



Last Opportunity This School Year to Attend
Senior Week: Staying Safe in Ocean City
Monday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m.
Mt. Hebron High School Auditorium
Sponsored by HC DrugFree and the
Mt. Hebron High School PTSA

HC DrugFree's Executive Director, Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Ocean City Police Department's Corporal Howard Caplan and Ocean City Beach Patrol's Sergeant James McVey will return on April 8 for this year's final **Senior Week: Staying Safe in Ocean City** program to be held at Mt. Hebron High School. On February 19, 2013 HC DrugFree and Howard High School's PTSA partnered to bring this program to 175 parents and teens. HC DrugFree encourages all teens going to the shore for Senior Week and their parents to attend this popular must see/must hear program.

Caplan acknowledges the concern of parents that senior week in Ocean City is the first time many teens are away from home without their parents or other adult supervision. He conducts programs in Howard and other counties because the Ocean City Police experience a dramatic increase in incidents and calls for service in June when teenagers suddenly arrive in Ocean City. These programs are an attempt to keep teens safe and reduce police-related incidents.

Caplan will provide tips on a variety of topics for both teens and parents, such as:

- Underage drinking
- Illegal drug use
- Sexual encounters after a few drinks
- The importance of staying in a group
- Taking care of yourself and friends
- Not leaving any drinks unattended (including water, soda)
- Reviewing the lease and contents of condo upon arrival
- Problems with teens having a car in Ocean City
- The benefits of carrying pre-paid credit cards vs. cash
- Talking to your teen every night (no texting)

Beach Patrol Sgt. James McVey, also a Howard County Public School teacher, will review the basics of water safety and remind teens how to handle themselves in the water to prevent

drowning. McVey strongly encourages teens to build a relationship with the beach patrol because their job is to keep the public safe.

Play it Safe brochures will be available at Howard County public high school guidance offices. Once the teens arrive in Ocean City, they can receive a **coupon book** at hotels/motels, businesses or the Ocean City Chamber of Commerce. We encourage teens to take advantage of the many FREE promotions provided by the Play it Safe Campaign. To view the calendar, go to: <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/seniorweekinoceancity.html>. By attending a Play it Safe event, any teen can receive a wristband to ride the bus for free for the entire week. The Play it Safe Campaign estimates that it would cost a teen \$1,000 to participate in a week of planned activities that are free to them during this time.