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June is TAADAS Member Month!

Be a part of the premier statewide association that advocates for alcohol, drug and other addiction issues and services in Tennessee – Prevention, Intervention, Treatment, and Recovery. There are various levels of membership and involvement so support TAADAS TODAY!

Contact Natalie Lucas at 615.780.5901 ext 15 or natalie@taadas.org for more information about becoming a member of TAADAS.
Baby Boomers Continue Recreational Drug Use in Senior Years

One-third of the U.S. population was born during the Baby Boom - the years 1946 to 1964 -- and many Boomers grew up using drugs and may be continuing to do so, Scientific American reported in May. Researchers from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) cast doubt on the theory that these lifelong recreational drug users will "age out" of use of marijuana or other substances as they get older. For example, hospitals reported that cocaine mentions at emergency rooms rose 240 percent among people ages 55 and older between 1995 and 2002, while heroin mentions rose 160 percent, marijuana mentions rose 467 percent, and amphetamine mentions rose 700 percent. Moreover, the National Survey on Drug Use and Health found that illicit drug use among people ages 50-59 rose from 2.7 percent in 2002 to 4.4 percent in 2005.

Experts say that the trends may be related to the fact that people are living longer but also holding on to the drug-use habits of their youth. They worry, however, that drug use could have serious effects on brain function among older Americans and that drug users could face other health consequences as their metabolism slows with age. Interaction with prescription drugs also is a hazard. The NIDA research appears in the journal Neuropsychopharmacology.

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321 W. Walnut St. Johnson City, TN 37604
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Five women have launched a national campaign to raise awareness of the problem of cough-medicine abuse, aided by a manufacturer's association.

The Five Moms: Stopping Cough Medicine Misuse Campaign utilizes a variety of online tools to reach parents, including a Five Moms website, blogs, messaging, and videos. The Internet is one way that adolescents spread the word about the potential for misuse of dextromethorphan-based over-the-counter medication, so the campaign is intended to prevent a countervailing viewpoint.

The year-old campaign, sponsored by the Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA), is encouraging mothers to talk to their children about the dangers of abusing cough medicines. "First, we had to raise awareness among parents that teens abusing cough medicine was a reality," said Linda A. Suydam, president of the CHPA. "Now, with our growing community of engaged parents, we are asking our Five Moms members to engage in an open communication with their teens to help prevent this type of substance abuse."

The five founding members of the group are: Julie Bermant, a pediatric nurse practitioner from Massachusetts, Blaise Brooks, an accountant from California, Christy Crandell, a California mother of a former cough-medicine abuser, Becky Dyer, a D.A.R.E. officer and deputy sheriff from Kansas, and Hilda Morales, an educator from Texas.

Drug cartels in Mexico are actively encouraging desertions among Mexican soldiers engaged in an extended battle over the drug trade, the Washington Post reported in May.

Los Zetas, a hit squad employed by the Gulf drug cartel, recently hung a banner over a main street in the city of Nuevo Laredo offering a "good salary, food and medical care for your families" for any soldier or former soldier who joined their group. The banner also promised that soldiers would not be fed instant noodle soup -- a dig at the poor quality food received by Mexican troops.

A similar sign in the city of Tampico promises deserters loans and life insurance.

At least 100,000 soldiers have deserted the Mexican military over the past eight years. "The cartels are very good at this -- they've had songs written about them, they put up these signs, they make themselves out to be Robin Hoods," said Carlos Martinez, a Nuevo Laredo community activist. "People like this. We Mexicans like a good joke -- we like to make fun of our problems."

The cartels also exploit the distrust the many poor Mexicans feel toward the military and police. "I trust the Zetas more than the theiving police and soldiers," said Marcelino, 74, who did not give his last name out of fear of retribution. "The police are rats.

Cartels help ensure public loyalty by throwing parties and giving gifts, but murder also is a major tool for keeping people in line. In Ciudad Juarez, for example, cartel members publicized a hit list of 17 police officers in January; at least nine of the men have since been killed.

Former Gen. Jose Francisco Gallardo said that the lack of good jobs for former soldiers makes working for the cartels very tempting. "This is one of the main origins of insecurity in our country," Gallardo said. "These soldiers are lost -- fugitives in their own country -- and they're angry."
Prescription drug abuse is being fueled by easy access to pharmaceuticals on the Internet, often facilitated by shady doctors and pharmacies, Rusty Payne, a spokesman for the Drug Enforcement Administration, said. Pharmaceutical abuse "is one of the biggest drug problems we are dealing with. "The Internet is the biggest culprit," Payne said. 'These pharmacy people that are doing this and these doctors that are doing this, they don't give a dadgummit about people. It's just the almighty dollar; that's all it is," said one Wichita, Kansas woman whose husband died from an overdose of the muscle relaxant Soma, which he bought online without ever visiting a doctor. CNN reporters were able to easily buy the antidepressants Prozac and Elavil online by filling out a health survey and providing a credit-card number, even though an e-mail from the linepharmacy.com site said that "all orders made are still subjected to Doctor's evaluation." The drugs arrived with a doctor's name and a pharmacy name on the label, but the reporter never spoke to a doctor. In another example, a women who tried to commit suicide with drugs bought online received a prescription for Soma written by a doctor on Long Island, Kareem Tannous, who she had never met. The doctor, who runs three health clinics, refused to answer questions about the prescription, as did workers at Roots Pharmacy in American Fork, Utah, which filled the prescription. The DEA says that investigations of Internet pharmacies yielded $39 million in cash and other assets last year, up from $11 million in 2004. Carmen Catizone, the executive director of the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, likened illicit online pharmacies to drug dealers but said Congress has been reluctant to beef up enforcement. "'Show us the dead bodies,' has been the typical response from lawmakers, said Catizone, "and if that was me or my family, that's a pretty sad statement for our legislators to give."

