



386 Stanley Street  
Fall River, MA 02720

*Building Our Lives Drug-Free*



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**BOLD Annual Meeting**



**Wednesday, June 10, 2009 5:00 – 6:30**

**SSTAR Training Room . 386 Stanley Street . Fall River, MA**

*More information enclosed in the insert!*

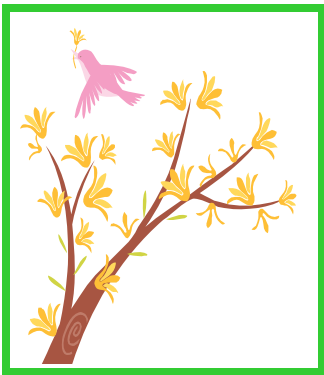


**Guiding Good Choices**  
**New Workshops Schedule**

**Guiding Good Choices**, an interactive skill building family workshop for parents of children ages 9-14 is taking place **evenings** at the **Spencer Borden School** beginning **May 18<sup>th</sup>** for five weeks. The **Fonseca School** is also offering the workshop beginning **May 21<sup>st</sup>** in the **afternoons from 3 -5 PM**. Any Fall River parents can sign-up.

**For more information call (508) 235-2307. Workshops will be limited to 20 participants each.**





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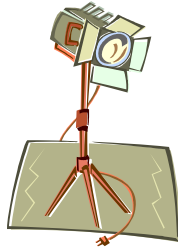


**Happy Spring!**

Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush!



# Spotlight on TADA



TADA is the youth organization (Teens Against Drug Abuse) affiliated with the BOLD Coalition whose goal is to involve the youth of Greater Fall River in activities that promote a healthier and drug-free community. TADA recruits members from the area middle schools and high schools to sustain this initiative. Any interested student can contact Mike Aguiar (508-324-3598) for information. This article spotlights two TADA members who are graduating from high school this year but who have dedicated many years to TADA.

**Jasiel Correia II**

**Jasiel** joined TADA and BOLD over four years ago before he was even in high school. *"I can still remember the first meeting when I introduced myself, I was only 13 years old and I felt welcomed by the members of the coalition."* He was searching for a community activity that would afford the opportunity to give back to the community. Mike Aguiar invited Jasiel to join the coalition and encouraged him to participate in coalition activities and events. He continued on to become chairman of TADA and took pride in the community service and awareness TADA participated in. *"I have enjoyed every moment at the BOLD Coalition because of the wonderful people involved and the commitment to changing negative social norms within Fall River."* Today he serves as the Coalition's Vice Chairman and will continue with his commitment to making Fall River the best community that it can be. He urges the Fall River youth to become involved with TADA and the BOLD Coalition. *"It is a place where anyone will feel welcome and will have the opportunity to be a leader."* Jasiel is preparing to attend Providence College in the fall where he will pursue a pre-law track. He also has very ambitious plans for his future in politics.



Jasiel accepting his Youth of the Year Award from Mayor of Fall River.

**Chris Parayno**

Chris has been an active member with The BOLD Coalition for 4 years. As a freshman he was impressed with the youth aspect of the BOLD Coalition and their strong message to Be BOLD. Chris says, *"This message was important to me as a young teen living in an area that is known for teens using both drugs and alcohol with sometimes serious consequences."* As a member of TADA there are opportunities to get involved and give back to the community that has given so much to all of us." In high school Chris played three years of varsity hockey and served as vice president of his freshman and senior class. He also achieved the rank of Eagle Scout and has served for a year as a Junior Assistant Scout Master to his troop. Chris really enjoyed working as a camp counselor at the Yawgoog Scout Reservation. After graduation in June from Bishop Connelly High School he will be attending the Catholic University of America located in Washington, DC. Chris will major in business or political science and hopes to become involved with a pre-law program.



Chris participated in an Underage Drinking campaign this year at BOLD.

Chris and Jasiel You will be missed!

## Don't Give Kids Alcohol!



You will have to answer to yourself.  
 You will have to answer to parents.  
 You will have to answer to the courts.  
 You will have to answer with your wallets.

