



MADD

Activism | Victim Services | Education

NORTHERN VIRGINIA
 Affiliate Newsletter
 (703) 379-1135 • Fax (703) 379-1930
 P.O. Box 4248, Falls Church, VA 22044
www.maddnova.org

November 2008

Ring in the New Year with a Run



For those of you who would rather RUN than WALK—the Northern Virginia MADD Affiliate announces its 14th annual New Year's Eve 5K Red Ribbon Run at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. Join us on Wednesday, December 31st, 2007 at 4PM for the run, followed by an awards ceremony.

Runners can register online at www.racepacket.com or submit the enclosed registration form. Checks should be made payable to "Race Packet" and sent to P.O. Box 25094, Arlington, VA 22202. Runners can also register the day of the race.

CAMPAIGN TO ELIMINATE DRUNK DRIVING

Every year, nearly 13,000 people are killed by drunk drivers with an illegal alcohol level of .08 BAC or above. That means that every month more than 1,000 families must live with the tragic consequences of drunk driving. Since MADD was founded in 1980, alcohol-related fatalities have declined by more than 40 percent, but progress has stalled in recent years.

That is why MADD launched a major offensive in the war against drunk driving, the *Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving*.

(continued on page 4)

Inside this issue:

Ignition Interlocks in Virginia	2
Walking Like MADD	3
MADD in the Community	4
Volunteer Profile	7
Red Ribbon Run	5
- Insert -	

The Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving: Use of Ignition Interlocks in Virginia will Save Lives

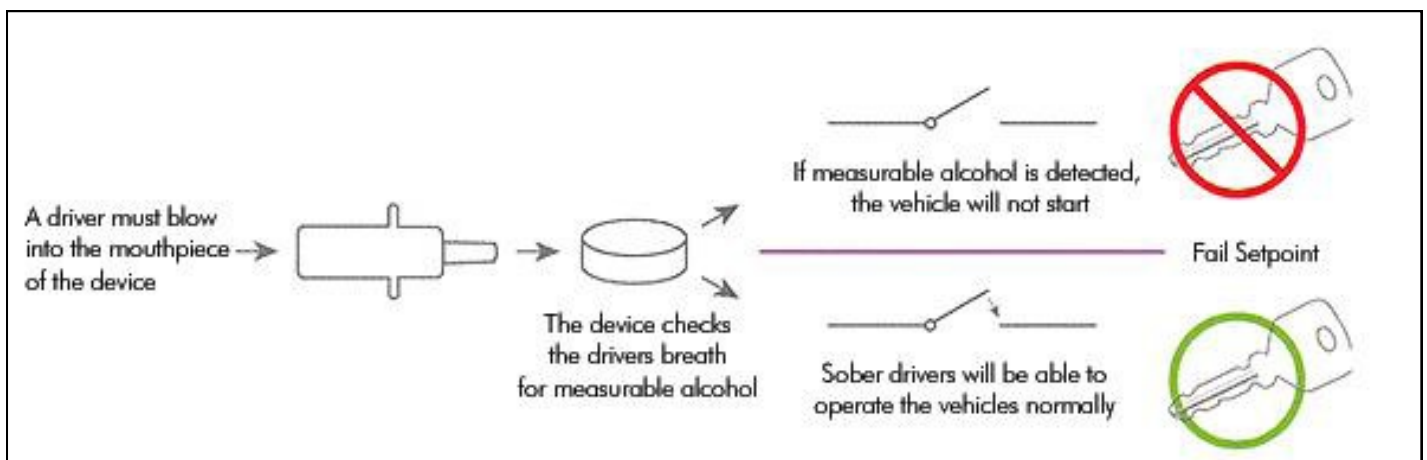
from www.madd.org

Virginia currently makes the installation of an Ignition Interlock device mandatory on anyone's car that has been convicted of a second DUI or greater and anyone that had a .15 BAC or higher on their first offense. The driver has to keep the device on their car for 6 months or until they can go 6 months without having a positive test for trying to start the car with alcohol in their system. Despite the mandatory requirement for ignition interlocks, some drunk drivers are not being ordered by the courts to have the device installed, others are avoiding the ignition interlock by getting the court to reduce their BAC to a number below .15 and others avoid the ignition interlock by getting their charge of DUI reduced to a charge of reckless driving.