"investigations of Internet pharmacies yielded $39 million in cash and other assets last year"

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Spike in PTSD Cases Among Returning Veterans

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) cases among veterans returning from the Iraq and Afghanistan wars rose 46.4 percent in 2007, Reuters reported in May. The U.S. military reported 13,891 new PTSD cases in 2007, up from 9,549 in 2006. In the past five years, more than 38,000 PTSD cases have been documented among U.S. military personnel, mostly among the Army and Marines. Longer, multiple tours of combat duty ordered by the Bush administration received blame for the trend, although experts also said that the military is doing a better job of identifying individuals with PTSD. U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates recently ordered a policy change that allows soldiers to seek help for PTSD without jeopardizing their military careers. A Rand Corp. study estimated that 18.5 percent of military personnel serving in Iraq and Afghanistan showed signs of PTSD or depression.
Call for Establishing 'World No Alcohol Day'

World No Tobacco Day has become an established rallying point for global tobacco prevention efforts, and now advocates would like to see a similar annual event aimed at alcohol use. The Times of India reported in May that a group of 11 Southeast Asian nations has proposed that the World Health Organization (WHO) establish Oct. 2 -- Mahatma Gandhi's birthday -- as World No Alcohol Day. The proposal was made by India and accepted by the World Health Assembly this week. A final vote on the plan would take place at the assembly's executive board meeting in January 2009. "It could take a year for the proposal to be granted official approval. We are confident that it will go through," said an official of the Indian health ministry. A Framework Convention on Alcohol Control also is being considered by WHO, and all 193 WHO member nations this week signed a resolution pledging to reduce alcohol-related harm.

Brewers Urged to Stop Marketing Beer Shirts to Young Girls

From: Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) 1875 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20009 Tel: (202) 332-9110 Email: cspinet-news@cspinet.org www.cspinet.org/alcohol/

Washington, DC - The nonprofit Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) urged Miller Brewing Co., Foster’s, and Diageo, the parent company of Guinness, to stop allowing logos for those beers to be used on tee shirts sold at Forever 21, a retailer popular with teenage girls.

CSPI says that the arrangement is in violation of the beer industry’s voluntary advertising and marketing code. Though it is administered by the Washington, D.C., lobby group the Beer Institute, the code explicitly states that no beer brands or logos "should be used or licensed for use on clothing … intended for use primarily by persons below the legal drinking age."

Forever 21 claims it is among the top three teen shopping brands nationwide.

"Adolescent and teenage girls hardly need further inducements to drink,” wrote George A. Hacker, director of the alcohol policies project at CSPI. “Heavy drinking imposes special risks for girls, due to their lower body weights and different metabolisms and the contributing role of alcohol in sexual assaults, date rape, and unwanted and unplanned pregnancies.”

CSPI is forwarding copies of its letters to the brewers to the Federal Trade Commission, which has begun applying greater scrutiny to the marketing practices of alcoholic-beverage makers.

CSPI also called on the retailer to remove all beer or alcohol-themed tee shirts from its web site and approximately 400 outlets around the country. In addition to carrying shirts bearing Miller, Foster’s, and Guinness logos, the chain sells shirts that read "I’m awesome at beer pong,” “beer is my anti-drug,” and “save water, drink beer.”
News from Capitol Hill
June 2008
Nathan H. Ridley

Appropriations Bill passes. Late in the evening of the last day of the legislative session, Representative Nathan Vaughn of Kingsport rose from his seat in the left rear corner of the House Chamber and asked his colleagues to support an amendment removing the Governor’s authority to raid the reserve funds of the Health Department to balance this year’s budget and if need be, next year’s budget. Governor Bredesen had targeted 84 different piggy banks or reserve funds of state agencies to raid to assist him in balancing the general fund. These 84 funds ranged from the local parks fund to the alcohol and drug addiction treatment fund. Representative Vaughn spoke well, and he survived one killing procedural vote. But as he spoke further, folks realized that if he succeeded in passing his amendment, the House would not be able to pass the appropriations bill because all of the 84 reserve funds were necessary to pass a balanced budget. Ultimately, Representative Vaughn’s amendment failed 29 to 64, and the bill allowing the reserve funds to be raided passed without much more debate. The House then proceeded to pass the appropriations bill, largely in the form the Governor had proposed.

