

Pledges and Comments May / June 2008



SISCO
06/29/2008
I LOVE MARIAH

Brandon Waananen
06/29/2008
I accept Mariah's Challenge

KIRA MEDINA
06/29/2008
IAM SORRY FOR YOUER LOST AND I EXEPT MARIAHS
CHALLENGE TO NOT DRINNK AND DRIVE AND RISCE
ATHER PEPELS LIVE

Kara criscuolo
06/27/2008
i accept marihas challenge.i luvud mariha.i thoght she
was so pretty.

Jordan Salmonsens
06/27/2008
I would like to be a messenger for Mariah's challenge.
I accept this challenge 100%!

Kaleigh Walsh
06/26/2008
I would like to be a messenger and make a difference
for Mariah's Challenge!

Kaleigh Walsh
06/26/2008

Christian Mabley
06/25/2008

Grace Hirst
06/25/2008
Jessica and her dad both came to my drivers ed class
to talk about this experience that they have had and i
think that this thing that you guys are doing is
amazing and i know that you will safe lifes of innocent
people thank you so much. From spokane Washinton

austin puryear
06/25/2008
God bless ur family and friends

Craig W Mosher
06/25/2008
It was a privelege to have you AND your Jessica in my
class last night. I know it had an impact not only on
me but the class as a whole. THEY HAVE TO LEARN. I
would like to integrate the Memoriam of this precious
child into my class. I will talk with AJ. Thank you again
and GOD Bless you and your family.Craig W Mosher
911 Driving School. G

Elise Roddy
06/24/2008
This is an amazing thing that you are doing. I know I'll
take on Mariah's challenge and pass along the
message. God bless her and all of you.

Jordan Ford
06/23/2008

Spenser O'Brien
06/22/2008
I recently graduated from Anaconda High School and
after hearing Leo's speech, it really makes you think
about easily avoidable mistakes. I dont drink as it is
and have never gotten an MIP and I hope others
choose to do the same and make wise decisions. I
apologize for your loss. One life lost to alcohol is one
too many.

jennifer michaud
06/20/2008
hello,
i am a girl scout leader for junior troop 492. i had 3
girls earning their bronze award. which is the highest
award a junior girl scout can earn. we had gina come
and talk about mariah's challenge to a group of girls
that ranged in age from kindergarden to 8th grade. we
would love to thank you and what a wonderful job that
she did to help these girls earn that award. great job
gina

LeeRoy DeJohn
06/15/2008
I ACCEPT MARIAHS CHALLENGE AND WILL STOP
DRINKING AND DRIVING MOTORISTS FROM HURTING
SOMEONE ELSE.

veronica ouldhouse
06/14/2008

Zach Tippett
06/13/2008
I just keep adding my name cause i will never take a
sip of alcohol.

marisa
06/12/2008
i accept!!!

michaella
06/11/2008
hi i'm michaella and my family knew Mariah's parent't
and i know gina Evens cause she is my cousin.

Mary Sullivan
06/08/2008
I accept Mariah's Callenge...Mariah was one of the
nicest people i have ever met...She would be very
proud to see the difference she has made!

Ben Girdler
06/07/2008

I support Mariah's Challenge because I never want to be involved in a tragic accident. And that's why I support Mariah's challenge.

Nicole Pollard
06/06/2008

I am only 12 years old and I accept Mariah's challenge. I will not drink and drive. My parents don't drink and I have a good example. I will not drink I know it is bad and I will not do it so I accept it!!!!

Dustin Watt
06/06/2008

The Hogan's
06/05/2008

Leo, you are one of the best people I know. We support you, your family, & this challenge 100%.

Patricia
06/04/2008

Thank you for bringing this issue out in the open. God Love you all

Caitlin Garrett
06/04/2008

go to Hillcrest and I give Mariah's Challenge my full support.

