

RED RIBBON WEEK

Did you know that **Red Ribbon Week** started in California in honor and remembrance of a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) undercover narcotics officer who was tortured and murdered in the line of duty in 1985? This tragic happening would become the catalyst in a call for action in communities around the country for drug awareness and prevention.

Soon after, in 1988, the National Family Partnership (NFP) would launch the first nationally held **Red Ribbon Week** campaign that spanned all across the nation. NFP's national **Red Ribbon Week** has been going strong for 34 years.

Red Ribbon Week encourages and allows communities and individuals to collectively take a stand in protecting the hopes and dreams of our children through a commitment to drug prevention and education and a personal commitment to live drug free lives.

Each year, the NFP holds a contest that individuals, schools and communities can enter to help determine what the national **Red Ribbon Week's** theme will be centered around. Three 7th graders at Wayland-Cohocton Middle School in Wayland, New York were the contest winners for the 2022 **Red Ribbon Week** Theme. To learn more about the chosen theme, "**Celebrate Life. Live Drug Free.TM**", and how you can enter the contest for next year, you can click on the link below. <https://www.redribbon.org/>

Officially, **Red Ribbon Week** is October 23 thru October 31, 2022. Of course, many schools and organizations commemorate the week at a time in October that fits into their school/organizational schedule.

With that in mind, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) will hold its annual National **Red Ribbon Rally** virtually this year on October 5, 2022 and it will be available throughout the entire month of October 2022. Click on the link below to find out more about the virtual rally. HTTPS://DEA.GOV/SITES/DEFAULT/FILES/2022-09/2022-RED-RIBBON-RALLY-INVITE_0.PDF

<https://www.redribbon.org/>

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