

FY 2006-2007, 4th Edition

September, 2007



TOGETHER FOR JACKSON COUNTY KIDS

Together for Jackson County Kids

New Report Highlights Dangers of Alcoholic Energy Drinks

Recently, members of the alcohol and drug prevention community have expressed concern about the newest class of beverages to hit the market—alcoholic energy drinks. A new report by The Marin Institute highlights the dangers posed by these super-charged energy drinks, and urges public health officials to focus their attention on these products.

Alcoholic energy drinks are prepackaged beverages that contain not only alcohol but also caffeine and other stimulants. Earlier this year, 29 state attorneys general signed a letter to Anheuser-Busch expressing their concern about Spykes, an alcoholic energy drink packaged in colorful 2-ounce bottles with obvious appeal to youth. The objections of law enforcement officials as well as parents and

leading public health organizations, including CADCA, eventually led to the removal of Spykes from the market. But as the “Alcohol, Energy Drinks and Youth: A Dangerous Mix” report notes, the story does not end there. Many other alcoholic energy drinks are still on the market.

Teenagers and young adults are the primary consumers of energy drinks, with 31 percent of 12- to 17-year-olds and 34 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds reporting regular consumption of energy drinks.

The Marin Institute notes that caffeinated alcohol drinks are particularly dangerous because caffeine, a stimulant, masks the intoxicating effects of alcohol, and may lead to increased risk-taking.

“Young people are therefore particularly vulnerable to increased

problems from ingesting these products, since they are more likely to take risks than adults and to suffer high rates of alcohol problems, including alcohol-related traffic accidents, violence, sexual assault, and suicide,” the report says.

Despite the sharp increase in sales of alcoholic energy drinks, their appeal to underage drinkers, and the health concerns involved in mixing stimulants with alcohol, research on the potential dangers of these products remains limited. The Marin Institute calls on scientists and national leaders to focus increased attention on this emerging product category.

Source: <http://cadca.org/coalitiononline/>

I'm interested in more information on Together for Jackson County Kids

Name _____

Agency/Organization _____

Address _____

E-mail address _____

Office phone# _____

Home phone# _____

*Mail To: Together For Jackson County Kids
227 S. 11th St.
Black River Falls, WI 54615
715-284-4257*

New Software to Help Prevent Tobacco Use

How can computer software help prevent tobacco use? AprilAge Software is age progression software that will allow tobacco prevention workers to show youth and adults alike how they will age if they smoke.

The software takes a digital photo of an individual and ages the person gradually in two different progressions to the age of 80 years. The first progression is how the person would age without smoking, and the second shows how the person will look if they smoke.

The side-by-side comparison is what makes all the difference. We all know we'll get older and with age will come wrinkles and other changes.

What can change with smoking the depth of those wrinkles, the color of the skin and teeth, and more.

AprilAge Software is a science-based package supported by over 7000 photographs of real people, smokers and non-smokers alike. This means that the age progression is not just a simulation, but the reality of what smoking does to the appearance.

The software was purchased by the School District of Black River Falls through a competitive tobacco grant from Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.

If you would like more

information about the software, please contact Monica Lobenstein at 715-284-4357x5113 or monica.lobenstein@brf.org.



After School Program Gets Funding Approval

At the School District of Black River Falls Annual Board meeting on Monday, August 27, the School Board and community members together passed a resolution to financially support the BLAST After School Program for one year. This was made possible through a special fund called Fund

The decision to support an after school program in the community is a decision to support children and families.

80, which can be levied to support community education efforts.

This decision is significant in one major way. The decision to support an after school program in the community is a decision to support children and families.

The BLAST Program

not only provides academic assistance to struggling students and access to 4-H and service learning opportunities, but it also provides a safe place for children to be during those after school hours when their parents may still be at work.

The BLAST Program partners continue to seek a sustainable funding stream for the future. In the meantime, they are pleased with the recent decision.



Get Connected

NEVADA POLICE PICK UP STRAWBERRY METH

www.nevadaappeal.com/article/20070129/NEWS/101290107

Police in Nevada say they are finding a new kind of meth. on the streets that could appeal to younger users with its strawberry flavor and bright pink color.

The Nevada Appeal reported Jan. 29 that the drug has been dubbed "strawberry quick" by dealers and users and is made in Sacramento, Calif. "Parents and teachers, please be aware

of this new kind of drug that is making its way into our culture," said Sgt. Darrin Sloan, commander of the Carson City Sheriff's Department's Special Enforcement Team.

