

NEWS BRIEFS

Pre-prom underage drinking prevention tips

March 21, 2019 – GLEN COVE HERALD GAZETTE

Glen Cove High School students received a presentation by the Glen Cove Police Department regarding underage drinking on Feb. 27. With prom a few months away, SAFE and the GCPD teamed up to further the mission of SAFE, which is to eliminate alcohol and drug abuse in the Glen Cove community by providing substance abuse prevention, intervention and education.

GCPD Sergeant Ryan Nardone presented a PowerPoint presentation to students that included pictures of the results of binge drinking and drunk driving. He expressed how important it is to have fun at prom but to also be safe and make good decisions.

There are increased risks and a range of negative consequences related to underage drinking. On average, alcohol

plays a role in the deaths of 4,358 young people under 21 every year and 1,580 of those fatalities are from car crashes. Underage people who drink are more likely to carry out or be the victim of a physical or sexual assault after drinking. Drinking can cause teens to have trouble in school or with the law, and teens who drink are more likely to use other drugs than teens who don't.

Additionally, underage drinking can lead to developing alcohol use disorder, a medical condition that doctors diagnose when someone's drinking causes them distress or harm. In 2017 about 443,000 young people ages 12 to 17 had AUD. Even more important, the younger the use of alcohol the more likely one is to develop AUD later in life.