



# Pipestone County **STAR**

Community news and information for Pipestone, Minnesota

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

[Home](#) [News](#) [Sports](#) [Opinion](#) [Obituaries](#) [Special Issues](#)  

## Public Notices

[Classifieds](#)

[Community Calendar](#)

[Auctions](#)

[About Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Archives](#)

[Business Directory](#)

[Add Listing](#)



## Message on a bottle

Campaign targets underage drinking by appealing to parents

*By Kyle Kuphal | on January 05, 2018*

About 25 Pipestone Area Schools (PAS) high school students filled the Pipestone Liquor Store the Friday morning before Christmas.

The students were part of STARS (Students Taking A Right Stand) and the underage alcohol use prevention program funded by a Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) grant totaling \$945,000 over five years. The students spent around a half hour at the store placing 1,200 tags on bottles with messages on them intended to curb underage alcohol use.

One of the two variations of tags indicated that most PAS students

don't think parents should allow teens to drink alcohol at home and the other indicated that most parents of PAS students don't allow underage drinking at home. Steve Beekman, coordinator for the underage alcohol use prevention program, said the messages were directed specifically at parents.

Beekman said other communities that have received prevention grants have used the strategy of putting messages on bottles at liquor stores and he and the students thought it would be a useful strategy to employ in Pipestone. He said they chose to put the tags on the bottles right before Christmas and New Year's Eve because there is more alcohol use during the holidays.

Carter Colemer, a PAS senior and treasurer of the STARS program, said they also thought the holidays were an important time to get the messages out because college students are home and they wanted to encourage parents not to provide them with alcohol.

The information on the tags came from a 2017 Positive Community Norms Student Survey that was administered to 470 PAS students in February as part of the prevention program.

Garrett Ploeger, STARS president, said the STARS students also handed out hot chocolate at the middle/high school before winter break and asked students to write down things they'd rather do than drink alcohol.

"You can have fun without alcohol," Ploeger said.

Pipestone  
County **STAR**



[Home](#) [News](#) [Sports](#) [Opinion](#) [Obituaries](#) [Special Issues](#) [Public Notices](#)

[DMCA Notices](#)

Newspaper web site content management software and services

