

Alert

Metropolitan Drug Commission

A PUBLICATION OF NEWS AND EVENTS

Local Establishments Support, Attend Free Fake ID Training Sponsored by the Metropolitan Drug Commission

On Feb. 22, the Metropolitan Drug Commission hosted two Free Fake ID Training sessions for local retailers at the University Center on the UT Campus.

Special Agent in Charge (SAC) Michael Cawthon of the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission conducted this highly specialized training. Participants learned to recognize fake or borrowed IDs, improved their knowledge of state laws and liability laws pertaining to confiscated fake IDs, as well as found out how to properly turn over fake IDs to law enforcement.

The production and distribution of fake and fraudulent IDs provide youth under 21 a means to access and consume alcohol illegally. Many fraud ID experts say the problem of false and fraudulent identification is far worse now than it has ever been. "Access to obtain fake IDs has been gained through the Internet, however, 70 percent of all fake IDs are actually borrowed," said Cawthon.

Agent Cawthon also offered these "Basics of Carding" suggestions to retailers to help spot fake IDs:

- (1) Get the ID in hand and maintain control
- (2) Look at the person *first*, then the ID
- (3) Ask ID specific questions
- (4) Ask for the individual's signature and compare it to the one on the ID
- (5) Use tools to help verify IDs, such as an ID scanner, black light, flashlight, ID checking guide or magnifying glass.

Councilman Bob Becker and Councilwoman Barbara Pelot attended the trainings to commend the businesses on taking a proactive role in reducing youth access. Some establishments, such as the Downtown Grill and Brewery, offered raises to any employee that attended the training. Each attendee was given several resources, including a 2006 I.D. Checking Guide provided by Eagle Distributing, as well as a "Tips for Reducing Licensee Liability" brochure. Other training sponsors included the Safety, Environment and Education Center at the University of Tennessee and the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth.

On Feb. 21, the MDC also hosted a Fake ID training at the University of Tennessee Police Department for local law enforcement in order to provide the same in-house training to local establishments.

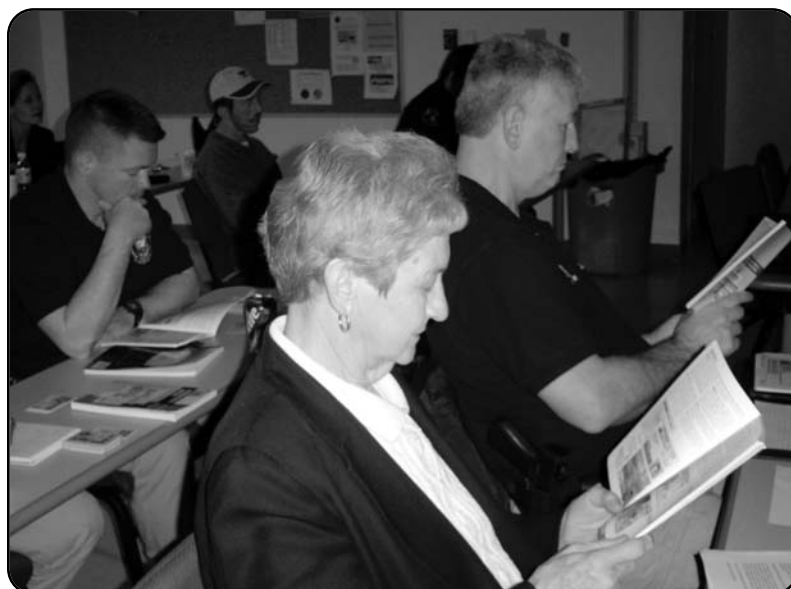
This training was an important step in increasing compliance between retailers and local law enforcement. Underage alcohol use carries serious health, legal and social consequences. For more information about alcohol compliance or the harms of underage drinking, visit the Metropolitan Drug Commission's website at www.metrodrug.org.

