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## Death and destruction result from drunk driving

*Mock accident is used to teach students about DUI*



Firefighters with Chiefland Fire Rescue extricate a victim from a mock car crash that was put on to teach students about the dangers of drunk driving. In this performance, four Chiefland High School seniors 'died' as the result of two drunk drivers on prom night.

Story, Photos and Video By Jeff M. Hardison © April 8, 2015 @ 4:07 p.m.

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**CHIEFLAND** – Death and destruction result from drunk driving.

This is a message students at Chiefland High School must have understood after a program on Friday morning (April 8) was provided to them complete with a live play acted out on the football field.

Ten seniors who are in the CHS Student Government Association helped their classmates on Friday morning as those student leaders led their colleagues to see how driving while under the influence can lead to death, injuries and jail.



**Hannah Gore plays the part of her own corpse as she rests in peace after the fatal accident.**

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**J.C. Kennedy's body hangs out a passenger side window as he performs as a dead person.**



**Tyler Sloan performs as a corpse as he lies on a towel placed on the grass. All of the actors were spared from actual harm or discomfort as best as was possible.**

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**The actress Libby Sheffield takes her dead body pose in the passenger seat as one leg hangs out of the window.**



**Morgan Elmore, one of the injured students, is able to lean out of the window soon after the crash.**

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**Sheila Engel runs to see about the injured as another student finds one of her classmates in a wrecked vehicle.**



**LCSO Sgt. Max Long arrives at the scene of the multiple fatal accident.**



**LCSO Sgt. Max Long takes Steven Parker, suspected of DUI, in handcuffs to the cruiser.**

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**Chiefland Police Sgt. D.J. Macy and CHS student Sheila Engel watch as the body of Hannah Gore is put into a body bag.**

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**Chiefland Fire Rescue Capt. Daniel C. Morgan tends to body bag adjustment on a corpse.**



**The two students who discovered the wreck and their dead classmates follow Otis Evans of Rick Gooding Funeral Services as they walk toward the four bodies.**

Students at CHS filled the stadium seats at Wayne Pridgeon Stadium as two wrecked vehicles were among the props in the performance on the C. Doyle McCall Football Field.

Performing in the drama were SGA students Hannah Gore, J.C. Kennedy, Tyler Sloan and Libby Sheffield as students who were killed in the accident. They each played the part of corpses very well.

Other SGA actors of the CHS Class of 2016 were Steven Parker and Aubrey Gore, who were each drivers of two vehicles and who were both charged with DUI; and Sheila Engel, Christian Reyes and Quin Johnson.

Keith Davis, a volunteer firefighter with Chiefland Fire Rescue, organized the performance as he brought together all of the people to act.

In addition to the SGA members, who are led by CHS SGA Advisor Valerie Perez, there were more CFR personnel and staff from the Levy County Department of Public Safety, the Levy County Sheriff's Office, the Chiefland Police Department, Tri-County Towing and Rick Gooding Funeral Services.

The other CFR performers – Beyond Keith Davis – were Chief James Harris (as narrator on the PA system); Capt. Daniel C. Morgan, leading the CFR response action on the field; and CFR Volunteer Firefighter Troy Davis and Firefighter Chris Anderson.

From the LCDPS, it was Paramedic J. Crawford, EMT C. Jordan, EMT N. Barrett and EMT T. NeSmith on

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the scene.

LCSO Deputy B. Sullivan and Sgt. Max Long were joined by CPD Sgt. Max Long in action. LCSO Col. Mike Sheffield was an observer.

John Mash and Josh Knowles came from Tri-County Towing, which donated the vehicles for the demonstration.

Otis Evans of Rick Gooding Funeral Services drove the hearse that took away the four corpses from the accident scene.

The script of the play showed driver Aubrey Gore arriving at a place on U.S. Alt. 27 north past Levy County Road 32, where she had driven drunk. The vehicle she drove slammed into a vehicle that was driven by Parker, who had been waiting to meet her. The passengers in both vehicles were all either killed or injured.

Two other CHS students – Engel and Johnson -- who had been at the prom party, arrived at the crash scene in another vehicle moments after it happened. They jumped out of their vehicle.

Those two students felt the terrible horror from seeing their dead and injured friends. And they performed well on the field.

A call was made to the 9-1-1 dispatcher. The LCSO and CPD showed up. Chiefland Fire Rescue arrived. Firefighters removed a trapped victim from a vehicle and called for ShandsCair to send a helicopter.

The helicopter was unable to fly to the scene, because it was responding to a different call for help. The two victims with the most critical injuries were taken by ambulance to a hospital.

The two suspected DUI drivers were removed from the scene in handcuffs. The four fatalities were taken to the morgue in Gainesville.

For the students' edification, those two students arrested as DUI suspects were then taken to the auditorium, where they were in jail jumpsuits and had numbers assigned to them as inmates – pending release on bail or until trial.

At the stadium, Chief Harris told the students the performance was to help them see what happens in accidents like these. The portrayal was relatively close to what occurs in the moments after a crash like this.

Sometimes, firefighters have to cut support posts and peel back the roof of a vehicle to save a person. This performance limited the action to reduce the amount of glass and other debris put on the football field.

Harris pointed out that four students lost their lives in this accident. Drinking alcohol impairs judgement and slows reaction time, he said.

The chief noted that in this accident, Aubrey Gore's choice to drive drunk led to the deaths of the four others – including her sister, Hannah Gore.

Chief Harris said in a case like this, the DUI driver will be charged with vehicular homicide as well as DUI, and DUI resulting in injuries and property damage.

The DUI suspects must be tried and they may become inmates in the Florida State Prison System due to the deaths.

“Is it worth it?” Chief Harris asked. “Is it worth it to be drinking and having a good time, and driving a vehicle?”

All of the emergency responders want students to have a good time during their senior year and at their prom, he continued.

“But we want you to be safe,” he added.

Harris reminded them that there is no coming back, or getting better from a fatal injury. Death ends their time to be with family and friends. He asked them to be responsible, and to choose not to drive if they have been drinking or are impaired in any way that keeps them from being a safe driver.