MADD is working to get a mandatory Ignition Interlock law for all convicted DUI offenders in Virginia. Delegate Sal Iaquinto is leading the efforts in Virginia to pass a bill that would make it mandatory for ALL DUI offenders to have an ignition interlock for at least 6 months. Last year this bill was defeated in its original form by the Senate Courts of Justice Committee. Legislators raised concerns about the ignition interlock being unfair for someone who was only being convicted of their first DUI. Society and legislators need to realize that a 2,000 to 6,000 pound vehicle driven by an impaired driver is a deadly weapon. In seconds a driver under the influence can take out a bus full of children, run through a playground or hit a car with an innocent family. Allowing convicted DUI offenders to drive without required interlocks is unfair to the rest of society and their safety.

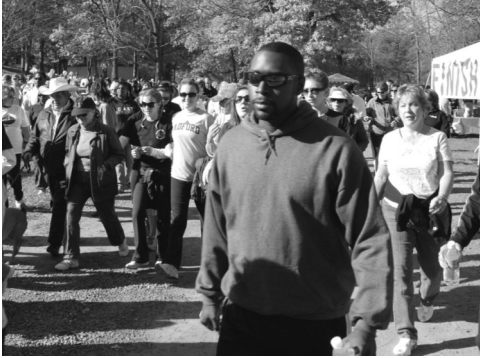
In Virginia there were 28,787 DUI convictions in 2007 and approximately 4,500 people monitored on Ignition Interlocks. The average BAC for those convicted of drunk driving in 2007 was .14. This data would suggest that there are many people who should be on an Ignition Interlock, who are not. WE NEED YOUR HELP, contact your local Delegate and Senator and ask them to support Delegate Iaquinto's Ignition Interlock bill in 2009. For more information go to www.maddva.org and click on "Legislation" or contact Chris Konschak, MADD Virginia State Director at executivedirector@maddva.org.

An alcohol ignition interlock is a small, sophisticated device – about the size of a cell phone – which is installed into the starting circuit of a vehicle. A driver must blow into the device and the vehicle will not start if the driver has measurable alcohol (set to a predetermined level) in their system. If the driver does not have alcohol above the measurable level in their system, the vehicle will start normally. Interlocks may be set for "running retests," which require a driver to provide breath tests at regular intervals, preventing drivers from asking a sober friend to start the car. If a driver fails a running retest, the vehicle's horn will honk and/or the lights will flash to alert law enforcement – the vehicle will not stop. The interlock does not have the ability to stop the vehicle once it is running for safety.



Northern Virginia Takes a Stand Against Drunk Driving by Walking Like MADD

Northern Virginia's first annual *Walk Like MADD* was a great success thanks to an incredible outpouring of support from the community. Over 400 walkers participated and helped raise \$43,000 for the Northern Virginia region.

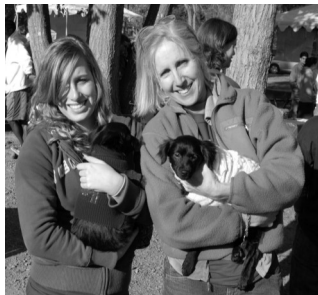


Funds raised help MADD provide more support to victims at no cost to them and their families, increase support for our campaign to eliminate drunk driving, and ensure we continue in our local efforts to prevent underage drinking.



Participants shared tributes of loved ones at the victim tribute display, community organizations and companies hosted information booths at our Health & Safety Fair, and children made hand puppets and colored quilt panels.

