

Written by George Browning

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CEASe of Scott County (Coalition to Eliminate the Abuse of Substances) would like to invite all of Scott County and surrounding counties to their next Community Forum: “Medora: One Town’s Fight to Survive” featuring the film’s director, Andrew Cohn and stars from the film on Thursday, February 6, 7 p.m., at the the Mid-America Science Park, 821 South Lake Road in Scottsburg. In America’s basketball heartland, four boys from rural Medora, Indiana fight to end their high school team’s losing streak, as their dwindling town faces the threat of extinction. Years ago, Medora, Indiana was a booming rural community with prosperous farms, an automotive parts factory, a brick plant, and a thriving middle class. The factories have since closed, crippling Medora’s economy and its pride. The population has slowly dwindled to around 500 people. Drug use is common, the school faces consolidation, and as one resident put it, “This town’s on the ropes.”

Medora, follows the down-but-not-out Medora Hornets varsity basketball team over the course of the 2011 season, capturing the players’ stories both on and off the court. The Hornets were riding an epic losing streak when the film directors arrived, and the team’s struggle to compete bears eerie resonances with the town’s fight for survival. Medora is an in-depth, deeply personal look at small-town life in Indiana, a thrilling, underdog basketball story, and an inspiring tale of a community refusing to give up hope despite the brutal odds stacked against them. On a grander scale, it’s a film about America, and the thousands of small towns across the country facing the same fight. As one towns-person told us, “Once we lose these small towns, we can’t get them back.” CEASe of Scott County’s mission to reduce the incidence and prevalence of substance abuse and addictions among adults and children in Scott County. CEASe is a county-wide citizen body that plans and monitors a comprehensive substance abuse action plan. CEASe holds a public meeting on the first Thursday of every month at noon in the Stewart-Hoagland Gathering Room on the Scottsburg Square.

Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information on CEASe of Scott County, go to their website at [www.scease.org](http://www.scease.org) or Facebook and search for “CEASe of Scott County”. Hit \*Like\* to start receiving updates or email Coordinator Croasdell, at [lcroasdell@me.com](mailto:lcroasdell@me.com). The entire community is welcome to attend this free event. Seating is limited for this event, so please submit your RSVP to [lcroasdell@me.com](mailto:lcroasdell@me.com)