Darci Garrett
06/04/2008

Ashlee Vingom
06/03/2008

My name is Ashlee I accept Mariah's Challenge and Butte and the world I hope you do the same!!!! Mariah we miss you a lot and always will!!!! I accept Mariah's Challenge. We miss Mariah serverly. I hope everybody accepts Mariah's Challenge!!!

Daniel Krautter
06/03/2008

When you launched Mariah's challenge in Deer Lodge I took part in student council's no talk day (I was Vice Pres. Fresh. Class).

Kassidy Caprara
06/02/2008

I do accept the challenge for not having MIP and for no more under age drinking

Cody Hagderty
06/02/2008

I think this is one of the greatest things.

Ruth Chambers
06/02/2008

Melinda
06/02/2008

I accept Mariah's challenge.

Esmeralda
06/02/2008

I accept Mariah's Challenge. Roseville, CA

Marryssa
06/02/2008

I accept Mariah's Challenge.

Zana Carver
06/01/2008

Hannah
06/01/2008

I am soooooo sorry for your loss! I am just so sad Mariah didn't live anywhere close to a full life! (Tear Tear :() From Jennifer's daughter-Hannah

William Pacheco
06/01/2008

Dylan Goodell
05/30/2008

Although I didn't know Mariah she sounded like a really nice person. Like I heard Mariah's challenge sounds like a great idea so I thought I'd sign up.

Susana Baig
05/30/2008

I am so sorry for your loss. My father was killed by a drunk driver on New Year's Eve when I was four. I have begun creating anti-drunk driving posters. View them here:

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/baigfamily/2535167589/>
God Bless

Nick Scott
05/30/2008

have made a point of staying sober since the accident and being the D.D. for those who don't.

Sue Dansie
05/29/2008

I'm so impressed with what is happening with your foundation. I'd like to be of help in my own community.

medinas
05/29/2008

I am so very sorry for your loss I WILL INCOURAGE MY KIDS NOT TO EVER DRINK AND DRIVE

Fred Klein
05/29/2008

Mariah's Challenge is the most positive step that was ever born out of what I felt was the saddest story I ever had to read over the news. Leo knows he has my full support and that of all my coworkers at KBOW - KOPR in Butte.

Tyler Wonnacott
05/28/2008

I am sorry to hear about Mariah and plan to never drink and drive and I will do my best to educate my friends and classmates as well. Tyler Wonnacott age 11

Payton McGrath
05/28/2008

Drew Qualls
05/28/2008
I totally agree with the challenge and my sympathies go out to Mariah's family and friends. This should never happen to anyone.

Kelli Wheat
05/27/2008

Jessi Ralph
05/27/2008
I promise i will never drink and drive

kevin weaver
05/27/2008
I pledge my support 100% to Mariah's challenge.

kevin weaver
05/27/2008
I pledge my support 100% to Mariah's challenge. It is tragic a young girls life is lost to open the eyes of others, regarding the consequences of alcohol.

willy
05/26/2008
hey leo I am micheles son willy shea that basket ball tournament was a good idea I loved it

corbin walker
05/26/2008
I am 8 years old and I accept Mariah's Challenge.

Tanya Lynn Willoughby
05/25/2008
Hey I really mean this when i say it I ACCEPT MARIAH'S CHALLENGE . and i will miss her very very much its hard to believ she's gone but i know she's still with me in my HEART. I love you Mariah

Travis tallon
05/25/2008
I am so sorry for your lose i would not know what i would do if it was my kid sorry

Shaye Clark
05/24/2008
that is wonderful that the sports arena is accepting Mariah's Challenge.

Alli Metz
05/23/2008
I accept Mariahs Challenge

Rick Shammel
05/23/2008
WE had a presentation at our high school in Sheridan and i think that this a a great cause!

Michaella Madlena
05/22/2008
Hi my name is michaella madlena and im from utah. I'll tell my friends about this challenge thanks Leo. and Gina is my cousin

Chris McLaughlin
05/22/2008
Thank you McCarthy Family,
It was nice to have you at the Rotary meeting this afternoon. I appriciate what you are doing, as I have three young children of my own. I know that Caitlin, Ryan, and Erin will grow up in a better community because of your efforts. I accept Mariah's Challenge.