Cynne Simpson, WJLA-TV/ABC-7 news anchor, led ceremonies with MADD National President Laura Dean Mooney and CEO Chuck Hurley. They were joined by Congressman Jim Moran, David Kelly of NHTSA, and local victim and MADD volunteer Lindsay Marti in signing MADD's campaign pledge.



Walk Like MADD 2008 Top Walk Teams & Top Walkers

Walk Teams:

Becky Cohn
A Voice For Joshua
MADD DADSS
In Loving Memory of
Nathan B. Marti
Greg Berry's Team
Jordan's Mission
Memories of Matt
Nicole's Niche
Morgan's Mob

Walkers:

Darlene Adams
Brian Burg
Jordan Rigney
Laura Dawson
Polly Berry
Chuck Hurley
Jeff Levy
Teresa Robinson
Rob Strassburger

Walk Like MADD Mile Marker Sponsor



Walk Like MADD Friends:

Corrigan Nationwide Agency
Virginia Commerce Bank
WJLA-TV/ABC-7



THE PLEDGE (Continued from Page 1)

Through a four-pronged approach, the Campaign makes eliminating drunk driving—one of the United States' primary health threats—a real possibility. Together we can take the fight against drunk driving to a new and unprecedented level. Join the thousands of people nationwide who have signed the Pledge by going to www.madd.org.

By joining the Campaign to Eliminate Drunk Driving, I pledge full support of:

- **Increased DUI enforcement** including twice-yearly crackdowns during major holidays and enforcement efforts such as sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols in all 50 states.
- **Use of alcohol ignition interlock technologies to reduce repeat offenses** working towards mandatory ignition interlocks for all convicted drunk drivers.
- **Exploration and development of advanced vehicle-based technology** devices to detect if a driver has an illegal alcohol level and to prevent that driver from operating the vehicle.
- **Public support from you and other concerned citizens nationwide** led by MADD, its affiliates and members.

MADD in the Community

MADD participated in the Fairfax Community Coalition's *Parenting for Prevention* program on Thursday, November 6, 2008 at Fairfax High School. The program provided an evening of discussion with experts in the areas of Internet Safety, and Alcohol and other Drug Use. Parents explored effective ways to have meaningful dialogue with their children about these risky behaviors.

MADD also is involved with the Vienna Madison Community Coalition's Forum on *The Realities of Teen Drinking: Accidents, Deaths, and Parent-Battles* on **Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at James Madison High School at 7PM**. A Fairfax County Police Officer and a Substance Abuse Counselor will speak in addition to MADD representative Debbie Sausville who lost her teenage step-daughter in a drunk driving crash.

On Tuesday, November 25th, 2008 a MADD representative will be present when **the Town of Herndon declares December 2008 Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month**. The Town Council is asking its residents to make conscious efforts to prevent drunk and drugged driving to ensure that everyone has a safe holiday season.

On Saturday, December 13th, 2008 MADD will participate in *Prince William County's annual Tree Trimming Remembrance Day at the James J. McCoart Administration Building*. The Office on Youth and the Community Substance Abuse Prevention Task Force sponsor the event to honor those residents who have died in alcohol or drug related car crashes. Red ribbons are placed on the tree to honor those who have passed away.

On Saturday, March 28th, 2009 the Fairfax County Public Schools Safe and Drug Free Youth Office and their Unified Prevention Coalition will hold a *Countywide Substance Use and Violence Prevention Conference at Luther Jackson Middle School in Fairfax*. Fairfax County's annual Regional Youth Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Project will be integrated into the activities of the day. The coalition is collaborating with MADD, county agencies and other organizations to offer workshops for adults, youth, family and professionals addressing issues pertinent to raising healthy families. For more information go to www.UnifiedPreventionCoalition.org.