**Don't give kids alcohol.  
 It's not worth it.**

### ⇒ **Did you know?**

- ⇒ *The legal drinking age in Massachusetts is 21. It is against the law to serve or provide alcohol to underage guests or to allow them to drink alcohol in your home or on other property that you control. The penalty is a fine up to \$2000.00, imprisonment for up to a year, or both.*
- ⇒ *You may also be sued civilly. If you are sued civilly, a jury may decide whether you are liable and how much you will have to pay for injuries caused by your guests.*
- ⇒ *You could be prosecuted criminally or sued civilly if you knowingly allow a person under 21 to drink at your home, and he becomes very ill or dies from alcohol poisoning or other injuries.*
- ⇒ *You could be civilly liable if you give permission for your underage child to drink in someone else's home and he injures himself when fleeing after the police arrive.*
- ⇒ *You could be civilly liable if your child has a few friends over when you are not home, it develops into a drinking party, and a party-goer injures himself when fleeing after the police arrive.*
- ⇒ *Even if you win a criminal or civil lawsuit, it is an expensive process. Lawsuits can take years to conclude. They put a tremendous amount of strain on you and your family.*



### **What can you as a parent do?**

- ⇒ *Host only alcohol-free, tobacco-free and drug-free parties for anyone under 21 years of age.*
- ⇒ *Not allow your children or their friends to possess or consume alcohol, tobacco or drugs on your property.*
- ⇒ *Allow your children to only attend supervised parties.*

### Statistics from 2008 The Fall River Youth Risk and Behavior Survey (YRBS)

- **4 out of 10** middle school students in Fall River have had a drink in their lifetime other than religious reasons..
- **2 out of 10** middle school students in Fall River have had a drink within the last 30 days other than for religious purposes.
- **7 out of 10** high school students in grades 9, 10 and 11 in Fall River have had a drink in their lifetimes other than for religious reasons.
- **4 out of 10** high school students in grades 9, 10 and 11 in Fall River have had a drink within 30 days other than for religious reasons.



# Teen Arts Center



In the March issue of the BOLD Coalition newsletter we reported on the initial efforts of a group of interested adults to establish a place for teens to socialize, create and enjoy the arts.

Two of the volunteers who are taking the lead in this initiative are Brian Levesque and Russ Orcutt, combined the two of them have almost 20 years of experience in art and music. Brian is a Fall River native who is currently raising three children and hopes that the proposal for an artist space can make a difference in their lives and the lives of many local teens. He also has a degree in Graphic Design and will be receiving a Web Design certificate at the end of this semester from BCC.



Russ is from the Taunton area and has years of experience promoting music and the arts. Over the last 10 years he has run an independent record label and production company. He has promoted over 500 events and has hosted numerous fundraisers for local charities. He also has a Web Design certificate from Bristol Community College and is currently pursuing an Elementary Education degree, and a Graphic Design certificate.

The envisioned Arts Center would focus on the creative and unifying aspects of art and music to provide a place that teens can begin to realize potentials within themselves. The teens would also be encouraged to participate within every aspect of the development of a music studio to gain practical knowledge of this industry, as well as experiencing a sense of belonging and unity.

Present plans now include offering workshops in graphic design, drawing, painting and screen printing. Other venues that are in the works are furniture design and construction, and also creative writing. Future plans will include fundraisers for appropriate technology to provide classes in Adobe software and web design.

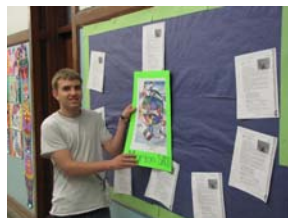
A group of committed volunteers are moving along with establishing a charter and bylaws, but much help and expertise in all areas are needed. If you are interested in helping with moving us closer to the opening of this center please contact Susan Wolfson—BOLD—Coalition—508-730-3307.



This is the message that the SADD students from Henry Lord and Morton Middle Schools are sending out to friends and relatives through a poster program coordinated by the BOLD Coalition.

**Did you know?**

- For every one percent increase in safety belt use 172 lives are saved.
- Safety belt use is one of the best defenses against the unpredictable actions of a drunk person.
- More than 90 percent of all motorists feel that safety belts are a good idea, but less than fourteen percent actually use them.
- An estimated 80% of children are immunized against contagious diseases, but less than 10% are restrained properly in an automobile.



SADD Programs at Morton and Henry Lord