Sloan said the flavoring, apparently added during the cooking process, may make snorting the drug more appealing. Young users also may see the colored

version as less harmful, although it is just as powerful as regular meth. "This is designed for the younger crowd," Sloan said. "If (dealers) can

New VISTA Volunteer Hired

Together for Jackson County Kids welcomes a new support person to its staff. Her name is Mara Waldera and she is a VISTA Volunteer.

Mara's experience working with youth is wide ranging. She worked with the YMCA Surround Care program for one year. While there, she was a Y-teacher and a site director, creating and implementing activities that focused on choices, consequences and healthy living. She also worked one-on-one with children ages of 6 and 15 deal with peer pressure, abuse and addiction.

In addition, she has volunteered during the past seven years with organizations like Horse Sense, Girl Scouts, and YWCA Common Ground, Mediation and Restorative Services. She has worked with youth and adults in programs like Coulee Council on Addictions, Drug Court and Peer Court.

Mara attended WTC and Viterbo

University studying education, child development and juvenile delinquency and focusing on youth and prevention. She recently attended CADCA's mid-year training institute, attending workshops that focused on building drug free communities.

Her core objectives as a VISTA include strengthening the capacity and sustainability of TFJCK and programs developed under the DFC grant. Activities will include project development and resource mobilization. Ultimately, her goal is to work in cooperation with the coalition and the community it serves, believing that "together we can make a difference in the lives of our youth."

Mara is from Arcadia, WI, where she now lives with her parents, Roger and Michele Waldera. She is the oldest of three children and has

two brothers, Ryan and Rory. When asked about her family, Mara said, "My family is very close. Growing up we enjoyed camping in Hatfield every summer. I even learned how to jet ski on Lake Arbutus. We enjoy all types of outdoor activities, especially fishing." Mara also enjoys reading, watching movies, traveling, attending plays, cooking, and baking.

Inspired by the leadership of Jane Addams and Ghandi, Mara decided to dedicate a year of her life to volunteering. She looks forward to an educational, challenging, and rewarding year with TFJCK and UWEX.



TFJCK Meeting & Event Calendar

September

6—TFJCK Leadership Team meeting. 3:15 PM at Jackson County Health & Human Services

11—Jackson County Tobacco-Free Coalition meeting, 1PM at Jackson County UWEX

20—TFJCK Membership meeting. 3:30 PM at Jackson County UWEX

20—Health, Wellness & Safety Fair, 9AM-2PM at BRF National Guard Armory

October

3—TFJCK Leadership Team meeting. 3:15 PM at Jackson County Health & Human Services

9—Jackson County Tobacco-Free Coalition meeting, 1PM at Jackson County UWEX

18—TFJCK Membership meeting. 3:30 PM at Jackson County UWEX

November

7—TFJCK Leadership Team meeting. 3:15 PM at Jackson County Health & Human Services

13—Jackson County Tobacco-Free Coalition meeting, 1PM at Jackson County UWEX

15—TFJCK Membership meeting. 3:30 PM at Jackson County UWEX



For up-to-date calendar information, please visit us at <http://www.tfjck.org>.

TOGETHER FOR JACKSON COUNTY KIDS

227 South 11th Street
Black River Falls, WI 54615

Phone: 715-284-4257

Fax: 715-284-2394

Email: lhodge000@centurytel.net
lobenmon@yahoo.com

***A youth-adult partnership,
promoting healthy lifestyle
choices***

**We're on the web:
www.tfjck.org**



OUR MISSION

Together for Jackson County Kids, a countywide partnership of concerned citizens, is committed to enhancing community wellness by promoting positive values and choices and eliminating the negative impact of alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, violence and related youth risk behaviors. We draw upon private, public, adult and youth resources.

Health, Wellness , and Safety Fair to Be Held

On September 20, from 9AM-2PM, the public is invited to a Health, Wellness, and Safety Fair at the National Guard Armory in Black River Falls. The Fair will be free to attend and will include a wide variety of demonstrations, exhibits, giveaways, and much more for everyone, ages 12-92.

Demonstrations will take place throughout the day. Topics include:

- a Senior Exercise class
- a Fall Prevention workshop
- a Yoga/Pilates/Stability Ball demonstration
- a Tae Kwon Do demonstration
- a lecture call "Facts, Food and Fiction"

Screenings and tests will also be available to those who are interested, including:

- Glucose/Total Cholesterol with HDL

- Balance/Fall Risk
- Blood Pressure
- Blood Sugar
- Body Composition
- Sleep Apnea Questionnaire
- Oxygen Level
- Hearing
- Foot Assessment and Nail Trimmings

In addition, exhibitors will be on hand from across the county with more information about how to get fit, stay fit, and prevent illness.

Drawings will be held throughout the day. We hope to see you on Thursday, September 20!