Kudos! to the following businesses for attending the Fake ID Training:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Barley's | Mellow Mushroom |
| Blue Cats | Old College Inn |
| BreadBox | Patrick Sullivan's |
| Buffalo Wild Wings | Pilot Corporation |
| Cancun | Preservation Pub |
| Cotton Eyed Joe | Red Iguana |
| Cumberland Ave. Merchant's Assoc. | Regas |
| Downtown Grill & Brewery | Rocky Top Market |
| EZ Stop | Sapphire |
| Little John's | Señor Taco |
| Liquid Knoxville | Tonic |
| Kroger | University Liquors |
| MacLeod's | Weigels Inc. |
| Manhattan's | World Grotto |



Councilwoman Barbara Pelot and Metropolitan Drug Commission Executive Director Catherine Brunson speak with Diane Pearson of RockyTop Markets during a break at the Fake ID Training. (Pilot Corporation's Ted Surdyka is pictured in the background)



Lt. Ann Brummitt and SGT Allen "Wolfie" May of the Knox County Sheriff's Office, reviewing the 2006 I.D. Checking Guide.



Special Agent Mike Cawthon of the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission answers questions from a Preservation Pub employee during a break at the Metropolitan Drug Commission's Fake ID Training held at the University of Tennessee.

Study Indicates Impact of Workplace Alcohol Use

A new University at Buffalo (UB) study shows that workplace alcohol use and impairment affects an estimated 15 percent of the U.S. workforce—some 19.2 million workers. There are several resources available to help businesses minimize the risks of worker alcohol use and educate employees about the dangers of alcohol use. Coalitions can also play a role by working with their local businesses to communicate these steps.

For the study, conducted by the UB's Research Institute on Addictions and funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), researchers conducted telephone interviews from 2,805 employed adults residing in the 48 contiguous states and the District of Columbia. Based on those responses, researchers estimate that 2.3 million workers (1.8 percent of the workforce) have consumed alcohol at least once before coming to work and 8.9 million workers (7.1 percent of the workforce) have drunk alcohol at least once during the workday. Most workers who drink during the workday do so during lunch breaks, though some drink while working or during other breaks.

The study found that workplace alcohol use and impairment was more prevalent among men compared to women. Also, working under the influence of alcohol or with a hangover was more prevalent among younger workers compared to older workers and among unmarried workers compared to married workers.

Among the broad occupation groups showing the highest rates of workplace alcohol use and impairment were the management occupations, sales occupations, arts/entertainment/sports/media occupations, food-preparation and serving occupations, and building-and-grounds maintenance occupations.

Workers on the evening shift and night shift, and those working a nonstandard shift involving irregular or flexible work hours were more likely to report drinking before coming to work compared to workers on a regular day shift. Those working a nonstandard shift also were more likely to use alcohol during the workday and report being at work under the influence of alcohol. Prior to this study, very little data existed on the prevalence, frequency and distribution of alcohol use and impairment at the workplace.

The Department of Labor (DOL) said these findings are of concern to the nation's workplaces and service providers because alcohol can significantly impair judgment and coordination, leading to an increased risk of on-the-job accidents and injuries. It can also lead to lower levels of productivity and employee morale not only among individuals with alcohol problems, but also for those working alongside them.

The DOL offers steps that businesses can take to minimize the risks of worker alcohol use and provides a number of helpful resources on its Working Partners Web site (www.dol.gov/workingpartners). The site includes information that can help employers and employees work together to develop drug-free workplace programs that increase awareness about the dangers of alcohol and encourage individuals with alcohol problems to seek help.

Ensuring Solutions to Alcohol Programs (www.ensuringsolutions.org), part of The George Washington University Medical Center, also offers strategies for solving alcohol problems in the workplace, such as providing an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), ensuring health plans cover alcohol treatment and adopting policies supportive of treatment and recovery.

To find more information about the study, visit the University at Buffalo's Research Institute on Addictions website: <http://www.buffalo.edu/news/fastexecute.cgi/article-page.html?article=77010009>.

For Drug-Free Workplace training, resources or assistance, visit www.metrodrug.org or contact the MDC's Aneisa McDonald at (865) 588-5550 (trainings also available in spanish).

Metropolitan Drug Commission to Celebrate 20 Years of Strengthening the Community

This year, the Metropolitan Drug Commission will celebrate 20 years of strengthening the community through education, prevention, advocacy for treatment and the adoption of model drug laws, practices and programs.

In 1986, the Metropolitan Drug Commission was formed by a joint resolution of City Council and County Commission to identify an effective means of addressing local issues of alcohol and other drug abuse.

To commemorate this special occasion, we invite you to join us as we welcome the President of the United States' Director for the Office of National Drug Control Policy, **John Walters**, on April 24, 2006 at the Knoxville Convention Center. For more information or to sponsor a table or purchase tickets, call (865) 588-5550.

