



LAGRANGE
GEORGIA

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 16, 2017

Red Ribbon Week to be October 23-27



LaGrange, Ga. October 16, 2017 – LaGrange Mayor Jim Thornton proclaimed October 23-27 to be Red Ribbon Week.

Thornton read the proclamation Monday morning with Congressman

Drew Ferguson, LaGrange Police Chief Lou Dekmar, members of Twin Cedars and the Troup County Prevention Coalition’s Youth Advisory Board in attendance.

“Today’s message can’t be overemphasized,” said Chief Dekmar.

“70% of the people in prison are there because of drug-related charges.”

“This is a very important topic because almost every single family in our community has been touched by drugs or alcohol,” said Congressman Ferguson.

“Here in Troup County, we’re not just about prevention we’re helping in the recovery too.”

Red Ribbon Week is a nationally-recognized, week-long celebration of drug prevention.

The Youth Advisory Board helps to reach teens with the drug-free message through this year’s campaign - #MyStoryIs.

“Everyone has a story,” said Troup County Prevention Coalition Project Coordinator Shannon Lawson.

“Your story is made greater if you are drug and alcohol free. That’s what we are sharing the #MyStoryIs campaign.”

Pictured front row from left to right – Youth Advisory Board Member Jon Alan Phillips, Youth Advisory Board Member Evelyn Johnson, Youth Advisory Board Member Kyla Bedingfield, Mayor Jim Thornton, Congressman Drew Ferguson. Second row from left to right – Shannon Lawson w/ Troup County Prevention Coalition, Sheri Cody, Twin Cedars Executive Director, LaGrange Police Chief Lou Dekmar, Alli White w/ Congressman Ferguson’s office. Third row from left to right – City Council Member Nick Woodson, Mandy Hill w/ Troup County Family Connection, Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Project Prevention Specialist Veronica Dowell, and Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Project Implementation Specialist Andy Carpenter.

Contact: Shannon Lawson, Troup County Prevention Coalition, (706) 298-2148 ext. 1221 or slawson@twincedars.org.

To keep up with the latest news involving the City of LaGrange, go to www.lagrangega.org or follow us on Facebook at [facebook.com/lagrangegov](https://www.facebook.com/lagrangegov) and on Twitter at [@lagrangegov](https://twitter.com/lagrangegov).

###