

OVERVIEW:

MADD



Mothers Against Drunk Driving
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Like the mythical desert bird that rose from its ashes, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) is a phoenix that emerged from tragedy. In 1980, MADD started with a loosely assembled group of brokenhearted mothers. Today, it is the largest crime victims' assistance organization in the world with more than 3 million members and supporters.

MADD is about committed spirits and determined volunteers. It is the embodiment of victim support and assistance. MADD is tangible proof that social attitudes can be radically changed.

Since MADD's inception, alcohol-related traffic fatalities have declined 43 percent. Statistics indicate that in 1980, 55 percent (28,100) of the nation's 51,091 traffic fatalities were alcohol-related. In 1999, alcohol-related fatalities represented 38 percent (15,794) of the nation's 41,345 traffic fatalities, according to preliminary statistics. Due in large part to MADD's efforts, more than an estimated 138,000 people are alive today and an untold number have received comfort, support and assistance in dealing with the aftermath of a drunk driving crash.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

In 1979, five-and-a-half-month-old Laura Lamb became one of the world's youngest quadriplegics when Laura and her mother, Cindi, were hit head-on by a repeat drunk driving offender traveling at 120 mph. As a result of the crash, Cindi and her friends waged a war against drunk driving in their home state of Maryland. Less than a year later, on the other side of the country in California, 13-year-old Cari Lightner was killed at the hands of a drunk driver. Two days prior, the offender was released on bail for a hit-and-run drunk driving crash. He already had two drunk driving convictions with a third plea-bargained to "reckless accident." At the time of Cari's death, the drunk driving offender was carrying a valid California driver's license.

Enraged, Cari's mother, Candace Lightner, and friends gathered at a steak house in Sacramento. They discussed forming a group named "MADD-Mothers Against Drunk Drivers." Thus, MADD was born with a name that would sweep the nation.

A Nation United

Lightner and Lamb joined forces and by the end of 1981, MADD had 11 chapters in four states. MADD began to receive donations from victims and concerned citizens and was awarded a \$65,000 grant for chapter development from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

By the fall of 1982, more than 70 MADD chapters were operating, primarily initiated by victims searching for a way to bring some sense to the apparently meaningless deaths and injuries of their loved ones. In March 1983, NBC produced a made-for-television movie about MADD entitled the Candy Lightner Story. By the end of the month, 122 more MADD chapters opened, covering 35 states. At the same time, a poll revealed that an astounding 84 percent of the country had heard about MADD and 55 percent believed MADD was accomplishing its mission.

By its 10th anniversary, MADD had grown to 407 chapters, 53 Community Action Teams (CAT) and 32 state offices with affiliates in Canada, England, New Zealand and Australia. Shortly thereafter, a Gallup survey revealed that Americans cited drunk driving as the No. 1 problem on the nation's highways. Three years later, a second Gallup poll showed that the public had become less tolerant of drunk drivers and more supportive of stiffer penalties.

Rounding out 20 years, MADD now has more than 600 chapters and CATs in all 50 states and affiliates in Guam, Canada and Puerto Rico.

MADD's Mission

Originally, MADD's name stood for Mothers Against Drunk Drivers and its mission was "to mobilize victims and their allies to establish the public conviction that impaired driving is unacceptable and criminal in order to promote corresponding public policy, programs and personal accountability." In 1984, MADD changed its name to Mothers Against Drunk Driving to reflect its mission to eliminate a crime and to focus on the act of drunk driving. Following the name change, MADD condensed its mission statement to "stop drunk driving and to support victims of this violent crime."

In 1999 MADD updated its mission statement to reflect its long-running efforts to prevent underage drinking. The new mission, "to stop drunk driving, support victims of this violent crime and prevent underage drinking," reinforces MADD's commitment to reach out to young people.



Public Awareness

MADD vaulted into American homes on October 1, 1980, when three U.S. representatives announced the first strike in a national war on drunk driving—the federal Barnes bill. While the proposed legislation received little attention when introduced the previous year, the addition of two media-savvy mothers and little Laura Lamb seized the heart of America.