ADAT Raid. With this setting in mind, several members of the Davidson County delegation assisted Judge Seth Norman and the Davidson County Drug Court, and several members of the Shelby County delegation assisted Judge Tim Dwyer and the Shelby County Drug Court with an amendment to the appropriations bill that makes a one time allocation of $300,000 for each program from the reserve in the state’s Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment (ADAT) program. The approach of the sponsors seemed to be that the drug courts were more worthy recipients than the anonymity of the state’s general fund. We all realize that Tennessee is a low tax low service state, and we know how hard precious general fund dollars are to find. The General Assembly, however, must recognize that the treatment of substance abuse is a serious policy issue and that an effective state substance abuse treatment policy cannot be effectively held together with chewing gum and baling wire.

Advocacy Thought: Politics is a not a spectator sport. Politics is a full contact sport. The coming election season is the ideal time to approach a legislative candidate and make gentle inquiry into his or her position for the funding of an effective state substance abuse treatment policy.

(Continued on page 7)
Nathan Ridley is an attorney with the Nashville firm, Boult Cummings, Conners & Berry, PLC. You may contact him by e-mail at nridley@boultcummings.com.

**Calendar Notes:**
State offices will be closed Friday, July 4, 2008, for the Independence Day holiday, and Monday, September 1, 2008 for the Labor Day holiday.

**Election Notes:** The primary election for the legislative seats will be Thursday, August 7, 2008, and the general election will be Tuesday, November 4, 2008.

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Pathfinders, Inc has begun building a new 30 bed residential center! The ground is finally broken. The Center should be open by spring or next July (Summer 2009.) Pathfinders Inc will be offering Social Model Detox/Rehab services at the new center and licensed halfway house services at the old center, plus day treatment and/or intensive outpatient services on the grounds.

For more information contact:
Dan Hoyle at  615-452-5688.

TAADAS has an active and participatory Board of Directors that maintains a close and interactive relationship with the TAADAS staff.

TAADAS' national affiliation with other state and national agencies offers members access to those agencies and their benefits.

TAADAS offers members immediate and timely access to information regarding alcohol and drug abuse via web and email – faxes, web alerts, and email.

Membership in the Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug and other Addiction Services is more than a purchase of the services listed. It is also an investment in a philosophy, in a cause. It is a shared belief that alcohol, drug and other addictions is treatable and preventable; that the availability of quality treatment and prevention services to all Tennessee citizens is important; and that by joining together, we can do more than we can do individually.

You should become a member of TAADAS if you…

• work in the alcohol, drug and other addiction services field.
• are a licensed counselor or are working towards it.
• are an EAP, Risk Manager, or other Managed Care Professional.
• have an interest in alcohol, drug and other addiction services.
• are affected by alcohol, drugs or other addictions.

Join Today!

Be a part of the premier statewide association that advocates for alcohol, drug and other addiction issues and services in Tennessee – Prevention, Intervention, Treatment, and Recovery. There are various levels of membership and involvement in TAADAS.

What goes on in June???

Besides Flag Day and Father’s Day check out what an important month June is for all of the following causes!

Click on any of these great causes to find out more information!

• Home Safely Month
• Myasthenia Gravis Month
• National Aphasia Awareness Month
• Scoliosis Month
• Scleroderma Month
• Vision Research Month

You should become a member of TAADAS if you…

Are you ready to join TAADAS and be a voice for recovery in Tennessee? Click here
TAADAS attends
Tennessee Advanced School on Addictions
The Summit
May 26-30
Belmont University
Nashville
TN Senate Would Allow Guns in Bars

The Tennessee Senate voted 24-6 to allow individuals with handgun permits to carry their weapons into establishments that serve alcohol, including bars and restaurants, WTVF-5 in Nashville reported in January. However, the law stipulates that an individual carrying a gun cannot drink alcohol, and individual business owners still have the right to ban weapons from their property. Bill sponsor Sen. Doug Jackson said that Tennessee should join 34 other states that allow permit-holders to carry handguns into businesses where alcohol is served. Tim Calhoun, a musician, cast the vote as a victory for self-defense. "As Virginia Tech has proven, any place with a large gathering of people is the exact place where some idiot might come in and do a lot of damage," he said. "If I'm somewhere with my wife and kids and something happens and I have the right to do that and I don't have it with me, something happens to my wife and kids I don't think I could live with myself." Others said they would feel less secure knowing that someone in the crowd at a bar or nightclub might be carrying a gun. "I don't feel safe knowing somebody could come in here with a concealed weapon and shoot the place up," said Shawna Sessions, a bartender at Tootsie's in Nashville.

WHO Slams Tobacco Marketing to Youth

The tobacco industry deliberately targets children with advertising, warranting a complete ban on tobacco ads worldwide, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). Fox News reported the end of May that the United Nations agency marked World No Tobacco Day by excoriating the marketing practices of multinational tobacco firms. "The bombardment of messages through billboards, newspapers, magazines, radio and television ads, as well as sports and fashion sponsorships and other ploys, are meant to deceive young people into trying their first stick," said Shigeru Omi, the WHO regional director for the Western Pacific. The WHO called on member nations to implement the advertising ban spelled out in the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, noting that only total ad bans are effective because the industry takes advantage of partial bans by shifting their resources to alternative types of promotions.

