



# NEWS

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### Prescription Overdose Awareness Billboard Winner Honored by Commissioners

**Norristown, PA (March 16, 2017)** – The Montgomery County Commissioners honored Maddy Fair, a junior at Plymouth Whitemarsh High School, during their board meeting Thursday for winning the Prescription Overdose Awareness Billboard Contest.

“Maddy’s design highlights the tragic personal toll of substance use disorder and how it changes people in ways they can’t imagine. Her creativity and passion will help those who are suffering and their families and provides a number to call for help,” said Dr. Valerie A. Arkoosh, Chair, Montgomery County Board of Commissioners. “The county Office of Drug and Alcohol Programs is committed to the prevention and treatment of substance abuse problems and supporting families and individuals in getting the help and treatment they need.”

This is the second year Montgomery County’s Overdose Task Force and the Office of Drug & Alcohol have coordinated the Prescription Overdose Awareness Billboard Contest. The contest was advertised to middle and high school students in all of the 22 school districts in Montgomery County to design a billboard with a message on how to help for those who need it. The contest is designed to engage students in discussions about the epidemic of substance use and overdose, and adding their voices to the message.

Maddy’s design, which incorporated a photo of herself, was one of 31 designs submitted from high schools around Montgomery County, and one of 11 finalists.

Public voting took place on the County’s website, finalists were selected and a winner was chosen by popular vote. There were 2,786 public votes cast (200 more votes than last year). The billboards will be displayed on thirteen different digital billboards rotated throughout the county from April through June 2017.

Maddy Fair from Plymouth Whitemarsh High School was joined by her parents Ken and Lori Fair, her photography

teacher, Candy Maggioncalda, and Principal Jason Bacani. Maddie was provided an enlarged version of her winning design and a commendation during the County Commissioners' Meeting on March 16, 2017.

**Cutlines:**

**IMG\_2330 (L to R)-** Plymouth White Marsh High School Principal Jason Bacani, Commissioner Joe Gale, Commissioner Chairwoman Val Arkoosh, Billboard contest winner Maddy Fair, Commissioner Vice Chairman Ken Lawrence Jr. (behind Maddy), Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coordinator Katie Kucz, Maddy's teacher CandyMaggioncalda, and Maddy's parents Lori and Ken Fair.

**Billboard Design-** Maddy's winning design for a billboard to raise awareness of substance use disorder will be seen on 13 digital billboards around the county.