



# CHRISTIANSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

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**\*\*\*\*\*For Immediate Press Release\*\*\*\*\***

## **Youth of Virginia Speak Out (YOVASO)**

Date: February 15, 2012

(Christiansburg, VA) – The Christiansburg YOVASO Club arrived at the Christiansburg High School for two reasons on Tuesday night. One reason was to help cheer on the boys basketball team to a victory over visiting Salem, the other was the 2012 “Buckle Up, Drive Sober” (BUDS) campaign. The BUDS campaign is a project that encourages awareness for students to make smart decisions about seatbelt and alcohol use.

Members of the club along with the School Resource Officer from Christiansburg the Police Department provides school safety messages by way of school announcements, student created posters, and by providing handouts on safety during school lunch blocks. The YOVASO students also encourage their peers to sign cards pledging to make the right choice when it comes to seatbelt and alcohol use and to ride with only a sober driver.

On Tuesday night the club along with Officer Cromer handed out ‘treat bags’ during the game. Each bag contained traffic safety information, thumb rings reminding students to ‘TXTL&R’ (text Later), wrist bands, cups, and candy that was supplied by State Farm Insurance, Tuck Chiropractic, and the Christiansburg Police Department.

“The programs are a huge success because the students are involved. These students have shown a commitment to their classmates in regards to safety. It really is quite impressive to see young people working together for such a great cause. One young person seriously injured or killed because of a bad choice in regards to use of alcohol or the failure to buckle up, is too many”, says Officer Cromer

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