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This project is funded in part under an agreement by the State of Tennessee
Problems Could Affect Chantix Bottom Line

Continuing controversy over the stop-smoking drug Chantix could hurt sales of the Pfizer Inc. product, the Associated Press reported in May. Goldman Sachs analyst James Kelly is predicting slacker sales for Chantix after the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) banned use of the drug for pilots and air-traffic controllers, citing reports of serious side-effects in a study by the Institute for Safe Medication Practices.

Earlier, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said that it is "increasingly likely" that a link exists between Chantix and serious psychiatric problems. Kelly said the bad publicity has contributed to a reported 20 percent decline in Chantix sales this year, and he has predicted reduced profits for Pfizer as a result. However, he said, "Chantix is an important growth driver for the company and may still contribute globally as patients and physicians weigh the long-term benefits of smoking cessation versus a short-term course of therapy."

Real Problems Discussed with Virtual Doctors

Adolescents with addictions, sexually transmitted diseases or other embarrassing problems can now get anonymous advice from doctors who have created avatars in the role-playing game Second Life, the Guardian reported in May.

The Spanish Society for Family and Community Medicine and the Coalition for Citizens with Chronic Illnesses have created a virtual consulting room in Second Life, and real doctors will be on call to offer advice to patients. "Teenagers do not often go to see the doctor but this is an efficient and amusing tool to reach them because we can both use the same route," said Rosario Jimenez, one of the doctors who will spend up to four hours per week giving consultations to Second Life players. "Even though they do not often suffer serious illnesses, they often expose themselves to risks which can develop into problems in the future. This is a way to talk about their doubts about taking drugs or sexual relations which they cannot do in a traditional consultation."

The consultancy will appear on the Spanish language Isla de Salud; another is planned for chronic illnesses in the coming months.
WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS

Co-Dependency  
June 13 and 14  
Grace House, Memphis  
Facilitator: Elaine Orland  
Contact: Jane at 901.828.1332

Addiction Severity Index  
June 19  
Facilitator:  
Dr. Frances Clark-Patterson  
Contact Susan F. Young at 615.269.0029 ext 111

ASAM Patient Placement Criteria, Revised  
June 20  
Facilitator:  
Dr. Frances Clark-Patterson  
Contact Susan F. Young at 615.269.0029 ext 111

FEATURED PUBLICATIONS:  
TENNESSEE ACCESS TO RECOVERY 2004-2007 OUTCOMES EVALUATION REPORT

The clearinghouse resource center has numerous publications on Substance Abuse and related issues. In each edition of the TAADAS Times, we feature one of the publications from the Clearinghouse. This edition’s publication is from the Institute for Substance Abuse Treatment Evaluation at the University of Memphis in partnership with the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services, Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities.

FEATURED VIDEO:  
FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS

The Clearinghouse has over 800 videos on Substance Abuse, Addiction and related issues. Videos range in length and subject as well as targeted audience. In each edition of the TAADAS Times, we feature one video in our collection. The edition’s feature is: Friends Helping Friends

Many older adults today live by the motto “a pill for every ill.” They consume 30% of all prescription drugs, 70% of non-prescription drugs, and use alcohol for social or medicinal purposes. As a result, older adults are at risk for drug misuse or abuse. They need quality prevention and education services. Friends Helping Friends curricula contains a manual and a tape called Wise Use of Drugs. Together, these components combine to enhance and empower the lives of older adults.

Videos can be checked out from TAADAS free of charge by anyone in the state of Tennessee for three business days. UPS shipping is available for those checking out videos outside the Nashville area. Please call for shipping information. Call the Clearinghouse at 615.780.5901 to check out this video or any other in our collection.

Check it out!!

Check out the TAADAS website, www.TAADAS.org or click here for an updated video catalog with more DVD choices!
Resources:

TENNESSEE TRAFFIC SAFETY RESOURCE SERVICE

Tennessee Traffic Safety Resource Service
309 Conference Ctr. Bldg.
Knoxville, TN 37996-4133
Phone: 1-800-99BELTS
(1-800-992-3587)
(Tennessee only)
Fax: 1.865.974.3889

Click here to visit the Tennessee Traffic Safety Resource Service website.

Blueprint for the States:

Policies to Improve the Ways States Organize and Deliver Alcohol and Drug Prevention and Treatment

Blueprint for the States: Policies to Improve the Ways States Organize and Deliver Alcohol and Drug Prevention and Treatment reports the findings and recommendations of the national policy panel convened by Join Together and chaired by former Governor of Massachusetts Michael Dukakis.

Join Together convened this panel to address two realities: state governments pay dearly for the nation’s failure to effectively prevent and treat alcohol and drug problems. They also have enormous potential because state governments are the primary funders of prevention and treatment services. The panel met four times, held public hearings, received written testimony, and reviewed research and existing models. The panel heard from experts, clients, providers, government officials, community and reflected on their own experiences in state government.