The Iota Xi chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity presents

"Fight the Good Fight"

a *Philanthropic Event Benefiting:*

MADD Northern Virginia
Ronald McDonald Charities
The Huntsman Cancer Foundation

Event includes a catered luncheon,
live music, silent auction & raffle drawings

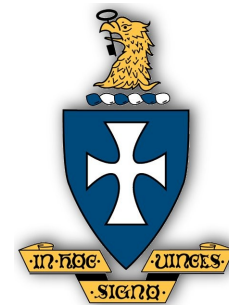
Saturday, December 6, 2008

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Alto Plaza Grill in Centreville, VA

Tickets: \$80

RSVP to Lance LeTellier at www.sigmachiotaxi.com or 703.981.0895



New Year's Eve Fun Starts at 4 o'clock
14th annual

MADD 5k Red Ribbon Run

Benefiting Mothers Against Drunk Driving Northern Virginia

Put on your running shoes before putting on your party shoes

A Great New Year's Eve Family Event

When:	Wednesday, December 31, 2008 at 4:00 PM
Where:	George Mason University - Fairfax Campus (Concert Hall) – 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030 Park in the Visitor Parking Deck by the pond. Check-in will be in front of the Concern Hall (Bldg. 60 on Ma son Pond Drive). Further details will be posted at www.racepacket.com
What:	USATF certified 5k race
Runner Prizes:	Great prizes include Acumen Heart Rate Monitors, gift certificates and many other giveaways
T-shirts:	Long-sleeve t-shirts for all runners
Refreshments:	Water and snacks available after the race for all participants
Registration:	\$20 on or before Wednesday, December 17 th , 2008; \$25 after December 17 th and on race day
Packet Pick-up:	Tuesday, December 30, 2008 at Metro Run & Walk from 6:00-8:00 PM (7516 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA)
Race Day Reg.:	GMU Concert Hall, Wednesday, December 31 st from 2:30 to 3:30 PM (& packet pick-up)

Register online at www.racepacket.com or submit this form

Register for the 14th annual MADD 5k Red Ribbon Run

MADD RED RIBBON RUN ENTRY FORM – Wednesday, December 31, 2008 at 4:00 PM • GMU Fairfax

Last Name _____		First Name _____		M.I. _____
Address _____				
City _____		State _____	Zip _____	
Phone _____		Date of Birth _____	Age on 12/31/08 _____	
Sex: M__ F__		T-shirt Size: S__ M__ L__ XL__		

This race is part of the RacePacket Grand Prix Series

I know that running is a potentially hazardous activity. I have read the race flyer and am familiar with the course. I will not enter and run unless I am medically able and properly trained. I agree to abide by any decision of a race official relative to my ability to safely complete the run. I assume all risks associated with running or walking in this event including but not limited to: falls, contact with other participants or officials, effects of weather, traffic and road conditions. All such risks are known and appreciated by me. In the event that the race must be canceled, I agree that my entry fee will not be refunded but I may either pick up my t-shirt at MADD or treat my entire entry fee as a donation to MADD. If the race is canceled, notice will be available at 703.379.1135 by 3:30 PM race day. Having read this waiver and knowing these facts and in consideration of your accepting my entry, I, for myself, my heirs and anyone entitled to act on my behalf, waiver, release and agree to hold harmless MADD, George Mason University, the race directors, race beneficiaries and all sponsors, their representatives and successors from all claims or liabilities of any kind arising out of my participation in this event, even though such liability may arise out of negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons named in this waiver. I grant permission to all of the foregoing to use any photographs or any other record of this event for any legitimate purpose.

Signature (parents/legal guardian must sign if under 18) _____ Printed name _____ Date _____

Please make check payable to RacePacket Mail to: RacePacket • PO Box 25094 • Arlington, VA 22202

GET MADD

Donate your used Cars, Trucks, Vans,
Motor Homes, Campers, Motorcycles,
Travel Trailers and Boats with Trailers

- FREE Towing
- Tax Deductable
- Hassle Free



For information on how to donate: **1-888-500-MADD**

Volunteer Profile:
Suman + Maya Halthore



Suman and Maya make a great mother-daughter volunteer team. They began volunteering with MADD last year at our annual 5K Red Ribbon Run, and have continued their involvement by joining and becoming key members of the planning committee for Walk Like MADD.