Underage Drinking Town Hall Meeting on April 12

On Wednesday, April 12, the Knox County Council PTA will host a **Town Hall Meeting** to address underage drinking in Knox County. The event will be held at the Teacher Supply Depot off Churchwell Avenue from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Panelists include Knox County District Attorney General Randy Nichols, City Councilman Bob Becker, Knox County Student Assistance Services Administrative Specialist Marty Iroff, KPD Inspections Officer Jason Booker, Licensed Counselor Carrie Balent and a parent advocate. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Anne Haston at 675-0378.

Peninsula Village Celebrates 20 Years of Treatment

On Friday, April 7, Peninsula Village will hold its 20th Anniversary Celebration from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a buffet lunch and optional campus tour afterward. RSVP to Kelly Roberts at 1-800-255-TEEN or kroberts@covhlth.com.

The following testimony is an excerpt of a parent's perspective of having a child at Peninsula Village:

Recognizing that Laura had some serious problems wasn't hard for Mrs. A. Finding a place that could help her daughter was.

Laura fit a textbook profile for most Peninsula Village students. Since childhood, those who knew her described her as temperamental, high-strung, difficult, manipulative—and smart. She covertly experimented with alcohol and drugs before she was a teenager. By age 15, she confided in her journal that her unhappiness was so great that she wanted to die.

"At times, having Laura in treatment felt very isolating, and we really didn't understand what we'd all have to go through. We were scared, and we cried a lot in the beginning," Mrs. A. said. "The thing that saved us was the Parent Education Group. It gave us a community and an alliance, and it got us through."

In the end, Laura would spend 17 months at Peninsula Village, earning her high school degree from Peninsula Village School. She returned home to her family in 2003.

Today, Laura is in college, studying psychology as a major. She's gone back to her former high school and has talked frankly with students about her experience with addiction.

Laura will be one of the featured speakers at Peninsula Village's 20th Anniversary Celebration. She is celebrating three years of personal sobriety.

"Menace" Visits Roane and Loudon Counties

The Metropolitan Drug Commission presented the prevention drama *Menace* to Roane and Loudon County Middle Schools March 6-10, 2006.

Menace addresses underage drinking by focusing on the health and legal consequences of alcohol abuse and the dangers of binge drinking. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) reports that 2.6 million young people do not know that a person can die from an overdose of alcohol. Alcohol poisoning occurs when a person drinks a large quantity of alcohol in a short amount of time. Most experts define a lethal dose of alcohol at about .40; however, when alcohol is used in combination with other drugs (including prescription drugs), a lethal dose can be much lower.

Immediately following this year's drama was *Wheel of Misfortune*, a game show segment focusing on the legal ramifications associated with underage drinking. Game show hosts included Harriman City Police Chief Jack Stockton and Loudon County Sheriff Tim Guider.

Menace visited the following middle schools: Rockwood, Cherokee, Oliver Springs, Harriman, North, Greenback, Philadelphia School and Fort Loudon.

For more information about the harms of underage drinking, visit www.metrodrug.org.

This project is funded under an agreement with the Tennessee Commission on Children & Youth.



Roane County Anti-Drug Coalition members (from L to R): Harriman City Police Chief Jack Stockton, Doug Jackson, Donna Forstrom and Asst. Chief Tim Phillips.



Sheriff Tim Guider hosts "Wheel of Misfortune," a game show about the consequences of underage drinking, after students view the MDC Prevention Theatre drama "Menace."

Thank You Roane and Loudon Counties!

Get Ready for the Knoxville Youth Summit!

On April 17, the Knox County Mayors' Youth Action Council will host the Knoxville Youth Summit at the Convention Center. A premiere event for youth, by youth, the Summit is an opportunity for high school students to come together and address issues youth face every day.

The Summit is a fun event with entertainment, activities and problem-solving workshops. Following lunch, keynote speaker Josh Shipp will share his empowering story of triumph over tragedy. At 12 pm, Summit participants will have an opportunity to discuss the ideas and concerns expressed in the morning workshops with public officials, including members of School Board, City Council and County Commission.

Check-in begins at 9 am. The Knoxville Youth Summit is hosted by the City of Knoxville, Knox County Mayors' Youth Action Council and United Way. For more information, please visit www.unitedwayknow.org/yac_summit.html or call Leah Adinolfi at 523-9131, ext. 223.