Click on the link below to download or order copies of the report.
http://www.jointogether.org/aboutus/policy-panels/blueprint/order-form.html

WORKSHOPS & TRAININGS

Case Management/Treatment Planning
June 20
Facilitator: Jean Davis at JACOA cost is $15
Contact: Barry Cooper at 731.423.3653

HART DANCE
June 21– HART Center
Facilitator: Jane Abraham and Keith Henderson
Contact: Jane at 901.828.1332.

Pharmacology Update 2008
9:00 am-4:40pm, Knoxville
Contact Martha Culbertson at 865.329.9087
Nicotine Inhalers for Indoor Smokers

At least two U.S. companies are marketing devices that allow smokers to dodge indoor smoking bans by providing a vaporized nicotine fix, the Colorado Springs Gazette reported in May. Crown7, markets an eponymous device. The devices cost $80 or more, and each nicotine cartridge costs about $2. They are not marketed as smoking-cessation devices, and thus are not subject to Food and Drug Administration regulation.

"I bought it because it was too cold to go outside to smoke.”

The battery-powered devices don't burn tobacco, but rather mix nicotine cartridges and water vapor that can be inhaled by users. Ruyan America Inc., one of the firms, says its products "allow users to effectively simulate the physiological and psychological attributes of smoking without creating any harmful secondhand smoke.” The company makes the E-cigarette, while another firm, Drew Lee.

First Addiction Award Made at High School Science Fair

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and cosponsor Scholastic recently presented the first Addiction Science award at the annual Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, the world's largest high-school science fair, Medical News Today reported in May. Kapil Vishweshwar Ramachandran, 16, of Westwood High School in Austin, Texas won the award for a project that explored the basic chemical basis of addiction. "The judges were particularly impressed with the writer's enthusiasm and innovative approach to exploring the neurological underpinnings of addiction," said NIDA Director Dr. Nora D. Volkow. "He developed a simple, sensitive, elegant instrument to measure tolerance in fruit flies, and ended up possibly contributing to the knowledge needed to find biological changes at the root of addiction.”

Ramachandran received a $2,500 scholarship from Scholastic for his work. The second-place award went to Ethan Garrett Guinn, 17, of Moore High School in Moore, Okla., for his project, Video Games: The Next Generation's Addiction. The focus of the project was obsessive use of video games. Third place went to Shelby Marie Raye of Manatee High School in Bradenton, Fla., for her project, What's In and What's Out: High Schoolers' Perceptions of Coolness. "Our second- and third-place winners both took a look at the world around them, used initiative, curiosity, and good science to identify and measure relatively unstudied influences that are going on in the lives of adolescents,” said Volkow.

Calls to Ban Tobacco Deliveries

Some state and federal officials want to ban tobacco products from being shipped by mail, saying the prohibition is needed to prevent sales to minors and stop Internet buyers from dodging state tobacco taxes. The Connecticut Post reported in May that state Attorney General Richard Blumenthal recently endorsed legislation sponsored by Rep. John McHugh (R-N.Y.) that would add tobacco to the list of banned products for mail delivery. The measure has been approved by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Opposing the legislation is UST Inc., based in Stamford and the world's top producer of moist smokeless tobacco products. "We would hope Congress would consider the interests of wholesalers and retailers who may use the Postal Service for business-to-business shipping," said company spokesperson Andrew Lee. UPS, DHL and FedEx all have already stopped delivering tobacco products, but only Congress can change the rules governing deliveries by the U.S. Postal Service.

"This is the last refuge of illegal Internet sales," Blumenthal said. "If we can just sever this channel it will have tremendous consequences for tax evasion as well as underage sales. In my view, it will happen. It is just a question of when."
A bill in Congress that would give the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) the power to regulate tobacco products also would ban all flavored cigarettes except menthol. That's an exception that worries many public-health experts, who point out that menthol cigarettes are especially popular among African-Americans. The New York Times reported in May that the bill would prohibit a number of popular cigarette flavorings, including clove and cinnamon, but allows menthol-flavored cigarettes in an apparent concession to the tobacco industry.

Menthol cigarettes comprise about a quarter of the $70 billion worth of cigarettes sold in the U.S. each year. Philip Morris USA relies heavily on sales of menthol cigarettes, and is the only major tobacco firm to endorse the FDA bill. 

"I would have been in favor of banning menthol," said Sen Judd Gregg (R-N.H.) "But as a practical matter that simply wasn't doable."

"The bottom line is we want the legislation," said William S. Robinson, executive director of the National African-American Tobacco Prevention Network. "But we want to reserve the right to address this issue at some critical point because of the percentage of people of African descent who use mentholated products."

The legislation does give FDA the power to remove cigarette additives, including menthol, if they are proven to be harmful to smokers. "I think we can say definitively that menthol induces smoking in the African-American community and subsequently serves as a direct link to African-American death and disease," said Robert G. Robinson, formerly an associate director in the office of smoking and health at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Philip Morris contends that there is little evidence that menthol cigarettes are any more addictive or dangerous than other cigarettes, a position backed by rival Lorillard Tobacco.

