



## Pasco County Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention

Newsletter Issue 16: May, 2011

### On the Inside.....

- [Headlines](#)
- [Community Corner](#)
- [Research](#)
- [Spotlight](#)
- [Executive Committee](#)
- [Meeting Dates](#)

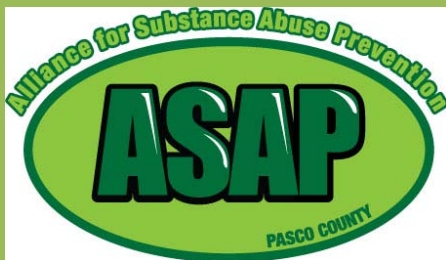
Contact Chrissie Parris for more information

on the ASAP Coalition at:

[cparris@pascoasap.com](mailto:cparris@pascoasap.com)

or

727-597-2284



Check us out online at: [www.PascoASAP.com](http://www.PascoASAP.com)

Check us out on Facebook at:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Pasco-County-Alliance-for-Substance-Abuse-Prevention-ASAP/108740345811062>

#### **ASAP Mission:**

*"To develop, motivate, and encourage strategic relationships that reduce county risk factors and decrease substance abuse rates among youth and adults.*

### HEADLINES:

#### *Communities Mobilizing for Change on Alcohol*

On June 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 3:00pm at the Youth and Family Alternative Training Room

7524 Plathe Road

New Port Richey, FL 34653

ASAP is offering a FREE 2 day workshop on Communities Mobilizing for Change On Alcohol (CMCA). CMCA uses a community organizing approach to change the local environment in a way that makes it more difficult for young people to obtain alcohol, and make underage drinking less acceptable within the local culture. This training is open to anyone interested in making a difference in Pasco County especially Youth leaders, City officials, Law Enforcement, School personnel, Faith Based Groups, alcohol vendors, media, youth, and parents. The training is free and space is limited.

#### ***Help change the fact that in Pasco County...***

- Out of 10 alcohol licensed vendors surveyed in New Port Richey, ASAP found 232 alcohol advertisements, 11 warning signs for age of sale restrictions, and 0 signs for negative health effects.
- If a store is caught selling alcohol without checking a valid ID, they are issued a fine, but no employee training for responsible sales and ID checks is encouraged.
- According to several recent surveys, the majority of youth are getting alcohol from friends of the legal age and drinking at a residence.

For more information, contact:

Chrissie Parris at [cparris@pascoasap.com](mailto:cparris@pascoasap.com) or 727-597-2284



## COMMUNITY CORNER

### *"2011 Florida's Kids and Alcohol: A Regional Perspective on Substance Abuse"*

WEDU and numerous community partners hosted their Annual Town Hall Meeting on discussions surrounding underage alcohol use, binge drinking and prescription drug misuse and abuse in the Tampa Bay area. The program aired Thursday, April 21, 2011. To watch the production on-line at WEDU, go to the following link: <http://video.wedu.org/video/1915459100> Be sure to check it out!!

### *Cyclone Rally Against Underage Drinking*

On Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm Zephyrhills and Dade City held their Second Annual Centennial Middle School Cyclone Rally Against Underage Drinking! The Rally was a success thanks to everyone who came out for the event.

#### **A special thanks to our panelists:**

Stacey Sumner -Assistant State Attorney  
Judge Shawn Crane-vPasco County Drug Court  
Sgt. Art Rowand- Pasco Sheriff's Office  
Dennis Alfonso - Attorney  
Molly Blair- District School Board of Pasco County  
Heather Mapes - BayCare Behavioral Health  
Mike Brittingham – Boys and Girls Club Unit Director  
Jaime Huff - Youth Services Specialist for Pasco Sheriff's Office  
Maritza Acosta - SADD Club President  
Christian Kirk - SADD Club Vice President

Thank you to the Centennial Middle School's SADD Club and Advisors Cpl. Scott Raymer and Joe Riba!



### *The Quit Smoking Support Group heads into their 4<sup>th</sup> year of service*

Three issues lead to establishing a support group. 1) Sporadic demand for tobacco cessation classes. 2) Having staff (trained & wanting) to provide the service. 3) Wanting to do more to reach low social-economic status (the medically underserved, unemployed, and working poor) a population seen at the health department - a population extremely susceptible to tobacco addictions and less likely to access services.

The surprise benefits were not that smokers quit but how much community goodwill it generated. It seemed to fortify PCHD clinician's resolve to provide tobacco interventions as help was standing by. The Tobacco partnership benefited with new membership. It also strengthened the tobacco prevention specialist's counseling skills, understanding of addictions and smoker's perceptions on interventions and tobacco tactics alike - insights all helpful in developing work-plans.

