



386 Stanley Street
Fall River, MA 02720

Building Our Lives Drug-Free



Halloween Happening



Halloween Party—CD REC

Oct 31 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Bank St Armory—Fall River, MA

Games—Pictures— Candy and a BIG Surprise!

The Event is co-sponsored by Domino's Pizza

Seth Hockert-Lotz



Building Our Lives Drug-Free

Volume 3, Issue 7

October 2008

Inside this Issue	

★ **BOLD Advisory Board Opposes Eliminating the State Income Tax - Ballot Question #1** ★

The Advisory Board voted unanimously at our Sept. 18th meeting to oppose passage of Question 1 on the ballot on Nov. 4. Question 1 is a vote on *eliminating the state income tax*, which provides nearly 40% of the state budget. Eliminating the state income tax would bring drastic cuts to all state services. The Governor is already cutting the current state budget by 7% during the greatest financial crisis our nation has faced since the Great Depression. Passage of Question 1 would result in:

- * Devastating cuts to state funds for prevention of substance use, as happened during the last economic downturn in 2002.
- * Devastating cuts in funds for treatment of substance abuse.
- * Devastating cuts in funds for our schools. 85% of the Fall River School budget comes from the state. If Question 1 passes, at least \$18 million or even more would be wiped out of the school budget.
- * Devastating cuts to Local Aid funds from the state to the City of Fall River. The projected cut is 65%, or \$22 million dollars.

This would result in drastic cuts for police, fire, elderly services, health care, ambulance, housing, library, road repair and human services at a time when all services have already been cut on June 30. Passage would cause *major increases in property and other taxes* to pay to salvage some parts of local school and city services. Currently Massachusetts falls in the middle of all 50 states for state taxes.

The BOLD Advisory Board unanimously opposes eliminating the state income tax.

Contacts:
BOLD Staff:
 Karen Fischer:
 508-324-3537
 Mike Aguiar:
 508-324-3598
 Jade Nieuwenhuizen:
 508-235-7091
 Susan Wolfson:
 508-730-3307
 Karin Wood:
 Barbara Lamonde:
 508-235-2307
 Maureen Brisson:
 Kim Rodrigues:
 508-235-7032



Good Neighbor Awards



★ ★
VOTE
On
Tuesday
Nov.4

On August 26th, 2008 Mayor Correia and the BOLD Coalition presented *The Good Neighbor Award* to 16 store owners and staff in Fall River. The award was presented for not selling tobacco to underage youth, not selling drug paraphernalia and keeping their property clean and free of litter.

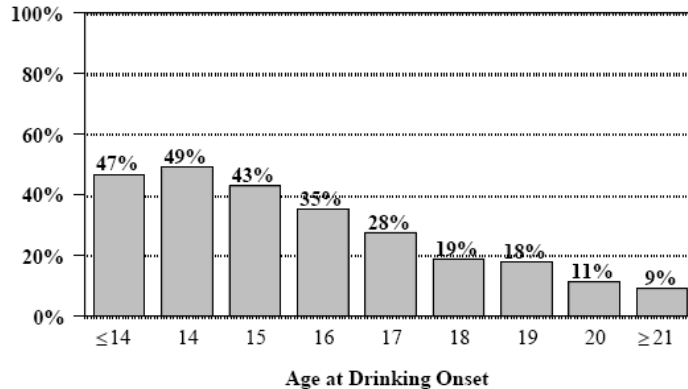
16 of Fall River's 160 convenient stores have not received a ticket for selling tobacco to underage youth during the past three years. The store owners, managers and staff were commended for consistently "carding" purchasers of tobacco to make sure they are not under 18 years of age. The non-criminal citations for this range from \$100 to \$300 fines.

The stores now proudly display A BOLD sticker to identify them as Neighbors Who Care. If you frequent these establishments please thank them for making Fall River a healthier city to line in. **The establishments are listed on page 2.**

Early Drinking Related to Illicit Drug Use

A study found, that starting alcohol use at a younger age was the strongest independent predictor of ever using drugs illicitly. Approximately one-half of persons who began drinking at age 14 or younger had also used drugs in their life-time, compared to one-tenth of those who began drinking at age 20 or older. These findings point to a need to further explore why people who start drinking at early ages are more likely to use drugs and develop drug dependence. (Source: *Cesar Fax*—a weekly fax from the Center for Substance Abuse)

Percentage of U.S. Adult Drinkers Who Ever Used Other Drugs Illicitly, by Age at Drinking Onset
(N=27,616)



How can you help?