“We chose MADD because the trauma of drunk driving is totally preventable. Anyone can become a victim, and the loss is so intense,” said Suman.

“The cause is so important, and we felt it was a cause we could really get behind and help out,” Maya added. “Whether it’s helping with events like the walk, or just doing simple office tasks, we know it helps bring more awareness to the issue.”

Both mother and daughter have a true passion for giving back to the community. Maya, a junior at West Springfield High School, recently formed a new service club at her school called *Save the Animals*. The club, which organizes fundraiser to support local rescue leagues and hopes to also volunteer with rescue groups, is 40 members strong. Maya also plays in the orchestra and is on the tennis team.

Suman devotes her free time to her children (she has an older son) and her husband, and volunteers with the school orchestra. She also works as a paralegal at a local law firm.

“Volunteering with Maya creates good memories and is a good bonding experience,” Suman said.

“We enjoy spending time together and we agree with the importance of the cause,” added Maya.

Thank you to Suman and Maya for your dedication

VICTIM SUPPORT GROUP

All survivors and bereaved family and friends are welcome to the MADD Victim Support Group. This is a safe outlet for sharing with other victims/survivors of drunk driving.

The Victim Support Groups are scheduled for:
Saturday, November 22nd at 10:30AM - Falls Church
Saturday, December 13th at 10:30AM - Falls Church
Saturday, December 27th at 10:30AM - Centreville

Please call Noreen Dinndorf (703) 379-1135 or email Noreen.dinndorf@madd.org for more information.



Traumatic Brain Injury

(excerpt from *Invisible Injuries* in MADDvocate, Spring 2008)

By Amy Stewart, LMSW, MADD National
Assistant Director of Victim Services

Imagine waking up to realize that you’ve forgotten how to eat, walk and speak. You don’t remember the names of your loved ones. You may not even remember who they are. Sound like a nightmare? For victims who suffer a traumatic brain injury from drunk driving crashes, this nightmare is real, and it touches the lives of everyone they know.

“Mood changes, depression and anxiety often come about after a brain injury,” says William O’Dowd, Ph.D., a licensed clinical psychologist with more than 20 years’ experience in rehabilitation and behavioral health. O’Dowd says, “although the degree can vary incredibly depending upon individual circumstances. As the treatment team pulls together, it should be alert to any change in mood or behavior. Counseling, support groups, medication and brief hospitalization all may be necessary at some point. Family members feel the effects of the changes, experiencing the greatest disruption in normal routines.”

Another goal of rehabilitation is to help the family change *together*, providing members with the support and information they need to help them make the necessary accommodations. “You have to accept that you are different and go on with the rest of your life,” says Jeff Johnson who was severely injured in a drunk driving crash on July 14, 2005.

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 Falls Church, VA 22044

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

In Virginia, drunk
 driving fatalities
 increased by 11.4%
 from 298 in 2006 to
 332 in 2007
 NHTSA Statistics

**MADD - Northern Virginia Affiliate
 Membership Application & Renewal
 Membership with MADD is *FREE***



New Membership Renewal Membership
 Family Member Victim/Survivor
 of Victim/Survivor

Tax-deductible Donation Enclosed \$ _____
 Please make check payable to: **MADD**

Name _____

Email Address _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

Please send volunteer information

MADD NoVA office@maddnova.org
 PO Box 4248 Ph: 703-379-1135
 Falls Church, VA 22044 Fax: 703-379-1930

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Victim Advocates:

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Noreen Dinndorf - Victim Services
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 www.MaddNova.org - (703) 379-1135



We help survivors survive.