The Red Ribbon campaign was initiated at the 1986 Candlelight Vigil of Remembrance and Hope in San Diego. Attendees were asked to take the red ribbons around their vigil candles to their automobiles and "tie them on" as a reminder not to drink and drive. Renamed Tie One On For Safety, this public awareness campaign is MADD's most recognizable and longest-running national program.

In the 1980s, MADD popularized the concept of "designated drivers." Today, it is a household term, and bars and restaurants nationwide ask patrons to "designate a driver"—one of MADD's ongoing awareness and prevention messages.



Victim Assistance

At the heart of MADD's mission is victim assistance. The organization's slogan, "the Voice of the Victim," immediately distinguished it from other highway safety groups. At the organization's first national press conference in 1981, Lamb told the nation that MADD's primary focus was to help victims through the justice process by preparing them for the reality that the defendant has all the rights.

By 1984, a comprehensive victims' assistance program had been developed. Four years later, the first issue of MADDvocate, a magazine for victims and advocates, was published. Today, more than 1,200 victim advocates who have completed MADD's 40-hour advocate education serve thousands of victims through national and state toll-free numbers, e-mail and local advocate services. MADD advocates, volunteers and victims draw from a full catalog of brochures, books and other publications developed by MADD.

The National Institute for Victim Studies was developed in 1996, settling in Huntsville, Texas in 1999, as a partnership between MADD and Sam Houston State University. The new curriculum offers an interdisciplinary bachelor's degree in victim studies, with a master's degree in victim services administration planned for the near future. The Institute also offers volunteer and professional development in victim services administration and victim-related research.



Youth Programs

Since its early days, MADD has conducted a host of programs and activities targeting youth, such as alcohol-free prom parties, speeches in high schools and mock crash events. MADD announced a renewed focus on underage drinking and impaired driving in 1996 with youth programs born out of a Commission on Youth report. Within four years, MADD successfully launched a host of youth programs, including Youth In Action, Take the Lead, MADD Youth Power Camps, Student Activist Training, and the MADD National Youth Summit to Prevent Underage Drinking. A series of public service announcements targeting youth, parents, law enforcement and bar and restaurant servers was introduced. Resource materials such as posters, brochures, billboards, a coloring book and a series of classroom newsletters are also available.

MADD has also formally embraced the prevention of underage drinking as a specific mission goal and has elected the first-ever youth member of its national board.



Public Policy

MADD's grassroots activism has resulted in the passage of thousands of federal and state anti-drunk driving laws. The organization's most well-known legislative accomplishment came in 1984 when a federal law required all states to increase the legal drinking age to 21 or else lose highway funding. In the mid-80s, MADD launched an aggressive anti-impaired driving campaign and also undertook a legislative agenda that focused on administrative license revocation, open container laws, a maximum blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 percent, Dram Shop laws, Victim Bill of Rights, crime victim compensation and several other measures.

At its 10-year anniversary, MADD introduced the "20 by 2000" plan to reduce drunk driving fatalities another 20 percent by the year 2000. The goal was reached by 1997. Currently, MADD is working in conjunction with the Department of Transportation on the Partners in Progress goal of reducing alcohol-related fatalities to 11,000 or fewer by 2005. MADD's annual National Sobriety Checkpoint campaign, its popular Rating the States program, victim rights and underage drinking prevention remain key components of the organization's legislative initiatives.

While MADD's imprint on the nation is successful by any measure, there is much left to do. For the families and friends of the nearly 16,000 men, women and children who were killed by a drunk driver in 1999 and the nearly one million more who were seriously injured, the progress did not come soon enough. Each statistic represents a face, a soul and a future that were violently interrupted.

MADD will not close its doors until drunk drivers stop taking innocent lives.