Amanda Megyesi-McCave
05/22/2008
I am with the Montana Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs and I met Leo and saw the speakers at the townhall meeting in Butte. I commend all of the volunteers and supporters for the work they are doing to make sure youth don't drink.

Tricia Witt
05/22/2008
This is the first time that I have visited your wonderful site. I accepted Mariah's Challenge when Leo was in Deer Lodge last month. My two youngs boys also accepted the challenge. My heart goes out to this WONDERFUL, STRONG family. I keep you ALL in my prayers!!

Britni Evans
05/21/2008

Jerika Griffin
05/21/2008
i just want to say from the bottom of my heart that i am soooo very sorry that you all had to endure this pain. about 3 years ago my sister Shandi was taken from us, she had been shot by my fathers girlfriend, i can definately relate when jenna says that her life was changed forever, its been 3 years and it still seems like a nightmare that i will never wake up from, i still to this day think about calling her and laughing uncontrollably for hours about little things. my sister had a 1 year old daughter at the time she was shot, my sister was only 18. well thats a little about my story, im seventeen, i live in helena, mt, i have 1 older sister, an older brother, then there was shandi and then me and then there is shiann who is 14....i would really love to talk with you all to see how you are doing,

Michele Rauser
05/21/2008
We would definitely enjoy having Leo speak at our school. I attended the meeting in Helena on Tuesday the 20th and I am really excited about the things Helena is doing for their youth.

Jessica Troilo
05/21/2008

What a tragic story yet how courageous and touching is it what this wonderful family is doing. Keep up the good work. Mariah must be just so proud of you all.

Wisper Percival
05/21/2008
NEVER EVER AGAIN!!!!

Sharon Richetti
05/21/2008
thank you Leo, this is a wonderful way to honor your beautiful daughter.

Julie Massaro
05/21/2008
God Bless Mariah's family for doing this. I have a 15 year old daughter still at home (20 year old in college) and can't imagine what I would do if this were to happen to them. I've had several talks to both of them about drinking and driving, and will continue to do so. One talk is never enough!

Carline Cochran
05/21/2008
Thank you for starting this site, and this challenge. In August 2006 one of my best friends; Brigette Ehlke, was killed by a drunk driver outside of Missoula. He struck a car with her, her husband and their kids in it. Since then I have been doing alot of research on Montana's laws related to drinking and driving. The bottom line is; what we have right now is so minimal we may as well not have laws in my opinion. A friend helping with this asked MADD to get involved in helping to change MT laws and we were told that MT has a "good ol boys club" and all attempts to change these laws have failed due to the high number of judges and policical appointees with DUI's and other related drinking offenses. Needless to say, it has been frustrating....
I'll help with this challenge any way I can. It is time for a change in Montana. Laws need to be tough enough that nobody would choose to drive after drinking!!

kevin weaver
05/21/2008
I am sorry to hear about the loss of your daughter. Such a tragedy reinforces the need to educate our communities around dangers of minors in possession and driving while intoxicated. I can't imagine the pain your family goes through daily. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers.

Pam Petersen
05/20/2008
Although I didn't know Mariah, I know the pain her family and friends are going through. I also lost my 18 yr old daughter Cory to a drunk driver. Cory and her friend Jason got into a car with a friend who's BAC was .28 and he killed all three of them. I have been a speaker on the DUI Victim Impact Panel for 12 1/2 years. My heart goes out to Mariah's family and I am so sorry for your loss.

Lisa Gaul
05/20/2008
What a wonderful message. My thought and prayers are with you and your family.

Brady Murphy
05/19/2008
Whitehall tough

Bryce Murphy
05/19/2008

Alexis Johnson
05/19/2008

Jeremy Gnerer
05/19/2008

miquella connors
05/17/2008
I Accept Mariahs Challenge... :]

Caitlin Sullivan
05/17/2008

shaye clark
05/17/2008
I would just like to say that as I leave for summer vacation I will not forget about the message of Mariahs challenge and I will not drink and drive.

