

# DRUG FREE MONTCALM

*A Collaborative of Substance Abuse Prevention Coalitions*

## HEADLINE NEWS

Lynn Coper joined our staff as the new Drug Free Montcalm Coordinator. If you haven't met Lynn, give her a shout—phone call, email or stop by for a visit.

### **It's working! We are making a difference with our efforts!**

Roughly 15 percent of stores and restaurants sold tobacco, alcohol or both to minors during compliance checks conducted by Drug Free Montcalm in 2011. Ten years ago, when we began Compliance Checks on the vendors, there was close to a 50% sale rate to minors. These efforts are supported by our Law Enforcement and student "decoys" volunteering their time. *Thank you* to the Vendors who passed! Let's keep increasing that number of NO SALES each year!

### **Partnership with PIZZA PLACES in Montcalm County**

Have you ordered a pizza lately? This fall we partnered with local restaurants that sold pizza with carryout to put on their boxes "toppers" that look like "post it" notes. Facts in a quiz form about teens and their alcohol habits along with suggestions how to parent teens were included. Our website was tagged in hopes that they will check us out and find out more about what we are doing. A HUGE thank you to Jim VanderLaan and Kim Alexander for distributing throughout the county!



**Task Forces empower our Coalitions**  
**Become a part of making a difference!**

- ◆ Fun & Healthy Activities
- ◆ Membership
- ◆ Business Cares
- ◆ Community Commitment
- ◆ Awareness & Education

**Drug Free Montcalm**  
**Montcalm Coalition to Prevent**  
**Underage Drinking**  
**Tobacco Free Montcalm**

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**Meet our Youth Summit organizer—Pastor Paul Spittka** who has been working with the youth for over 21 years! As a parent of three college students, one high school teen and a middle school boy, Pastor Paul understands the pressures teens face when it comes to substance abuse. As a Pastor to several hundred students, he knows all too well the damaging affects that drinking can have on students and their families. P2 [as his students call him] will be our discussion facilitator for the Got It? Youth Summit at Lincoln Lake Camp. In his "free time" his family is heavily involved in the Greenville area as part of the Greenville Outlaws 4H group, a member on the Montcalm County Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking [MCPUD] and the president of the Greenville Area Youth Leaders Alliance [G-YA].

## **GOT IT? Youth Summit** **March 17-18, 2012**

Check out [WW.MCPUD.ORG](http://WW.MCPUD.ORG) for more information. One of our goals is to have a number of students from every corner of the county participate!

Welcome to our first newsletter! Our efforts are meant to inform you of what is going on with our coalitions. Contact the office for more information. If you would like to be added to our distribution list, contact Lynn via email . We look forward to your input.

After receiving this newsletter, if for some reason you do not want to be in our distribution list, send an email to Lynn for removal.

Let us know what you think, what you would like to see and **feel free to share!**