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MADD Milestones: 1980-2003

- 1980** Mothers Against Drunk Drivers is established in California. The first two chapters of MADD are created in California and Maryland.
- 1982** President Reagan announces a Presidential Task Force on drunk driving and invites MADD to serve on it.
- MADD backs a resolution enacted into law by Congress to establish the first National Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness Week in December 1982.
- MADD grows to 100 chapters by year-end.
- 1983** MADD's national office moves to Hurst, Texas.
- NBC produces a made-for-television movie about MADD and its founder resulting in the growth of more chapters and significant media attention.
- 1984** Federal "21" minimum drinking age bill is enacted.
- MADD goes international when Canada becomes the first country outside of the U.S. to charter a MADD affiliate (MADD Canada: www.madd.ca).
- The direct mail campaign is started to educate the public and raise funds for MADD's mission.
- MADD changes its name to Mothers Against Drunk Driving.
- MADD grows to more than 350 chapters.
- 1985** England and New Zealand charter MADD affiliates.
- 1986** MADD establishes Victim Assistance Institutes to train volunteers on how to support victims of drunk driving and how to serve as their advocates in the criminal justice system.
- Telemarketing programs spur growth in grassroots support and serve as a major public awareness campaign to educate the general public on drunk driving issues.
- Project Red Ribbon* is introduced and one million red ribbons are distributed as motorists pledge to drive safe and sober during the Christmas and New Year holidays.
- Australia charts MADD affiliate.
- 1987** National 1-800 hotline is created to provide victim support.
- MADD submits an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court opposing an effort by several states to rule the federal Age 21 law ruled unconstitutional. The law was successfully upheld.

1988 Omnibus Anti-Drug Abuse Act is signed. Included in this landmark bill is an amendment extending to all victims of DWI the same compensation rights offered to victims of other crimes. Another amendment creates the Drunk Driving Prevention Act (Section 410) to increase incentives for key state DWI law enactment. Also adopted was the Alcohol Beverage Labeling Act, requiring warnings on alcohol containers.

Impaired Driving Issues Compendium is created and ten companion workshops scheduled to instruct judges, legislators, law enforcement officials and MADD members on how to amend and implement stronger anti-DWI laws.

All 50 states now had passed Age 21 as the minimum legal drinking age.

1989 First MADD National Youth Conference, co-sponsored by the National Association of Broadcasters, is held in Washington, D.C.

MADD forms Victim Impact Panels as a national program and publishes a "How To" booklet and video.

1990 MADD files an amicus brief with the U.S. Supreme Court over the constitutionality of sobriety checkpoints. Following a hearing, the court rules in favor of checkpoints. MADD later establishes the week of July 4th as National Sobriety Checkpoint Week.

MADD introduces its "20 X 2000" plan to reduce the proportion of traffic fatalities that are alcohol-related by 20 percent by the year 2000.

1991 Congress passed the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA), which included an updated, more accessible Section 410 program to more effectively encourage states to adopt key anti-DUI legislation; MADD had a key role in shaping the program.

The first national "Rating the States" Survey is released, drawing nationwide attention to the status of state and federal efforts against drunk driving.

MADD sponsored Gallup survey of public attitudes on drunk driving reveals that Americans cite drunk driving as the number one problem on the nation's highways.

The Transportation Employee Testing Safety Act passes, requiring alcohol as well as drug testing of transportation employees in safety-sensitive jobs, including random, pre-employment and post-crash testing. MADD constituents helped turn the tide and secure House action after the Senate had already taken action 11 times.

1992 MADD develops clergy/funeral director seminars, to help educate clergy, funeral directors and allied professionals on the special needs of family members following a tragic death.

MADD testifies on Capitol Hill on issues including funding for the Section 410 incentive grant program and on the Sensible Advertising and Family Education (SAFE) Act, to require extending the current health and safety warnings on alcohol beverage containers to all alcohol advertising.

1993 Fifth state passes a law lowering the legal blood alcohol limit from .10 to .08.

The second national "Rating the States" Survey is released, highlighting progress and remaining challenges in the fight against impaired driving.

1994 MADD releases results from second year-long Gallup survey on drunk driving, which shows the public is becoming increasingly less tolerant of drunk drivers and more supportive of stiffer penalties.