Lakyn
05/16/2008
We love you Maariah even though your not with us thank you for always being there for us!!!!

Campbell Family
05/16/2008
Dear Leo, Janice, and Jenna!
We continue to hold your family in our hearts and prayers.
Love, John, Kathy, Erin, Laura, Chrissy, and Paul

Mary Pat Brown Deer Lodge
05/16/2008
It was so nice meeting Leo today. With the help of God and all the folks involved we will succeed! My prayers will always be with your family.

Caitlin
05/15/2008
i hope we can stop drinking and driving... everytime i think that i think of Mariah and a poem! The poems called moonlight ride look it up sometime it's a great poem! I Accept Mariahs Challenge! =)

sidney m
05/15/2008
hey just thinkin about you mariah! love you lots and miss you more!

Millie Rigby
05/15/2008

i just lost one of my best friends in a motorcycle accident and i was there with him and i held him till the end I never want my family to have to see me the way i had to see my friend.

Spencer
05/14/2008
Let's Git-R-Dun

Mary Lou McPhail
05/14/2008

Michelle N
05/14/2008

Anthony Zahn
05/13/2008
I accept mariah's challenge. Though graduating this year I still think that no teenager should drink after seeing the affects it has on people and what happened that night was tragic for everyone.

charlee
05/13/2008
i acceppt mariahs challenge

Cheyenne Real
05/12/2008
I hope that everyone stands up and listens to what is happening to our young children because of drinking and driving. I can't imagine your heart ache or loss. My love and prayers are with you and your family. Forever and always. My son and I accept Mariah's Challenge.

Sandra Pecos
05/12/2008
I am presently on the State PTA Board. Representing Montana on a National Level for PTA. I am very interested in helping where I can and we have quite a problem here in Great Falls with underage drinking. Several years ago we had an accident where 3 teenagers were driving home after a house party and all 3 were killed in an auto accident. We have lots of teens who are getting MIPS continually and it is a huge problem here in North Central Montana where they have keggers out side of town and house parties galore. We have had a lot of shootings related to alcohol being involved and we have a base community with 18 and 19 year olds drinking. I can be reached at the email address listed above.
We would like to get PTA back in Butte to get more parental involvement back into the schools so it can help with Mariah's Challenge. Positive Parental Involvement has proven to raise test scores and keep ahead of these problems. Thank you.

Colleen Henderson
05/12/2008
i accept miriah's challenge becauue i think its tragic that an inoscent persons life was taken because of a drunk driver. Also because my cousin Katlyn Okrusche was in the accident.

Alexis Johnson
05/12/2008
I think this is a great thing to have for people to understand what can happen to you.

Dona Simmons
05/12/2008
I accept Mariah's Challenge!

Alexander Skoglund
05/12/2008

Marisa R.
05/12/2008
I'm so sorry. I can only imagine how hard it must be for you and all of your friends and family to lose someone so loved. I'm praying for all of you, including Mariah...she is loved and is remebered for the difference she was and still is making. she is watching over you all now.

nicole
05/12/2008
i think that the guy that killed mariah and injured her to friends should be put in prison for killing a 14 year old girl im terribly sorry for the loved ones of mariah

Marisa R.
05/12/2008

Parker Rohrer
05/12/2008
I recently attended Leo's presentation. It is by far the best presentation I have ever been to in my life. It was not only informative but it was forceful. I think one of the biggest things for me not to drink are my goals in life. I have messed up once, and I prolably will never do it again. But I think if you set your goals and your believe you can acomplish them and you want to accomplish them, then there is no reason to drink or do drugs. Your goals are to important to you. Thank you for the presentation, change my decioson for graduation night.

