seven years ago to promote family unity and a substance-free environment. Well-attended, the free event once again had something for everyone.

There were several vendors, food, games and music, including a visit by the Glen Cove Fire Department and EMS. Participating agencies and area businesses included: the Tobacco Action Coalition of Long Island, Kiwanis Club of Glen Cove, Glen Cove Child Day Care Center, Chiropractor Maxine Mayreis, Psychotherapist Gabriela Weinberg-Gitlin, GMA Martial Arts, Economic Opportunity Council (EOC), Cove Sports Academy and Nassau County Council of Girl Scouts.

Every family had the opportunity to try to win a free raffle prize donated by generous donors including: the Glen Cove Boys & Girls Club, Page One Restaurant, Stop & Shop, Starbucks, St. Rocco's Panetteria, Subway Restaurant, OGI Nails, Alice Christine Salon, Babi Nails Spa, Andros Grill, Gonzalo's

in healthy alternatives so they don't make the wrong choices. At Family Awareness, people not only have fun, but they are exposed to literature that lets them know all that's available in the Glen Cove community to assist them."

Even the professional mountain bike rider, Chris Clark, delivered a message on the importance of healthy living. After doing several stunts, he stopped to tell children that having a hobby can be a way to ensure that you continue to make the right choices.

"I got good at riding my bike and everyone knew I loved it," he said. "When I got older and my friends were doing things I didn't want to participate in, I told them I couldn't come along because I was riding my bike. Find something you love, make smart decisions and use what you love as an excuse not to do the things you shouldn't do."

Members of the Glen Cove Fire Department and EMS helped children to learn about firefighting. Several children went into the EMS truck to see firsthand how victims are assisted inside when there is an emergency.



Children learned about making healthy choices from a professional stunt bike rider.

Adventureland Amusement Park, Fun Zone, Cold Spring Harbor Fish Hatchery & Aquarium, Long Island Children's Museum, Cradle of Aviation Museum and Target. And like last year, there was also a bicycle stunt show. SAFE Inc. also brought along pamphlets to help raise awareness in the community regarding youth drug and alcohol prevention.

"This event works," said SAFE Board Chair Georgie Connett. "It's about making parents aware of the importance of engaging their child

was true to its name—people left more aware of how to live a healthy lifestyle, children learned the importance of making the right decisions and everyone left remembering that SAFE remains committed to helping the Glen Cove community.

For more information regarding SAFE, Inc. and the PRIDE Coalition, contact the SAFE Inc. office at 516-676-2008. To view SAFE Inc.'s public service announcement, visit www.safeglencove.org. Find the Glen Cove PRIDE Project Coalition on Facebook.



There were many free games for children to enjoy. (Photos courtesy of SAFE)