Release of the 1993 Fatal Accident Reporting System statistics reveals that alcohol-related traffic deaths dropped the previous year to a 30-year low; NHTSA credits MADD along with tougher laws.

MADD premieres "Hollywood gets MADD" with Siskel & Ebert on national television.

1995 MADD participates in the Secretary of Transportation's Summit on Highway Safety, announcing a proposed goal of reducing alcohol-related traffic fatalities to 11,000 or fewer by the year 2005.

MADD begins holding public policy institutes to train state public policy liaisons in DUI issues and legislative how-to techniques.

MADD announces national drunk driving fatalities rise for the first time in a decade.

Federal Zero Tolerance Law was passed by the U.S. Congress tying federal highway funds to the passage of a state-level version of the Zero Tolerance Law.

1996 Third national "Rating the States" survey is released announcing drop in nation's grade primarily due to rise in drunk driving fatalities.

MADD announces new focus on underage drinking and impaired driving with youth programs born out of its Commission on Youth report.

MADD pilots first six Youth In Action sites.

MADD launches an online presence at www.madd.org

President Clinton and Senator Dole announce support for crime victims' constitutional amendment

1997 The first MADD National Youth Summit to Prevent Underage Drinking is held. Four-hundred thirty-five teens, representing each U.S. congressional district, attended the historic summit to develop and present their own solutions to America's underage drinking problem.

MADD reached 20 x 2000 goal three years early when the percentage of alcohol-related traffic crashes fell to below 40 percent.

DRIVEN magazine is launched.

MADD hosted the International Candlelight Vigil of Remembrance and Hope at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. There were more than 1,000 participants.

1998 MADD hosts the National Diversity Forum and the MADD National Board of Directors adopts recommendations from MADD's Diversity Task Force on program outreach to people of color.

First youth representative elected to MADD's National Board of Directors.

MADD commemorates the tenth anniversary of the Kentucky Bus Crash, the deadliest drunk driving crash in U.S. history killing 27 and injuring 30 others.

U.S. Senate overwhelmingly passes federal .08 bill although House refuses to vote on amendment. Congress adopts a \$500 million incentive grant program.

"Zero Tolerance" legislation is passed in all 50 states.

1999 The MADD National Board of Directors unanimously votes to change the organization's mission statement to include the prevention of underage drinking.

MADD establishes a presence in Guam and Puerto Rico. Two chapters are established in North Dakota, giving MADD a presence in all 50 states.

The fourth MADD Rating the States survey is released. The nation receives an average grade of C+ due to the leveling rate of decline in alcohol-related traffic deaths and thwarted passage of key federal legislation.

MADD and Sam Houston State University (SHSU) announce the launch of the National Institute for Victim Studies in Huntsville, Texas.

2000 MADD kicks-off its 20th anniversary year with its *Making a Difference Daily* campaign honoring special MADD volunteers every day of 2000.

MADD holds its 20th anniversary rally outside the U.S. Capitol where 600 activists call upon Congress to enact a national .08 BAC standard.

MADD releases a General Motors-sponsored Gallup survey showing growing support for .08 BAC and other MADD initiatives.

MADD holds its second National Youth Summit to Prevent Underage Drinking in Washington, D.C.

U.S. Congress passes a national .08 BAC measure as part of the Federal Transportation Appropriations Bill. President Clinton signs the bill into law on October 23, 2000.

2001 The *MADD College Commission Report to Address Alcohol's Impact on America's College Campuses* is released along with the announcement of MADD's first college MADD chapter.

MADD develops *Protecting You/Protecting Me* an elementary school curriculum program based on brain research and designed to help children protect themselves and reduce the risks if riding with a driver who has been drinking or other difficult situations.

MADD launches *Fake ID* and *Street Smarts*, multi-media school assembly programs for elementary, junior high and high school students.

The first MADD National Board of Advisors is announced, bringing together experts and celebrities dedicated to MADD's mission.

