

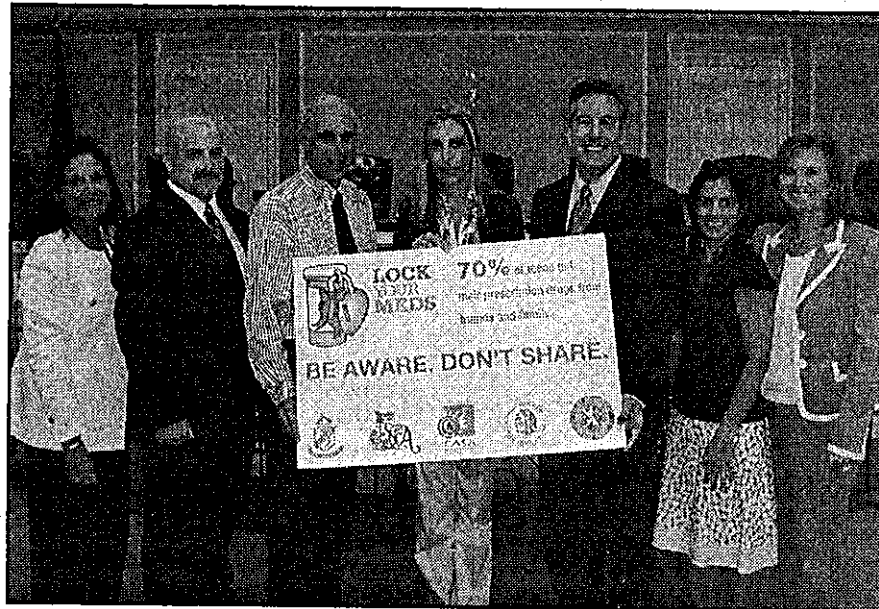
## Around Manhasset Schools

# CASA Collaborates to Protect Teens from Prescription Drug Misuse

Prescription medicines taken properly help heal illness, relieve pain, control disease and bring balance to our lives. But when others take your medications, it can be very dangerous. In 2006, more than 2.1 million teens abused prescription drugs (NSDUH, 2007). According to *Newsday* (July 21, 2010), "the trend on Long Island mirrors a national rise in prescription pain drug addiction. Health experts say it is the fastest-growing drug problem in America, ranking only behind alcohol and marijuana as the most-abused substance." And of those teens who abuse prescription drugs, 70 percent get their prescription drugs from friends and family.

In an effort to combat the rise of teen prescription drug misuse, Manhasset CASA is working with the National Family Partnership to initiate its "Lock Your Meds: Be Aware. Don't Share" Prescription Drug Misuse Public Awareness Campaign. The campaign works in partnership with the community to provide information regarding the health and safety risks of prescription medication misuse with a primary focus on keeping prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals away from our youth.

CASA's collaboration with Manhasset Public Schools, Manhasset SCA, Town of North Hempstead and the Nassau County Police sends



**Collaborators:** Frances B. Reid, director of Environmental Planning, Town of North Hempstead; Gary S. Shapiro, detective sergeant, commanding officer, Community Affairs, Nassau County Police Department; Charles Cardillo, superintendent, Manhasset Public Schools; Lisbeth Shibley, executive director and board president, Manhasset CASA; Jon Kaiman, North Hempstead Town supervisor; Laura Tranchina, Manhasset SCA Middle School president; and Cathy Samuels, project director, Manhasset CASA.

the unified community message that prescription drugs, when used improperly, are dangerous and life threatening. "The growing trend of teen prescription drug misuse across Long Island is frightening and is a threat to all families and communities. Manhasset Public Schools is proud to work with Manhasset CASA on the Lock Your Meds Collaboration to educate our parents on keeping prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceuticals away from our youth" stated Charles Cardillo, superintendent of Manhasset Public Schools. Manhasset CASA's Fall 2010 *Lock Your Meds* Public Awareness Campaign will also involve outreach within additional sectors of the community including the Manhasset Clergy, business and civic communities.

Recognizing that parents, grandparents and all residents are in a unique position to reduce teen access to prescription drugs because they are found in the home, the campaign includes a Pharmaceutical Take Back Event sponsored by the Nassau County Police and Town of North Hempstead on Saturday, Oct. 23, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Manhasset High School.

For information or if you would like to volunteer for the campaign, contact Cathy Samuels, project director, Manhasset CASA at 516-267-7548 or go to [www.manhassetcasa.org](http://www.manhassetcasa.org).

## SCA Saturday Series 'Skills-n-Drills' Bootcamp Returns

*SCA Saturday Series Sign Up  
Thursday, September 23 at 6:30 p.m.*

## SAT and ACT Prep Courses To Begin Late September

*Classes to be Held at Manhasset High School*

The Manhasset School District has [ing/Vocabulary and Grammar/Essay](http://www.manhasset.org/Vocabulary-and-Grammar/Essay)