A Las Vegas company has announced a version of the popular drinking game Beer Pong for the Nintendo Wii gaming system. JVGames Inc. announced May 19 that Frat Party Games: Beer Pong will be released in June as the first in a planned series of Frat Party Games available for downloading via the WiiWare program. Two versions of the game will be included: tournament-style Beer Pong for one to four players and Speed Pong, designed for a quick game involving one or two players. The video games will ape the bar version of Beer Pong, where contestants attempt to bounce ping-pong balls into cups. "We created a very accurate and realistic throw system," said JV Games Vice President Jag Jaeger. "No buttons to time your throw with; just hold the Wii Remote like you would a normal ball and throw."

E. M. Jellinek Center, Inc.
Hope and Help for Chemically Dependent men in Knoxville, Tennessee

A proud member of the TAADAS Team!
This project is funded in part under an agreement by the State of Tennessee.
Altria Looks to Sell More Alternative Tobacco Products

With U.S. cigarette sales declining, Philip Morris parent Altria Group Inc. plans to sell more smokeless tobacco and so-called "reduced risk" tobacco products, the Associated Press reported in May.

"As the company looks to the future, it has clear recognition of the fact that conventional cigarettes are harmful in society and we'd like to make some progress on improving that situation," said Altria CEO Michael Szymanczyk at a recent shareholders' meeting. Szymanczyk said that the company will seek to leverage its Marlboro brand in non-cigarette market segments as Altria seeks to offset a projected 2.5-3 percent decline in U.S. tobacco sales. Altria already has test-marketed a Marlboro brand of moist smokeless tobacco and a moist powdered tobacco called Marlboro Snus.

Hazelden is one of the most famous addiction-treatment programs in the U.S., but its top executives have been leaving in droves despite the program's apparently good fiscal health, the Minneapolis Star-Tribune reported in May. President and CEO Ellen Breyer departed Hazelden, following five other top Hazelden officials to have left the company. Observers say that Hazelden is attracting more patients and donors than ever, and continues to grow, but Breyer has been both praised and vilified for focusing the Minnesota-based treatment provider on the bottom line. Hazelden has long been known for its charity care, and though the days when high-profile celebrities chose the program when they wanted to get clean are gone, it has maintained an excellent reputation. Breyer was hired to help the program deal with the challenges of managed care and a more competitive treatment market, and brought more of a corporate mentality to Hazelden than previous presidents. Among Breyer's major accomplishments was signing a deal with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota, which now accounts for 30 percent of Hazelden's patient revenues. Observers say the move made it harder for high-end patients to get into treatment, and charity care also declined. However, Hazelden treated a record 10,754 patients in 2007, and raised $12 million from donors. Breyer also approved the use of more pharmaceutical drugs in treatment, and focused more on academic credentialing of staff, which rankled some members of the traditional, recovery-oriented treatment community. "Hazelden used to be looked at as the mother ship, the mecca," said Dan Cain, president of the Minnesota treatment program RS Eden. "That level of awe, of deference, has diminished significantly." "There's the recovery movement, and there's the AA movement. Then there are organizations, Hazelden being one of them, trying to provide services to people in these movements," said Breyer. "We are not exactly the same ... Sometimes people think we should match up." Breyer was named administrator of the year in 2006 by the National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers, but as she worked to change the culture at Hazelden, a number of other top officials departed, including Hazelden's general counsel, director of research communications, chief medical...
Heavy drinking has become a dangerous tradition for individuals celebrating their 21st birthday and experts say that more needs to be done to prevent tragic alcohol overdoses, the Columbus Dispatch reported May 20. Videos on YouTube and MySpace have helped promote the dubious tradition of downing 21 shots on your 21st birthday -- an exercise that has cost some young people their lives. Twenty-one shots would equal more than a fifth of liquor, and death from alcohol intoxication can occur when blood-alcohol content reaches .30 percent or higher -- a level that most drinkers will reach before they down their 21st shot.

"I've only seen one kid try it, and he didn't get very far before he got pretty sick," said bartender John Cordas of the Ugly Tuna Saloona near the Ohio State University campus. "After eight or nine shots, you're pretty drunk." "It's probably the most dangerous drinking occasion for students," said Steven W. Clarke, director of the Campus Alcohol Abuse Prevention Center at Virginia Tech.

Clarke is critical of bars that give free shots to individuals celebrating their 21st birthday and said that peer pressure also plays a role in celebratory overindulgence. "College students don't typically buy drinks for each other, so they feel it would be rude not to consume them," he said.

Inexperienced drinkers tend to consume their drinks too quickly, especially when celebrations begin at midnight and bars close a 1 a.m. or 2 a.m. Minnesota and North Dakota have addressed the problem by banning bars from serving 21-year-olds until 8 a.m. on the morning after the day they turn 21. Bars and bartenders also need to be more accountable for their actions, said Toben Nelson, an assistant professor of epidemiology at the University of Minnesota. "There are laws about not serving someone who's obviously intoxicated, but they're rarely enforced," he said. "We've done studies by having people go into bars and act intoxicated, and three-fourths of the time they're served alcohol."