Prescription Drug Abuse, Smoking Higher Among Teen Girls

More teenage girls than boys now smoke and abuse prescription drugs, and girls also are starting to use marijuana, alcohol, and cigarettes at a higher rate than boys, according to the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP).

The *Washington Post* reported Feb. 9 that the rise in teen female drug use is opposite overall trends, which indicate less use of illicit drugs. ONDCP drew its conclusions from an analysis of the 2004 National Survey on Drug Use and Health.

Increased stress, concerns about appearance, and the need to escape the trauma of physical or sexual abuse are among the factors that may be involved in the trend. More girls were first-time marijuana users in 2002, 2003, and 2004, and many more used prescription drugs illicitly than boys of the same age.

A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee, Inc.

A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee, Inc. was founded in Blount County in 2001 after a tragic incident of newborn abandonment in Townsend. A Secret Safe Place is dedicated to preventing the abandonment of newborn babies across the state of Tennessee.

To strengthen and support Tennessee's Safe Haven Law, the agency assists medical facilities in preparing for potential surrendered newborns, operates a 24-hour confidential Helpline and raises awareness through printed resources, educational programs, billboards and public service announcements.

According to various press reports, there have been twelve known newborn abandonments in Tennessee since 1998. Four of those infants did not survive. Tennessee's Safe Haven Law provides a safe and legal alternative to a woman who might otherwise abandon her newborn. She may bring her baby, up to three days old, to a hospital, birthing center, community health clinic or outpatient walk-in clinic, anonymously, and free her from the fear of persecution.

Currently, A Secret Safe Place for Newborns of Tennessee is funded by grants, in-kind donations, corporate sponsorships and fundraising events. For more information, contact Executive Director Shannon McCloud at 524-2208, smccloud8@bellsouth.net or www.secretsafeplacetn.org.

Metropolitan Drug Commission
P.O. Box 53375
Knoxville, TN 37950-3375
Phone: 865.588.5550
Fax: 865.588.0891

VISIT OUR WEBSITE for information about starting or maintaining a Drug-free Workplace Program; parent resources; treatment options; general drug descriptions, including warning signs and effects; and local and national research about drug use.

www.metrodrug.org

This project is funded under an agreement with TCCY



Announcements

On Friday, April 7, from 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., the Knoxville Police Department (KPD) is hosting the fifth annual **Prom Challenge**, a night for teens to learn about the dangers of underage drinking and driving in a fun learning environment. Safety City (165 S. Concord Street) is hosting the event which is free of charge to all area high school students. Live entertainment will be provided as well as "fatal vision" goggles, a rock climbing wall, bungee race and an inflatable obstacle course. There will also be a step team contest and battle of the bands. The school with the most attendance wins a cash prize of \$250. Food and beverages will be provided.

The sixth annual **Adam Downen Race for Responsibility** is Saturday, April 15, 2006 at Tyson Park. The 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run will begin at 8:30 a.m. Pre-registration fee is \$12 for all ages, which includes a short-sleeved t-shirt. Awards will be given to the top three finishers in each division and the top three overall (male and female). Proceeds go towards education in local schools and throughout the community to prevent underage drinking and drunk driving.

May 1-6 is **Children's Mental Health Week** and to promote awareness and provide information regarding children's mental health, a celebration at the Knoxville Zoo (Kid's Cove Area) will be held on Saturday, April 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Highlights include free children's activities, clowns and mascots, entertainment by local artists, face painting and mental health resources. For more information, contact Jim Griffin at 609-2490.

The 3rd annual **Matt Edmonds Memorial Golf Tournament** will be held Saturday, May 13, 2006 at Three Ridges Golf Course. The cost is \$75 per player/\$300 per team, which includes the greens fee, cart and lunch. Shotgun is at 9:00 a.m. For more information or to register, call David Edmonds at 922-9619 or visit www.mattredmonds.org. Donations are also welcome.

MDC in Action

During the second quarter (Oct-Dec), the MDC serviced the community by providing:

144	Treatment Referrals
9,215	Prevention Materials & Resources
475,311	Website Hits

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To submit an announcement or article to the *Metropolitan Drug Commission's ALERT*, please call (865) 588-5550.



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P.O. Box 53375
Knoxville, TN 37950-3375
Phone: 865.588.5550
Fax: 865.588.0891
www.metrodrug.org