As a parent

It is never too early to talk to young people about the dangers of underage drinking. Most 6 –year-olds know that alcohol is only for adults. Between the ages of 9 and 13, youth begin to think that alcohol use is okay. However, teens also say that they rely on adults in their lives more than anyone else to help them make tough decisions and to provide good advice. Stay involved with your teens .

As a community

Everyone can work together to create a community where young people can grow up and feel good about not drinking. The message should be the same whether youth hear it in school, at home, in places of worship, on the sports field, in youth programs, or in other places where young people gather.

It's time to change how we all think, talk, and act when it comes to underage drinking. We need to stop accepting it and to start discouraging it. It's time to help young people understand that it is not okay for them to drink alcohol. The discussion needs to start long before youth start thinking about alcohol.



Chaves Market
49 Columbia St.

Portugalia Imports
23 Tremont St

T&J Gas
402 Brightman St

Oriental Food Market
418 Quequechan St

Seabra Supermarket
440 Stafford Rd

Walgreens # 3469
369 Plymouth Ave

More pictures

Good Neighbor Award Recipients

Costa's Fish Market
144 Columbia St.

Dukes Variety
162 Columbia St

Shaw's Supermarket #1127411
4171 North Main St

Option Convenience Store
1462 Pleasant St

Super Stop & Shop # 71
501 Rodman St

M&K Spa
121 Rodman St



B&B Variety
100 South Main St

Walmart Store #3560
374 Canning Blvd

John's Auto Service
334 President Ave

Village Pizza
440 Stafford Rd



<http://www.gfrpartners.com/08BOLD>



Teen Empowerment



Teen Leaders from three area youth groups recently came together to set goals that area youth felt were important to make Fall River a safer and healthier community. The purpose of this endeavor, funded by the Fall River Women's Union, is to mobilize youth to work together to help achieve these goals.

Teen Empowerment facilitator, Sapne Padke, led BOLD Coalition's youth group TADA (Teens Against Drug Abuse), the Peaceful Coalition from Durfee High School and Team FRESH (Fall River Extends Supportive Hands) a youth leadership and development group whose mission is to promote and fulfill the five promises of America's Promise in their goal development.

The first session, held on Sept. 26th, focused on youth leadership skills, communication and problem solving. The youth from all three groups began building relationships and took a look at the work they collectively do to improve the lives of young people in Fall River. They also identified the purpose their group meets for, and what activities they have planned for the school year. The second session, held on October 3, continued team building activities and each group developed a timeline for specific projects with the possibility of collaborating between the groups.



One question that was asked of the teens was, what do teens do when they want to have fun and feel safe? Some teens responded that they stay at home, others responded they go out to eat with their friends and maybe a movie, others commented that they would hang out with their friends. In the end, all groups agreed that there were not enough safe, fun and affordable things for teens to do in Fall River. This is a problem that many adults are also addressing as they strive to make Fall River safer and healthier for our youths.



For more photos <http://www.gfrpartners.com/08TeenEmpowermentTraining.html>
Again thank you David Weed!



A Breath of Fresh Air



BOLD Initiative

The Fall River 2nd Hand Smoke Project, "A Breath of Fresh Air," is a pilot program funded by the MA Medical Foundation and the MA Department of Health. The BOLD Coalition, 7 Hills Behavioral Health, and Southcoast Tobacco Control are partners on this grant.

It has three components:

- a) informing parents of young children who attend child care programs and Kindergarten about the harm of second hand smoke to young children ,
- b) including second hand smoke risk and harm information in the health curriculum for high school and middle school students,
- c) working with school nurses to educate parents of children in their schools. We hope to decrease the number of homes and cars where children are exposed to smoke.

Did you know that 2nd Hand Smoke is composed of 4,000 different chemicals and chemical components. Chemicals such as, benzene, nickel, carbon monoxide, ammonia and cyanide.

If you would like to be a part of the 2nd Hand Smoke project contact Karen Fischer at BOLD Coalition
mfischer@sstar.org - 508-324-3537