Ubisoft, a California-based company, has announced plans to release an interactive computer game that will help smokers quit, AFP reported in May. The Nintendo DS game will hit stores in November and will be based on "Allen Carr's Easyway to Stop Smoking." Ubisoft's other products include a game that helps users lose weight or learn a foreign language. Players of the stop-smoking game will enter their personal smoking history, details on smoking habits, and choose a coach to help them quit. They will progress through 15 mini games along the path to quitting.

"The player experiences a truly interactive engagement with the game, through which he or she learns that it can actually be enjoyable to quit smoking," said Christian Salomon of Ubisoft.

A compound known as methyllycaconitine (MLA) appears to block craving for and the effects of a synthetic version of THC, the main active ingredient in marijuana, New Scientist reported in May. Animal tests revealed that MLA, derived from Delphinium brownii, a plant in the buttercup family, cut craving for THC and blocked the brain's reward response for the drug. Rats that received injections of MTA pushed a lever for doses of THC 70 percent fewer times than on days where they did not receive MLA. Studies of the rats' brains also showed that THC did not increase dopamine levels when MLA was present. "The increases in dopamine are virtually nonexistent because of MLA," said lead researcher Steven Goldberg of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, who said the findings could have implications for addiction treatment for humans. The study was published in the Journal of Neuroscience.
Genes Can Predict Response to Stop-Smoking Interventions

Genetic profiling may be effective in improving response to various smoking-cessation interventions, Time reported in June. Researchers from Duke University and the National Institute on Drug Abuse found that they could predict improved outcomes for nicotine-replacement therapy or the smoking-cessation drug Zyban (bupropion) by screening patients for their genetic makeup and then using a set of about 100 genes to match smokers with one therapy or the other. Led by Jed Rose of the Duke University Center for Nicotine and Smoking Cessation Research, the scientists found that individuals whose genetic makeup led to more efficient breakdown of bupropion did better on Zyban, while those whose genetic background lent itself to better cellular communication had an easier time quitting overall. Researchers may eventually be able to "score" patients based on their genetic profile and match them to the most appropriate therapy. The study appears in the June 2008 issue of the Archives of General Psychiatry.

Use of Yaba

A tablet version of methamphetamine called "yaba" has become the most popular form of the drug in East Asia, according to the United Nations Office on Drug Control (UNODC). UNODC reported May 19 that yaba, manufactured mainly in Myanmar, is widely used in that country as well as Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam. The pills are a mix of 30 percent methamphetamine and caffeine and act as a central nervous system stimulant. The pills are typically crushed and smoked rather than ingested. Use of yaba has been growing among young people in the region, UNODC said, after years of use mainly by workers like truck drivers. Recently, yaba also has spread to India and Pakistan. "It is a drug that is cheap to manufacture and cheap to purchase. You introduce it somewhere and develop a market fairly quickly because it is cheap and highly addictive," said Jeremy Douglas of the UNODC. "With one tablet costing as little as US$ 1 in Cambodia to US$ 5 in Bangkok, the drug is very easy to produce if in possession of the necessary precursor materials ... You can have labs producing 10,000 tablets per hour hidden anywhere."

Leading Candidates Take Little Tobacco Money

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton has taken more money from the tobacco industry than presidential rivals Sen. Barack Obama or Sen. John McCain, but industry donations to all three campaigns have been relatively small, the Los Angeles Times reported in May. Clinton has taken $46,300 from tobacco industry executives and employees, while McCain has taken $27,400 and Obama has taken $22,000. McCain is a cancer survivor, while Obama has engaged in a public battle to quit smoking. Antismoking advocate Stanton Glantz of the University of California at San Francisco said that none of the candidates would be considered an ally of the tobacco industry. "Tobacco companies know they're a liability," Glantz said. "The money is there but it's hard to see." Rather than donating directly to candidates, he said, the industry has made more than $525,000 in donations to various "527" campaign organizations. In the current election cycle, the tobacco industry has given $2.1 million to federal candidates and parties, down 80 percent from 1995-96.

M·R·C

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This project is funded in part under an agreement by the State of Tennessee
What is TAADAS?

The Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug and other Addiction Services, Inc. is a statewide advocacy association founded in 1976. The TAADAS mission is to educate the public and influence state/national policy decisions in order to improve services to those who are affected by alcoholism, drug dependency and other addictions.

TAADAS’ purpose is to:

- promote the common interest in the prevention, control and eradication of alcoholism, drug dependency and other addictions;
- to work in close cooperation with agencies concerned with alcohol and drug abuse, and other addiction issues;
- to facilitate cooperation with all agencies interested in the health and welfare of the community;
- to impact legislation regarding alcohol and drug abuse and other addictions;
- to educate the community regarding alcohol and drug abuse and other addiction issues;
- to encourage and support the development of alcohol and drug abuse and other addiction services in areas that are underserved;
- to enhance the quality of services provided by Association members;
- to serve as a resource for Association members; and
- to further fellowship among those members.

As a statewide association made up of prevention programs, treatment agencies, recovery services and private citizens, TAADAS strives to be the Voice for Recovery in Tennessee through its membership and many programs.

The Nation’s #1 Health Problem - Substance Abuse!

