SOCIAL SERVICES NEWS

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DISTRACTED DRIVING VIDEO CONTEST WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED MONDAY

CONOVER -- The winners of the third annual Distracted Driving Video Contest will be announced Monday, March 18 at a Red Carpet Event to be held at the Newton-Conover Middle School Auditorium. The event starts at 6:30 p.m. and is open to the public.

This annual contest is sponsored by the Distracted Driving Committee and the Catawba County Youth Council. High school students from throughout the county were invited to create 60 second videos addressing the dangers of driving distracted. Individuals or teams of no more than five students could submit videos. The videos were judged by the Distracted Driving Committee.

The team submitting the First Place Video will win a limo ride and lunch at the Olive Garden restaurant in Hickory. Their school will receive $500. Persons attending the Monday night Red Carpet Event will be able to vote to select the Viewer's Choice Award, which will be $300 for the team's school. The contest will also award a Facebook Share Award for the video posted on the Distracted Driving Facebook page that receives the highest number of likes.

This is the third year of the Distracted Driving Video Contest. Twenty-six videos were submitted by nine public and private high schools in the county. This year's sponsors include Action Limousine, Catawba County, Catawba County Community Child Protection and Fatality Prevention Team, Catawba County Youth Council, Catawba Valley Medical Center, Drum and Willis-Reynolds Funeral Home, Frye Regional Medical Center, Olive Garden, N.C. Cooperative Extension Service, and State Farm agent Sig Holcomb.

For more information about the contest, and to watch the videos, go to http://www.facebook.com/DistractedDrivingVideoContest and then navigate to the videos section. For additional information about the Red Carpet Event, contact Donna Mull, Catawba County Youth Council advisor, at 828-465-8240 or donna_mull@ncsu.edu.