MADD joins other leading victim service organizations to issue a series of trauma recovery tips following the tragic September 11th attacks on America.

MADD and Mitsubishi Motor Sales of America launch *Pasa Las Llaves (Pass The Keys)*, designed to educate Latino communities about the risks of drunk driving. The campaign is piloted in Los Angeles, Dallas, Miami and Chicago.

MADD is named one of *Worth* magazine's Top 100 Best Charities in America.

DRIVEN magazine is updated to be a more informative and effective magazine in educating and involving the public in MADD's mission.

2002 MADD convenes a National Impaired Driving Summit to identify the most effective countermeasures to significantly cut alcohol-related traffic deaths and injuries and unveils its eight-point action plan to sharply reduce alcohol-impaired driving.

MADD holds national news conferences with support from congressional leaders about the impact of alcohol advertising on youth and opposition to proposed legislation to rollback the federal excise tax on beer.

MADD joins other health and safety groups to release a national public opinion poll showing that 71 percent of Americans would support increasing the national beer tax a few cents per bottle to equal the tax on liquor if the funds were used for substance abuse prevention.

As part of an ongoing commitment to improve traffic safety in diverse communities, MADD launches its Spanish-language Web site found at www.madd.org/spanish.

Protecting You /Protecting Me is officially recognized by the federal government as "a scientifically defensible effective prevention program." MADD's program is one of only 41 programs to receive this distinction.

MADD testifies before Senate and Congressional leaders on the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), a six-year highway funding bill.

Thirty-four states and the District of Columbia pass the illegal .08 blood alcohol concentration law by 2002.

MADD updates its image with a new logo.

MADD has more than 600 chapters across the U.S. - find out more about connecting with MADD at the grassroots level.

Make a Difference!

Drunk driving and its consequences can be prevented. Tackling it requires the involvement of every concerned citizen. You can take action to make your community a healthier and safer place. Join a growing number of people across the nation who have launched coordinated efforts to prevent drunk driving in their communities.



ADVOCATE FOR CHANGE

MADD activists are working to strengthen existing laws and to enact new ones. Learn how to influence legislation and law enforcement at all levels.



LEND A SHOULDER

Become a trained victim advocate and provide emotional support to victims of drunk driving crashes. Guide victims through the criminal justice system.

HELP A VICTIM BE HEARD

Coordinate a victim impact panel by assigning victim speakers and registering drunk driving offenders.

DROP A LINE

Contact law enforcement agencies and read local newspapers to find out about drunk driving crashes, then send out "We Care" cards to the victims of these tragic events.

UTILIZE OFFICE SKILLS

Answer phones, file, copy, type or perform other office support duties.



TAKE THE LEAD

Lend your leadership skills as a chapter, state or national officer.



VISIT THE COURTS

Ensure that drunk driving offenders are punished to the fullest extent of the law by monitoring court cases and reporting outcomes to the community and media.



ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES

Join MADD members in hosting public awareness events such as mock-crashes, parades, fairs, safe proms and graduation events.



TIE ONE ON

Distribute MADD red ribbons to encourage people not to drink and drive. Tie a MADD red ribbon on your vehicle to show your commitment to driving safe and sober.



BE A ROLE MODEL

Assist youth in learning about the dangers of underage drinking and lead the way in making positive changes.

SPEAK OUT

Present facts about and solutions for drunk driving and underage drinking by speaking at schools, civic groups, organizations and clubs.

BE A PART OF SOMETHING MUCH LARGER

MADD has over 2 million members and supporters in the United States, Guam and Puerto Rico. Even if there is not a MADD entity located in your area, you could still become part of our family.