The abuse of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs places an enormous burden on the country. As the nation’s number one health problem it strains the health care system and contributes to the death and ill health of millions of Americans every year and to the high cost of health care. Substance abuse—the problematic use of alcohol, tobacco, and illicit drugs—also harms family life, the economy and public safety. (Schneider Institute for Health Policy, 2001, p. 6; 111) In Tennessee, untreated substance abuse costs taxpayers $43,000 for each abuse-related incident, whereas the average cost to treat each client in a state facility is $2,670. (Substance Abuse Treatment Effectiveness in Tennessee: 2003-2004 Statewide Treatment Outcomes Evaluation, 2005, p. 78)

It’s up to US to help others understand!

Alcohol and other drug dependence is a primary, chronic, progressive and potentially fatal disease. Its effects are systemic, predictable and unique. Without intervention and treatment, the disease runs an inexorable course marked by progressive crippling of mental, physical, and spiritual functioning with a devastating impact on all sectors of life - social, physiological, family, financial, vocational, educational, emotional/spiritual, and legal.

We must join together to focus attention in support of addiction treatment, prevention, and recovery. The public needs to understand that addiction is a treatable illness and that millions of people achieve recovery.

TAADAS Membership

TAADAS is a statewide association made up of alcohol and drug abuse treatment, prevention and recovery service professionals, and others who are interested in addiction issues. TAADAS keeps alcoholism, drug abuse and other addiction issues in the forefront when public policy decisions are made and through the collective voice of its members, TAADAS directly impacts the important issues facing the addiction services field today.

TAADAS Members

TAADAS would like to thank each of the following members for their support and involvement in Championing the Cause!

Organizational Members

Agape, Inc, Knoxville
Alcohol and Drug Council of Middle Tennessee
CAAP, Memphis
CADAS, Chattanooga
CCS, Johnson City
E.M. Jellinek Center, Knoxville
English Mountain Recovery, Sevierville
Grace House, Memphis
Harbor House of Memphis, Memphis
Hope of East Tennessee, Oak Ridge
JACOA, Jackson
Jack Green Shelter, Savannah
Memphis Recovery Center, Memphis
New Directions, Memphis
Operation Stand Down Nashville,
The Pathfinders, Inc., Gallatin
Place of Hope, Columbia
Samaritan Recovery Community, Inc., Nashville
Serenity Recovery Center, Memphis
Youth Town of Tennessee, Jackson

Corporate Members

Center for Youth Issues—Nashville, Inc.
Center for Professional Excellence
Health Connect America, Inc.
Peninsula Lighthouse
Tennessee Professional Assistance Program
New Hope Recovery
Turning Point
XMI Social Enterprises

Individual Members

Marvin Alstatt
C.J. Baker
Susan O. Binns
Nan Casey
Kameria Catron
Ann Clark
Frances Clark
Joanna Crews
Tom Diffenderfer
Karen Dooley
Laura Durham
Gary Ebanks
Monnie Furlong
Estelle Garner
Claude Goodwin
Sharon Goodwin
David Guenther
Timothy Honeycutt
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Helen Hutcherson, MD
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Deana Kinnaman
Natalie Lucas
Vernon Martin
Wayne McElhinney
Norman Miller, Jr.
Harold Montgomery
Joe Osterfeld
Jim Phillips
Nathan Ridley
Debra Roberson
Robert Roberson
Gene Marie Rutkaukas
Julie Smith
Gary Woodward Smith
Richard Soper, MD, JD, MS
Brenda Thomas
Sharon Trammell
Linda Wells
Evelyn Yeargin
John York

The Nation’s #1 Health Problem - Substance Abuse!
Membership in this organization shall be open to any person or organization whose philosophy in regard to alcoholism and drug addiction is consistent with the following statement: “Alcohol and other drug dependency is a single, separate disease characterized by a definitive set of symptoms. It is not simply a symptom of another disease. It is a primary, chronic, progressive and potentially fatal disease. Its effects are systemic, predictable and unique. Without intervention and treatment, the disease runs an inexorable course marked by progressive crippling of mental, physical, and spiritual functioning with a devastating impact on all sectors of life – social, physiological, family, financial, vocational, educational, moral/spiritual, and legal. While alcohol and other drug dependence is a complex illness and can co-exist with mental disorders, it should not be characterized as a behavioral problem arising from, or a symptom of, a mental disorder. Alcohol and drug dependence is successfully treatable and subject to prevention measures.”

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<th>Membership Category</th>
<th>Minimum Annual Dues Amount</th>
<th>Min Dues Pledge July 1 – Sept 30</th>
<th>Min Dues Pledge Oct 1 – Dec 31</th>
<th>Min Dues Pledge Jan 1 – March 31</th>
<th>Min Dues Pledge April 1 – June 30</th>
<th>Suggested Leadership Pledge</th>
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<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
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Name: ____________________________ Agency: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________
City: ____________________________ State: _______ Zip Code: _______
Phone: __________________________ Toll Free: _______________________
Fax: ____________________________ Email: ____________________________
Agency Website: ______________________________________________________

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Visa/Mastercard #:_________________________________________ Exp Date: _______

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This project is funded under an agreement with the state of Tennessee.