Marketing went from typical to more target specific - DVD loops promoting cessation in the PCHD WIC, Dental and clinic lobbies and follow-up postcards to clients who smoked. Keeping to a steadfast schedule meant no outdated material. All promotional efforts resulted in referrals, but word of mouth worked best.

It started slowly and now has an estimated eight people attending each week, 80% returning and 20% newcomers. Today attendees include smokers of low social-economic status, gays, lesbians and the mentally ill. The communities who statistically smoke the most are now attending the support group that started years ago – meeting the original goal of serving the hard to reach.



(SWAT youth above continually work to combat smoking in Pasco County)

### *2011 Legislative Updates*

\*All passed bills await Gov. Rick Scott's approval

**SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA (Passed):** Outlaws synthetic marijuana. (SB 204/HB 39)

**TREATMENT BASED-DRUG COURTS (Signed into law):** Expands court programs as a sentencing option in eight counties, including Pinellas and Hillsborough. (SB 400)

**OPEN HOUSE PARTIES (Passed):** Imposes harsher penalties on adults who violate house party laws. (SB 746/HB 105)

**BATH SALTS (Passed):** Bans methylenedioxypropylone, or "bath salts." (SB 1886/HB 1039)

**MANDATORY SENTENCES (Failed):** Eliminates minimum mandatory sentences for nonviolent offenders convicted of drug offenses. (SB 1334/HB 917)

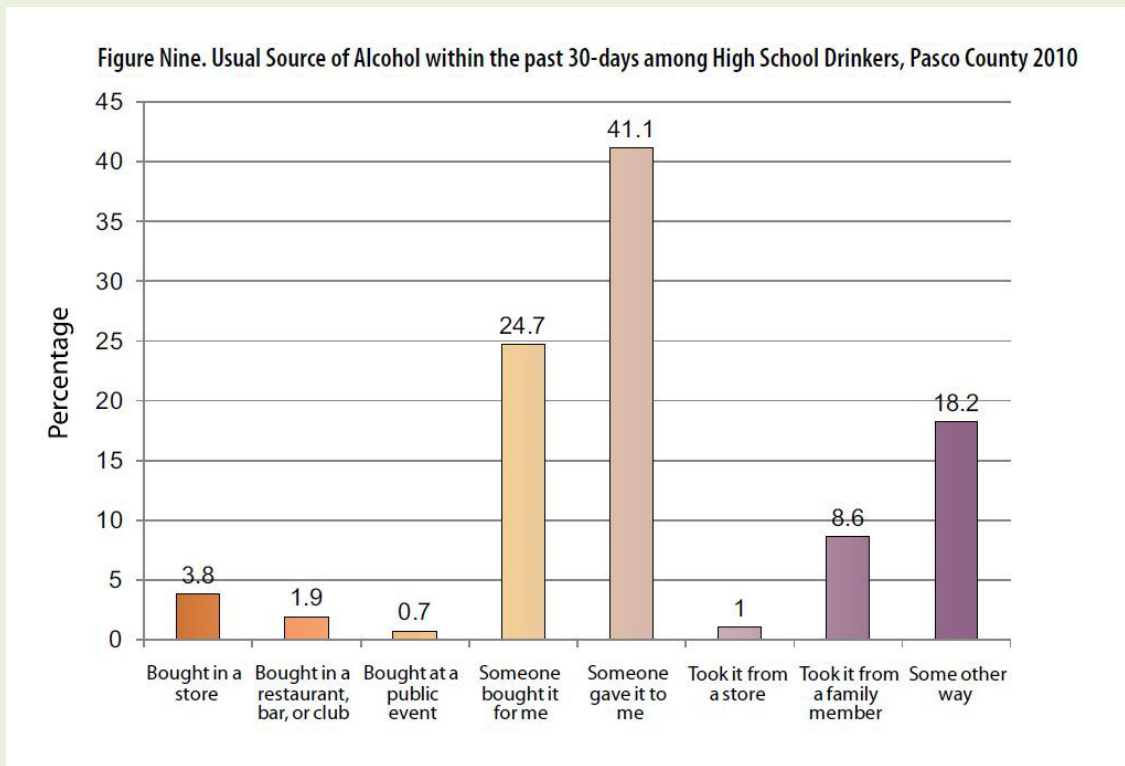
**PILL MILLS (Passed):** Limits ability of doctors to dispense prescription drugs. Establishes stiff penalties for illegal dispensing. (SB 818/HB 7095)

