

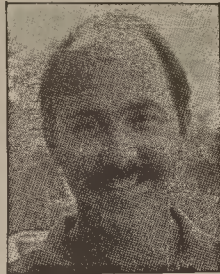
Our Neighbors Speak

If Congress enacts an income tax cut in 1997, what would be your top two priorities for your extra take-home pay?



KIMBERLY SANTANICOLA
MORRISVILLE

That's a tough question. I'd save some of it and spend the rest wisely.



DAVID LARSON
MORRISVILLE

I'd definitely save it for my children's college and to buy a new American car.



LINDA LARSON
MORRISVILLE

I'd use it for college because I have four children and for furniture because we just moved here.



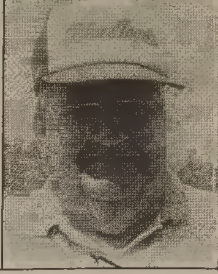
ORNA DAR
PRESTON

I'd use the money for more study and take classes of art. And I'd also use it to make my life a better quality.



JANE KIERNAN
PRESTON

We'd put some in our savings account.



BILL KIERNAN
PRESTON

And we'd put the rest in our investments.

New team targets underage offenders, counsels youngsters

By Tammy Hayes

The stores received their warnings - three, to be precise. Still, out of 53 cashiers, 12 sold tobacco to underage teens in an operation conducted by the Cary Police Youth Services Team with the help of three undercover Cary High School students.

The first warning came when Lt. Chris Hoima, head of the Youth Services Team, spoke to the Cary Chamber of Commerce Merchant's Association about the upcoming operation.

For the second warning, officers personally distributed "We Card" education packages to gas stations, convenience stores, and groceries. The packets contain information about laws regarding the sale of tobacco.

The third warning was issued on the day before the operation began, in the form of a front-page story in the Cary News.

The 12 cashiers who ignored all three warnings will be tried for selling tobacco to underage teens on September 16 and 30. The offense is a class two misdemeanor.

"Overall, it was successful," Hoima said of the operation. But he added that it would have been one hundred percent successful if no one had sold the kids tobacco.

"Then everyone would have come out a winner."

Hoima said that Cary stores can plan on a repetition of the team's late July efforts.

"This is just one more step for protecting and serving the public," Hoima said.

The Youth Services Team was initiated July 1, and is located in the Police Service Center off High House Road near Preston. The team includes two juvenile investigators and four school resource officers.

The juvenile investigators handle crimes committed within the city limits to any individual under age 18, or by any individual under 16.

The school resource officers are assigned to the three middle schools and one high school in the town. Their job is to counsel, teach, and patrol the campuses. The middle school officers also teach students Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE).

DARE curriculum is worked into classrooms at various levels. Lessons deal with resisting peer pressure, consequences of drug use, and preventing violence in interpersonal relationships.

DARE used to be taught in elementary schools, but the program was moved to the middle school level where drug abuse

problems surface.

One of the goals of DARE, and of the Youth Services Team, is to correct irresponsible behavior before it becomes a police record. If a person breaks the law before age 16, the record of their transgression is confidential. Future employers and colleges do not have to be informed.

Each officer on the Youth Services Team has an ongoing special project to help prevent or correct youth. Officer Dave Porter, a school resource officer, works with the Cary YMCA. He spent two weeks working with 10 children identified by school principals as "at risk."

During that time, Porter and the students did a ropes course, went canoeing, helped out in a soup kitchen, and went hiking in the mountains. Each day, the group also discussed citizenship.

"More and more, we realize it's important to intervene earlier in the lives of children if we are going to be successful," said Hoima. He added that these special programs provide that opportunity.

Hoima is well-qualified to head the Youth Services Team, having been a police officer for 15 years. Before serving with the Cary Po-

lice, he was an officer in Arkansas and Florida. In Arkansas, he worked as an investigator for the state university.

"That gave me a lot of experience in dealing with young men and women," he said.

In Florida, Hoima developed his town's Juvenile Investigative Unit. With the Cary department, Hoima was one of the first three officers to volunteer to teach DARE, and spent a great deal of time with that

program.

Hoima said of the Youth Services team, that it's "an exciting place to be. It's all new." He added that

while the program is new, "we do things as a team, and in the team there's a lot of experience, training, and resources."

57 members of Chamber offer their ideas

The Morrisville Chamber of Commerce, in 57 personal interviews with members, received input on how the chamber can take a more active role in improving and shaping the town's business environment.

The interviews were conducted by an Ambassadors committee headed by Jim Huggins and Paul Nicholas. Other Ambassadors included Marc Anstrom, Phyllis Eller-Moffett, Kathy Hawkins, Wes Lev, Raul Peralta, and Bill Sarro.

Suggestions included:

- Helping the town create a long-term strategic development plan.
- Providing a regular forum for short-term business issues.
- Attracting participation from leaders of larger businesses.
- Working more closely with other chambers to develop a consistency of positive business environments.

John O'Neill of the Environmental Protection Agency will address chamber members at the Issues and Eggs breakfast on Sept. 13 at 7:45 a.m. Members are asked to call 380-9026 by Sept. 11 to make reservations.

The next Business After Hours will be sponsored by the Budgetel Inn and Catering Works. It will take place on Sept. 19 at 5:30 p.m. at Budgetel.

The latest to sign up as chamber members include ITS/ETL Testing Labs, South Growth Policy Board,

Chamber Corner

Raleigh Icecaps, REA Construction Co., Carolina Therapeutic Massage of the Triangle, Wachovia Bank.

Cary Printing, McRae Graphics, Danka, PayChex, Inc., Research Triangle Guest Homes, Professional Lawn Care, Delta Dental Plan of North Carolina and the National Council for Air and Stream Improvement.

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