MADD ALASKA

The first MADD Alaska Chapter was formed in 1983 after June Garrish lost two young grandsons to drunk driving. Wesley, 11, and Scott, 13, were killed on a bike path in Girdwood in December 1981. The driver had celebrated his 18th birthday by getting drunk with friends. June had no experience with public speaking, had not belonged to social or business organizations and kept close to home. She and her husband had owned a small convenience store, and June had spent as much of her free time as possible with her family. Those boys were her life. When they died a part of June died with them. Like many victims, June wanted to prevent others from going through the pain she was having to endure. June contacted Candy Lightener shortly after the tragedy, and the rest is history. June formed **the Anchorage Chapter** along with assistance from supporters such as Anchorage Police Chief Brian Porter. She traveled to Juneau twice that year, spoke before the Legislature, held press conferences, and worked with Senator Bill Ray, among other legislators, to pass safe laws such as lowering the legal BAC rate to .10 BAC. Today, under the leadership of Marti Greeson, MADD Anchorage is one the most active chapters in the United States.

The **MADD Juneau Chapter** was established almost 20 years later, in 2001, after a drunk driver, a father of three young girls, relaxed with a few drinks before driving home after a bad day at work. In doing so, he took the lives of Martin Richard and Ladd Macaulay and seriously injured Steve McGee. Cindy Cashen, a daughter of one of the victims, founded the chapter along with a group of diverse people. Because of its location in the capitol, MADD Juneau is the chapter primarily responsible for advocating for MADD Alaska's legislative priorities.

The **MADD Mat-Su chapter** was started about a year ago when Kevin D. Blake, 15, of Tatitlek and Kenneth Kramer, 11, of Wasilla, were killed by a drunk driver while driving with their grandparents. Kenneth's Aunt, Chrissy Steele, was instrumental in creating the chapter along with other concerned community members for the same reason many of the chapters are created—she didn't want others to have to experience her nightmare.

The **MADD Fairbanks Chapter** was formalized last winter by a large, vocal group of community members. One of the leaders is a drunk-driving victim, Barbara Dowdy, who lost her seventeen year old daughter in the fall of 2000. The Chapter has been active in public policy and educating youth on the danger of underage drinking.

MADD's membership is comprised of diverse individuals. Some are victims of drunk driving; others have small children. Some are youth; others are senior citizens. Over half of MADD's members are men. Contrary to what some think, MADD members are not prohibitionists. Many of the members are responsible drinkers.

A VICTIM'S STORY

I looked up MADD one night on the computer about three months after Dad's death and was surprised to see Alaska had only one chapter. I left a message with MADD Anchorage and the next day received a telephone call from their victim advocate. She sent me materials, including a book that I read over and over. Additional literature was sent for Mom and my siblings as well as my grandmother. The Anchorage Advocate contacted the MADD chapter closest to my Dad's parents in Washington, as they did not know where to turn for help. Both chapters helped our family by listening to us, sending us information about the court system and helping us know what our rights were as victims.



We learned it was okay to be angry, sad, numb, suicidal, uninterested in food, ravenous, unable to sleep, unable to get out of bed. We learned it was common for family members to deal with their pain in many different ways, at different levels and at different times. My sister and I seemed to spend the first year switching between feeling numb, to aching so badly we would forget to breathe. One of my brothers found himself focused on the crime report, while the youngest one shutdown and would talk to nobody except his wife. We would not leave our mother alone, for fear she might kill herself. We learned the pain and grief we were dealing with was not unusual. And MADD was there to help us when we needed it.

I cannot imagine what it might have been like without MADD, without someone to assist us when we asked for help, to empower us when we wanted to make choices and to listen to us when it seemed nobody else wanted to hear our pain one more time. To give back what was given to me, today I am a trained victim advocate.

Past Alaska MADD Legislation

Throughout the 2000-2001 session, the Anchorage and Juneau Chapters worked with legislators on over twenty-five bills related to MADD issues. A local communication system was created thereby enabling members to testify, write and telephone on alcohol related issues. During that time we observed nine MADD-supported bills become law.

A bill lowering the legal BAC from .10 to .08 and another making underage drinking a misdemeanor has passed. A Therapeutic Drug and Alcohol Court pilot program has been funded to help the chronic drunk driver, the "look-back" into the number of past drunk driving convictions for drunk drivers has increased from five years to 10 years, funding has been provided for vehicle forfeiture and civil action can be taken by bars against minors who attempt to enter them.

