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published [Atlantic Highlands Herald](#)  
22 January 2004

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### ELKS LODGE TO SEND PARTICIPANTS TO LEADERSHIP SEMINAR

**MIDDLETOWN, NJ** The Middletown Elks Lodge #2179 Drug and Alcohol Awareness Committee has received 21 applications for the 10th Annual New Jersey State Elks Peer Leadership Conference.

Committee Chairman Daniel J. McCartan, of Keansburg stated that his committee will fund costs associated with sending nineteen students and two advisors to a three day program to be held in New Brunswick. The even is sponsored by the New Jersey State Elks Association, and coordinated by the New Jersey Prevention Network. The event will take place at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick, Friday February 6 thru Sunday February 8, 2004

Participants will attend many workshops, with the intent to bring the information back to their schools and communities. Although it is a leadership learning experience, and training regarding drug abuse, the participants will also become involved in other programs, such as a talent show to be performed by the participants.

Participants from Keansburg High School who are members of the Monmouth County High School Task force on Drinking, Driving and Drugs, and the Keansburg Association for Substance Abuse, will be accompanied by a school advisor, Filitsa Glinos Pecoraro, are: Sheila Ambula, Stephanie Haynes, Joe Henkel, Seleta Hertlein, Patricia Laborde, Amanda Lawrence and Klaudia Piotrowicz.

Two participants are students in Mater Dei High School in Middletown, and will be representing the Monmouth

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County High School Task Force on Drinking, Driving and Drugs are: Nicole Gibney, and James Shannon.

Another group, from Middletown High Schools North South, which includes six members of the Bottlecappers program, and accompanied by Rosmarie Richards, school advisor are: Lizzette Darouichi, Samantha Dickie, Erin Mackin, Kathryn Mazur, Meghan McGowan, Kerriann Morgan, Ashley Morin, Maura KcKenchinie, Allison Schwartz, and Alaina Varvaloucas.

Part of the mission statement of the New Jersey State Elks Drug Awareness Committee is to support, in a non-clinical format, local, municipal, school, and civic program dealing with drug usage, and the direct nature of an insidious problem that is affecting our communities, our families and our lives. Drug and Alcohol Awareness has been an Elks major program since 1983.

The sponsorship of these students is one of the many programs of the Middletown Elks Lodge #2179. Schools and groups may obtain many forms of Drug abuse literature by contacting Chairman Daniel J. McCartan at the Lodge at (732) 495-2733 or by e-mail at [drugawareness@middletownelks.com](mailto:drugawareness@middletownelks.com).

The Middletown Lodge is located on Church Street Belford, directly behind Werner's Dodge. It is a fraternal organization comprised of more than seven hundred and fifty members who reside in Middletown, Keansburg, Hazlet and greater Middletown area. More information about the Drug Awareness, Veterans Services, Handicapped Children, Senior Citizens, and Youth Awareness can be obtained by viewing the Lodge web site at <http://middletownelks.com>.

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