

# SPOTLIGHT

## A RESOURCE TOOL FOR THE PREVENTION OF UNDERAGE DRINKING

### Judges and Preventative Law

Two Illinois judges are taking their “preventative law” message on the road. Judges Schuering and Drummond have developed seven reasons why teens leave a party where alcohol and drugs are present.

1. Death. If friends would show the same amount of support before the behavior takes place as they do at the funeral, then the story could be different.
2. A criminal record. Future employers have greater access to juvenile records today and could decide not to hire you.
3. No trust. Life is much harder when adults don't trust you.
4. No time. Life is busy enough without having to spend all the time required on court appearances, probation, paperwork, etc...
5. No privacy. There just isn't any after a drug or alcohol-related arrest.
6. No money. Drinking illegally can cost far more than it cost just to buy the six-pack in the first place.
7. No car. Losing your license isn't fun and isn't convenient.

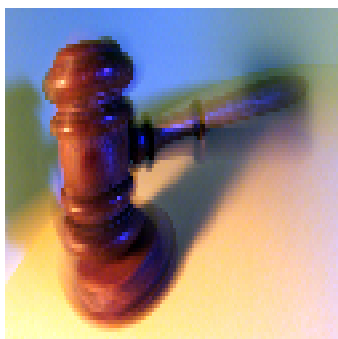
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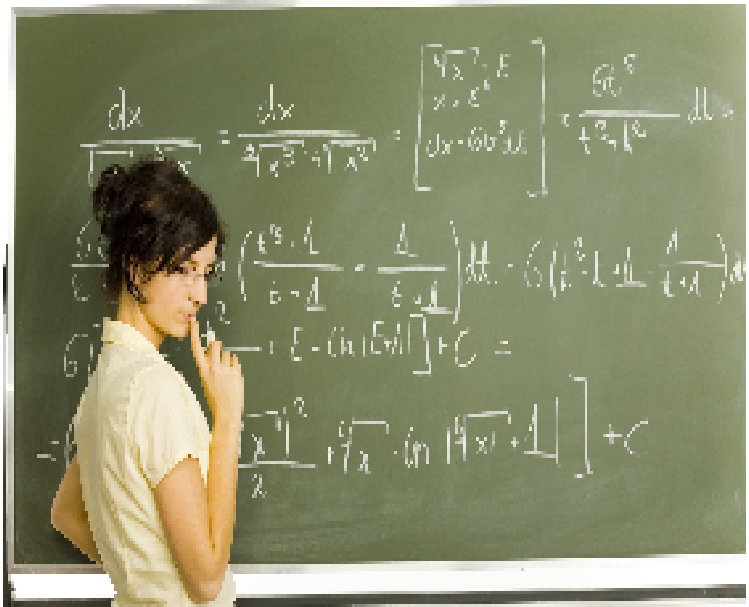
# Did You Know?

## National Survey on Drug Use and Health Releases New Report

In prevention, we know that reducing access to alcohol is key in underage drinking prevention. A recent report from NSDUH analyzed data from 2006-2008 with regards to past month alcohol use and self-purchase of alcohol among youth.

Highlights include:

- Nationally, 27.6% of those between the ages of 12 and 20 drank alcohol in the past month
- Mississippi is included in the list of 10 states with the lowest rates of past month alcohol use
- Approximately 8.6% of past month drinkers purchased their own alcohol the last time they drank
- Mississippi ranked in the top, however, for those past underage drinkers who purchased their own alcohol.



*To read the full report, visit*

*<http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/180/SR180UADhtml.pdf>*

## Local Coalition News

### *Gateway Map Coalition Hosts Town Hall*

On March 18, 2010, the Gateway MAP Coalition hosted a Town Hall Meeting to discuss the issues of underage drinking and youth substance use in the Yazoo Community. The public forum brought together community members to discuss environmental strategies.



In attendance were elected officials, school representatives, parents, business owners, staff of healthcare agencies, representatives of faith-based organizations, media, youth, and other concerned citizens.

Based on participant surveys, 100% agreed that the Town Hall meeting was beneficial. Almost 100% agreed that the meeting increased their knowledge of underage drinking and substance abuse issues in their community and clearly explained

the definition of, and importance of, environmental strategies. They had 46 in attendance, with an almost equal representation of Caucasians and African-Americans. Congratulations to the Coalition for a very successful Town Hall Meeting!



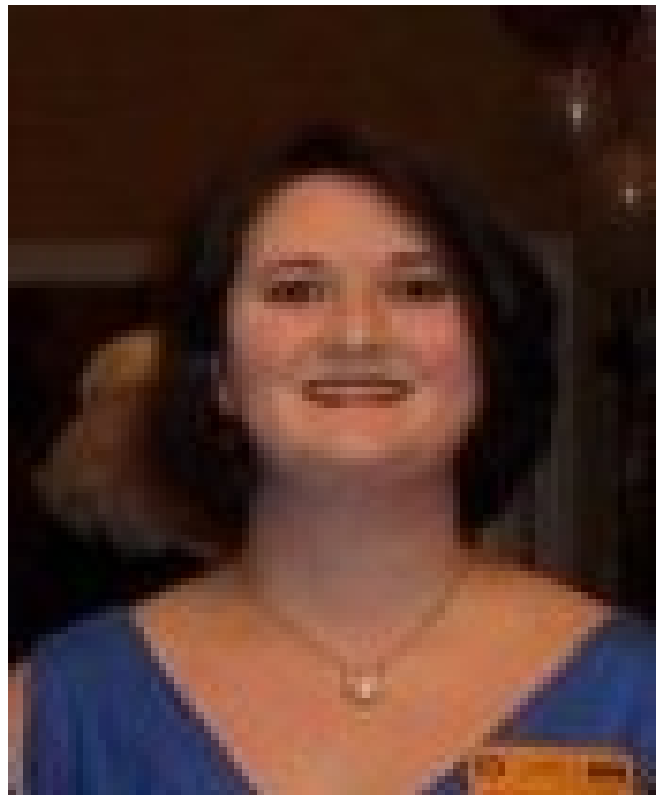
# ~One of Us~

**Name:** Anne Marie Nelson

**Title:** SPF-SIG Project Coordinator

**Location:** DREAM of Hattiesburg, Inc.

**The thing you love most about prevention:** Knowing you have made a difference; for example, I was going through the drive-through window and one day heard, “It’s the alcohol lady!” and I knew that someone had been listening when I was teaching! (I just wish they had referred to me with a better title.)



**Favorite place to vacation:** My own backyard

**On a rainy day, I love to:** Cook and clean out the house.

**When I have spare time, I:** Fish, crochet, work in the yard, and visit with my family.

# MAAUD's Corner

## MAAUD Kicks Off Statewide Town Hall Meetings



Statewide Town Hall meetings, sponsored by SAMHSA, were kicked off March 9th at the State Capitol. Members of MAAUD, along with DMH's Ed LeGrand, spoke to the audience about the dangers and consequences of underage drinking.



## Project Sticker Shock Returns!

April will kick off another round of Project Sticker Shock events around Mississippi. Local coalitions throughout the state will be in retail outlets reminding adults that it is illegal to purchase alcohol for minors. Check back next month for pictures and success stories!