**DRUG TESTS FOR WELFARE RECIPIENTS (Passed):** Requires drug screening for adult welfare recipients. (HB 353)

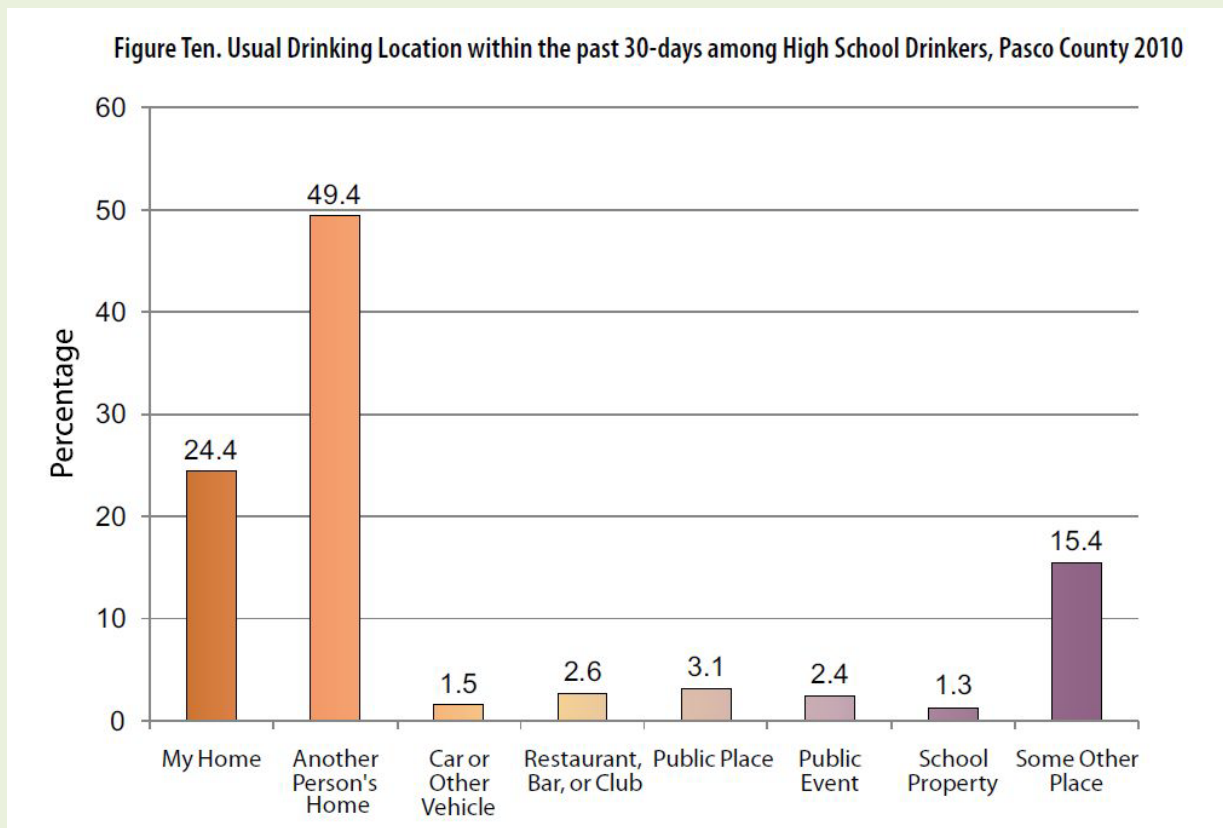
**WINE SHIPMENTS (Failed):** Prohibits large wineries from continuing to ship bottles directly to Florida consumers. (SB 854/HB 837)

# RESEARCH

## Usual Source of Alcohol for High School Drinkers



## Usual Drinking Location for High School Drinkers



Data obtained from the 2010 Youth Florida Substance Abuse Survey

# SPOTLIGHT

## ASAP Billboards in Pasco County

ASAP is running a media campaign including 3 billboards throughout Pasco County to remind people during prom and graduation season that it is illegal to provide alcohol to minors. It is important for all adults to set a good example and show youth how to enjoy living drug free.

Have you seen these billboards? Email Chrissie at [cparris@pascoasap.com](mailto:cparris@pascoasap.com) with location of billboard for your chance to win a \$10 gift card to pizza hut. The deadline is May 20, 2011.



### 2011 Meeting Dates:

January 25, 2011  
February 22, 2011  
March 22, 2011  
April 26, 2011  
May 24, 2011  
\*June 28, 2011 location TBD  
July 26, 2011  
August 23, 2011  
September 27, 2011  
October 25, 2011 November TBD  
December TBD

ASAP Meetings are held from 10:00 to 11:30am at Land O Lakes Community Center  
5401 Land O Lake Boulevard (US 41). Everyone is welcome to attend and assist in Pasco County's prevention efforts!

### 2011 ASAP Executive Committee

Tracey Kaly, Chair  
Art Rowand, Vice Chair  
Paula Green, Secretary  
Debbie Antioco, Treasurer  
Chrissie Parris, Coalition Staff  
Phil Cohen, Board Member at Large  
Chris Wittmann, Board Member at Large



Debbie Antioco, Tracey Kaly, Art Rowand, Paula Green, Phil Cohen, Chrissie Parris (Not Pictured: Chris Wittmann)