

Local student awarded by national organization for helping cut violence

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JACKSONVILLE, ONSLOW COUNTY - A national group recognizes a local student for making a difference in his community.

Leo Myers, who is a student at White Oak High School in Jacksonville, was named student of the year by the National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere, or SAVE, a nationwide nonprofit dedicated to decreasing the potential for violence in schools and communities.

According to the group, Myers co-founded his SAVE chapter and has served as president for two years. He works in his community to mediate his peers' arguments, participates in crime prevention activities and reaches out to local elementary schools.

Myers also recently helped raise money for a boy with cancer by collecting and donating bottle caps.

The winners were revealed at the SAVE Summit, which was held this month at the McKimmon Center at N.C. State University in Raleigh.

SAVE started at West Charlotte High School in Charlotte, North Carolina in 1989 following the tragic death of a student who was trying to break up a fight at an off-campus party. Students met first to console each other, then as an organization to promote youth safety and to work together to prevent future incidents from occurring. SAVE provides education about the effects and consequences of violence and helps provide safe activities for students, parents and communities. For more information on SAVE or starting a SAVE chapter, visit www.nationalsave.org or contact SAVE at (866) 343-SAVE to receive free startup materials and guidance.

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