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Winners of 2020 Safety Kids Calendar Announced

Annual Event Sponsored By Summit County Prosecutor's Office

AKRON, Ohio (Thursday, November 07, 2019) – Summit County Prosecutor Sherri Bevan Walsh announced today the winners of the 2020 Safety Kids Calendar contest. Of the over 1,200 posters submitted from 15 different schools, Holy Family's Annika Miller's entry was chosen as the grand prize winner. Annika's poster, which told kids "there's no escape if you vape", focused on a new and very dangerous trend for teens. Her creativity also told a strong message about being safe.

This year, for the first time in the 18 year event, one of the safety rules changed. Students put together posters telling people that it's NOT SAFE TO VAPE. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 37 people in the U.S. have died as a result of using e-cigarettes. As of last month, the CDC says there have been nearly 1,900 cases of lung injuries across the country related to the use of e-cigarettes.

Prosecutor Walsh, along with emcee Tim Daugherty from WONE-FM, presented the 54 winners with congratulatory certificates and Amazon gift cards on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, in front of a packed audience of family, friends, teachers and poster judges. The evening started with an A cappella rendition of the national anthem sung by the Miller South School Choir.

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“The creativity and skill of the students who enter this contest is outstanding. This is not an easy contest to win as each year the posters get better and better. I am so impressed by the students’ creativity, enthusiasm, and talent. I am proud to celebrate their incredible artwork,” said Prosecutor Walsh. “Also, I felt strongly about including a warning about vaping. As Summit County Prosecutor, I work hard to make the community safe. That includes addressing this significant health issue. Families need to know that it is not safe to vape.”

In addition to the 12 Ways to Stay Safe, the contest includes two additional categories called “Prosecutor Picks”. This is the second year six additional posters were chosen for either their humor or creative message.

A big thank you as well to the Miller South School Choir for their beautiful singing, the Akron-Summit County Public Library for hosting the event, Lamar Advertising for providing billboards, Tim Daugherty for emceeding the ceremony, and Source3Media for creating the calendars and taking pictures at the ceremony.

Each of the first-place posters will be featured in the 2020 Safety Kids Calendar and on billboards throughout Summit County. The grand prize and first-place winners and their posters will also be included in a PSA with Prosecutor Walsh that will air on WBNX-TV: The CW during the holidays. Winning posters were submitted from the following schools: Schrop Intermediate, Springfield Junior High School, Tallmadge Middle School, St. Hilary School, Litchfield Community Learning Center, Lakeview Intermediate School, Our Lady of the Elms, Hudson Middle School, Roberts Middle School, Nordonía Middle School, Green Middle School, Holy Family Catholic School, Manchester Middle School, St. Anthony of Padua School, and Seton Catholic School.

The winners are:

Grand Prize: Annika Miller, 8th Grade, Holy Family School

Rule: Don’t Smoke or Vape

1st Place: Gabriella Marshall, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate

2nd Place: Victoria Nettle, 8th Grade, Manchester Middle School

3rd Place: Emily Renner, 7th Grade, Nordonía Middle School

Rule: Say NO To Unwanted Touch

1st Place: Sofia Contreras, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate

2nd Place: Annie Sejba, 6th Grade, St. Hilary School

3rd Place: Elizabeth Bentley, 6th Grade, Lakeview Intermediate School

Honorable Mention: Aundrea Higgins 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate

Rule: Stop Bullies In Their Tracks – Always Tell An Adult

1st Place: Layla Musarra, 8th Grade, Nordonía Middle School

2nd Place: Anna Solomon, 8th Grade, St. Hilary School

3rd Place: Leah Odom, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Honorable Mention: Tori Freimuth, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

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Rule: Don't Use Alcohol

1st Place: Rowan Olechnowicz, 8th Grade, Manchester Middle School

2nd Place: Alexa Arutyunyan, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

3rd Place: Caroline Babbitt, 8th Grade, Green Middle School

Honorable Mention: Audrey Sevald, 8th Grade, St. Hilary School

Rule: Never Play With Guns

1st Place: Logan Mason, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

2nd Place: Summer Emerson, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

3rd Place: Jacob Bolha, 7th Grade, St. Hilary School

Honorable Mention: Annaja Franklin, 8th Grade, Litchfield Community Learning Center

Rule: Trust Yourself - Don't Give In To Peer Pressure

1st Place: Willow Hurst, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

2nd Place: Olivia Lylte, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

3rd Place: Zion Snyder, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Honorable Mention: Lexie Snyder, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Rule: Violence At Home Is Never Okay – Your Home Should Be A Safe Place

1st Place: Kaleigh Pettit, 6th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Kendra Campbell, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

3rd Place: Taylor Soohey, 8th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

Honorable Mention: Jesslany Rodriguez Acosia, 6th Grade, Litchfield Community Learning Center

Rule: Never Tell Anyone You Are Home Alone

1st Place: Scarlett Westover, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

2nd Place: Jera Salters, 6th Grade, St. Anthony of Padua School

3rd Place: Anthony Strong, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Honorable Mention: Jaxon Sheppard, 7th Grade, Litchfield Community Learning Center

Rule: Don't Talk To Or Go With Anyone You Don't Know

1st Place: Sydney Becks, 8th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

2nd Place: Sarah Hinterlong, 8th Grade, Nordonia Middle School

3rd Place: Pierce Flora, 6th Grade, Seton Catholic School

Honorable Mention: Jada Sikora, 7th Grade, Our Lady of the Elms School

Rule: Safeguard Your Personal Information Online – Think Twice Before You Post

1st Place: Lilliana Bittinger, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

2nd Place: Trevor Durham, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

3rd Place: Matthew Rhoads, 7th Grade, Nordonia Middle School

Honorable Mention: Ashley Pickett, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

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Rule: Don't Do Drugs

1st Place: Megan Umina, 7th Grade, St. Hilary School

2nd Place: Sam Cole, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

3rd Place: Sofia Walberg, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

Honorable Mention: Linda Spennati, 6th Grade, Schrop Intermediate School

Rule: Say NO To Gangs

1st Place: Ananya Sharma, 7th Grade, Our Lady of the Elms School

2nd Place: Airianna Howe, 7th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

3rd Place: Noah Brown, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

Honorable Mention: William Jowers, 8th Grade, Springfield Junior High School

PROSECUTOR'S PICKS – Creative Message Category

Lizzie Karnofel, 8th Grade, Hudson Middle School

Katie Bielecki, 8th Grade, Hudson Middle School

Trey Upton, 7th Grade, Green Middle School

PROSECUTOR'S PICKS – Humorous Category

Alyssa Hederson, 8th Grade, Tallmadge Middle School

Amin Hanash, 7th Grade, Roberts Middle School

Brooke Hickman, 6th Grade, Roberts Middle School