



**Fireworks  
(really)  
this Sunday!**

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# The Wellesley Townsman

THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2006

## Heightening awareness



PHOTO BY KIM HOGAN/CTIC

Adolescent Consultation Services held an event in Wellesley on May 12 to heighten awareness of vulnerable, court-involved children. The mission of Adolescent Consultation Services is to provide comprehensive diagnostic and therapeutic services to high-risk, court-involved youth and their families. In partnership with the Juvenile Court, ACS clinicians evaluate children and their families to understand their needs and to bring together the resources necessary to find real solutions to their underlying problems. The Juvenile Court is not typically thought of as a place to access services, much less transform lives. But, as the safety nets of social service systems fray and tear, the court catches children who have slipped through the gaps, or who, until now, have passed under everyone's radar. Juvenile judges refer these children to ACS. With its court-based location and more than 30 years of experience with hard-to-reach youth, ACS serves as a unique access point for many of these vulnerable children and their families. ACS identifies their diverse needs and creates individually tailored responses to help them make changes in their lives. Visit [www.KidsAndTheLaw.org](http://www.KidsAndTheLaw.org) for more information about ACS. Pictured, from left, Dr. David Wilcox, ACS clinical director; Rebecca Pries, ACS executive director; State Rep. Alice Hanlon Peisch; Barbara Stedman, Wellesley resident and ACS board member; Dr. Robert Kinscherff, Assistant Commissioner for Forensic Mental Health for the Department of Mental Health; and Dr. Tom Riffin, Weston resident and director of Boston Juvenile Court Clinic.