Lindsey Johnson
05/12/2008

Breann Griffin
05/12/2008
I accept Mariah's Challenge

wes
05/11/2008
i accept mariah's challenge

Christina Murrell
05/11/2008
I'm so sorry about the loss of Mariah. It makes me terribly sad to know that it happened to someone who did nothing wrong in the world. :(

Gary Fix
05/11/2008

Jayd Rogers
05/11/2008

Hi I am from Kennedy school and I accept Mariahs challenge.

Jerraca
05/10/2008

I just wanted to say thank you for coming to our school, Sheridan High School. You definitely made a huge impact on every single person in the room. Thanks again.

Chloe Kline
05/10/2008

Hi, how is everyone. I hope all is going good. I have been praying for you and your family. I loved your speech when you came to our school. I accept Mariahs Challenge.

Cassady
05/09/2008

daphne
05/09/2008
I think Mariahs Challenge is a great thing to stop kids from drinking

martique kraus
05/09/2008

Growing up in butte is hard for any teen. All through 7,8,9th grade i experimented with alcohol and thought that it was ok because i was tough i could drink and it wouldnt effect me. I thought because the people around me were doing it that it was ok. Well mariahs death was a big eye opener, and leo coming to twin bridges was another eye opener. I thought that no one would care if something happened. I realize now it is not ok to drink and that people really do care if i get hurt because im drunk, and from this point on i wont touch another drink until im 21. I will never drink and drive. that is a promise to mariah, her family and friend my family and friend and most importantly myself.

konnor oneill
05/09/2008

Sydnee Burke
05/09/2008
I was at Sheridan High School yesterday, and Mariah's dad came and spoke to us, and i definitely accept Mariah's Challenge!

Daryll A. Dye and Eileene Stevens Dye
05/09/2008

We have been in support of this concept since it's inception but did not realize there was a formal process to "accept the challenge". Thank you for the privilege.

Colter Dykman
05/09/2008

I was very inspired by your story and your speech at my high school (Harrison High School). I accept

Mariah's Challenge, and I wish you all the best of luck with this great organization.

JULIE FRANCISCO
05/08/2008

I pledge to accept the challenge and encourage those whose lives I touch to do the same. God bless to all of Mariah's Family

Julie L.
05/08/2008

I made a personal choice when I was younger to never drink or do drugs or do anything that could mess up my life or someone else's. I think this is an amazing challenge. Though I've never had a drink in my life, I can tell anyone that may be wondering if their choice to accept the challenge was worth it, that it IS!

Madison Traucht
05/08/2008

CODY BASZLER
05/08/2008
HI I AM CODY BASZLER. I GO TO EMERSON AND I ACCEPT MARIAH'S CHALLENGE. AS SOON AS I HEARD ABOUT MARIAH I GOT TO THIS WEBSITE. IM AM VERRY SORRY ABOUT THAT

Brandon Burke
05/08/2008

I think that under age drinking is a terrible thing and that Mariah's Challenge can change peoples life. Mariah's dad came to our school and really made me believe that drinking is a bad thing.

Karen Degel
05/08/2008

Leo came and spoke today in Twin Bridges. I was touched deeply by his talk, but more by his compassion. You are absolutely correct... we can make a difference, and I plan to do just that in Twin Bridges. May God Bless with His peace and His comfort.. and with His strength. Take Care!

Shelly J. Landers
05/08/2008

I am sorry for your loss and all the sorries will never bring your daughter back, but what you are doing here is a WONDERFUL and Truly selfless act. May God bless you and help you through this difficult time.

Shelly J. Landers
05/08/2008

Chelsey Landers
05/08/2008
i attend Harrison High school, i am all for mariahs challenge, i want to become a nurse, and i don't want drinking to get in my way of fulfilling my dream i am very sorry for your loss

Peggy Clark
05/08/2008

I go to Harrison School. I accept Mariah's Challenge because I want to be a runner. I also want to obey my parents.

Tori Wilson
05/08/2008

I saw the article in the news, I am truly sympathetic for your family.

Tyler VonBergen
05/08/2008

I am sorry for Mariah's family. I do not plan to EVER drink.