Alaska is the only state in our nation which recognizes a day of remembrance, July 3, for drunk driving victims. This particular one was introduced by Representative Rokeberg and Senator Ellis at the request of two young Alaskans who lost their best friend, Jesse Withrow, in 2000 because of drink driving.

There is a Drunk Driving Victims Memorial Wall on display at all Alaska Division of Motor Vehicle. Families and friends may create memorials of loved ones using photos, stories and poems. These displays remind people waiting in the DMV lines to not drink and drive.

Alaska's alcohol excise tax has been increased from 3 cents to a dime per drink. Small brewers are exempt from the increase. *Alaska is still among the lowest in the nation for total taxation amount of alcoholic beverages.

It is now both a civil Liability and a class C felony to knowingly provide alcoholic beverages to unrelated minors if it results in a serious injury or fatality.

MADD Alaska Priorities for 23rd Legislative Session:

HB27 (Rep. Lynn) Enhanced penalties for drunk driving offenders with passengers who are under 9 years of age or pregnant. MADD supports penalties for the reckless endangerment of minors 18 year of age and younger.

HB65 (Rep. Lynn) Forfeiture of motor vehicles, airplanes and vessels for illegal transportation of alcohol.

HB143 (Rep. Heinz) Offender ineligible for PFD for 4 years after a DUI or for refusal to submit to BAC test.

HB175 (Rep. Rokeberg) Wellness Court clients (DUI offenders) allowed a drivers permit to and from work.

HB213 (Rep. Weyhrauch) Graduated Drivers License.

HB217 (Rep. Weyhrauch) Enhanced penalties for repeat DUI offenders.

HB234 (Rep. McGuire) Alcohol Beverage Control Board policy changes.

HB261 (Judiciary, Gov. reqst) Minor Consuming law revision: Increased community work service, license revocation period consecutive, not concurrent, with other DMV violations, probation begins on second offense, youth courts allowed as alternative courts.

HB274 (Rep. Dahlstrom) Uniform bar closure hours across the state.

HB342 (Rep. Gatto) Enhanced penalties for high-risk offenders (those with high BAC levels).

SB53 (Sen. Ogan) partner bill to Rep. Dahlstrom's HB274.

SB58/59 (Sen. Cowdery) DUI offender ineligible for PFD for one year for first offense, 5 years for repeat offenders. Enhanced penalties for of lack of motor vehicle insurance.

SB249 (Sen. Wilken) partner bill to Rep. Weyhrauch's HB213 GDL bill.

Keg Registration.

Mandatory alcohol/other drug education in schools.

Sober servers in drinking establishments.

*Bills in bold were requested by MADD

Mother's roadside memorial destroyed

Letter to the editor

Monday, January 12, 2004

On Dec. 8, 2002, I lost my son, Gary Smith, when a drunk driver struck and killed him. Gary was walking along a Hoonah roadside when the tragedy occurred and ever since my life has not been the same. I have "moved on" as best I can, but there are times when the loss of my son makes me feel so sad. This past holiday marked the first anniversary of Gary's death. It was a difficult time for me, Gary's aunts, uncles, daughter, grandchildren, many relatives and friends who knew Gary.

While I was in Hoonah last month I had a cross made with MADD red ribbons had it placed in the spot I thought Gary was struck and killed. The cross lasted seven days, as someone not only took the memorial sign, they broke it into pieces and threw it in the ditch.

It really broke my heart all over again over this violent act. It is hard for me to have to deal with the unnecessary cruelty. Building and placing the cross on that site made me hopeful others might see it and remember not to drink and drive. It was also an act of love from a mother to her son.

I would ask the person who destroyed the cross: why? I would ask the people who know of this act of destruction: I would ask those who knew and cared for my son to prevent this from happening again this by speaking in support of sober driving and against acts of violence. If not for Gary, then for yourselves and loved ones.

**Diane Carrier
Juneau**