Matt Mainwaring
05/08/2008

I think that this is a noble cause to prevent underage drinking. I personally have lost a family member to alcohol.

Mykah Cooper
05/08/2008

I was really moved by Mariah's story and I don't plan to ever drink and drive.

Thomas Dominguez
05/08/2008

Hi my name is Thomas Dominguez I am 15 years old and I am from Sheridan, Montana. I accept moriahs challenge because I need to learn about things not to do so I could tell my friends or people so that they wont die young like Mariah. I would like to learn so that I or anybody else doesnt see this happen to their children or someone that they love.

Lacy
05/08/2008

I got drunk one night with a bunch of people from my school and did something that wasnt like me and i regret it but i have promised myself that i will not drink until the legal age and i will never drive drunk

Sarah Kilmer
05/08/2008

I am proud to accept Mariah's Challenge not only as Valarie's cousin, but as a young adult who vows to help end drunk driving. Mariah will always be remembered in our hearts.

Nicholas Lowery
05/07/2008

I accept my cousin's challenge!

Alexandria Lynn Guinee
05/07/2008

I miss Mariah Soooooo much and I can't believe this happened to her..... Rest In Peace Mariah

Sheila Miller
05/06/2008

Leo,
Thank you for the reminder. I just finished talking to 2 of my daughters and had them read what is on your

website. I have 4 daughters...and we are very strict with drinking rules, no matter what your age. I know they listen. And they know they can be the one in the right, but that is only half of the equation. Just like Mariah...

My heart goes out to you. What a hole that can never be filled. I thank you for all the wonderful work you have been doing....I hear this and see this all over Butte every time I come to town. I am sure this has stimulated the awareness for the youth...and all of us. Youa r in my thoughts and prayers.

George Brimhall
05/06/2008

Dear Leo,

I teach a summer field geology course out of out place in Wise River which State Farm insures. I have added Mariah's Challenge to the class web site. I helped bury Teddy Nicols several years ago. He helped me build our bunkhouse before he started at MT Tech the next Fall. The culture of acceptance must change for this tragedy to come to an end. Our young people deserve a better chance at life than they have with drunk drivers on the road. I will become a grandfather for the first time next July and appreciate the efforts you are making on this vital front to save the lives of our youth.

Terry Taylor
05/06/2008

I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. I volunteer as the Greenville (SC) County leader of MADD. I hear stories like this too often.

Sean Curran
05/04/2008

I accept Mariah's Challenge and I hope everyone does.

audree lubick
05/04/2008

i'm miss u mariah and i wish i could change back thibgs and make some1 help u so that this wouldnt have turned out this way but we all know u r in a better place now and u r safe i luv u mariah

Dylan Conway
05/04/2008

I accept Mariah's Challenge

Hattie Thatcher
05/03/2008

I accept Mariah's Challenge! i really think it will help the community!

Victoria Saxton
05/03/2008

I 100% accept Mariah's Challenge and hope that it spreads nation wide...i also personally look up to anyone else that accepts it. Do the right thing, don't drink and drive!!!

kasandra reid
05/03/2008

I accept Mariah's Challenge!

Frank J. Rozan
05/02/2008

Hello all, I was just out cruising the web site, and wanted to say Hello. I wish you all a fun-filled safe weekend. Remember we're all in this together, so let's be kind to one another.
Thinking of you,

Kyle Shaw
05/01/2008

tanisha heaney
05/01/2008
i would like to accept mariahs challenge and i think every child should

Andie Palagi
05/01/2008
I am a Whittier Wildcat.

Kaytlin Muster
05/01/2008
I accept Mariahs Challenge!

Nyle Wolfe
05/01/2008
It was a great privilege for me to sing at the fundraiser in March for Mariah and her family. I am a father and a son, and I can not imagine the McCarthy family's pain at losing such a bright light. I admire your channelling your grief into something so positive and look forward to keeping track of your activities and achievements.
Nyle Wolfe, Ireland

Shane Friesz
05/01/2008
Great idea for a great cause.