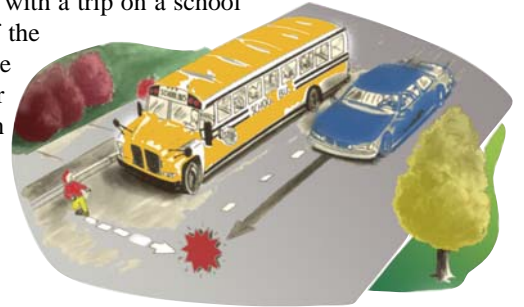


reporter

a publication of the Tennessee Traffic Safety Resource Service

July - September 2003

For most Tennessee children, the school day begins and ends with a trip on a school bus. The greatest risk is not riding the bus, which is one of the safest forms of transportation, but approaching or leaving the bus. Those children were hit either by the bus itself or another motor vehicle; therefore, it is essential that adults and children know traffic safety rules.



Tips for Drivers:

- ★ *Slow down!* Obey all traffic laws and speed limits.
- ★ Always stop for a school bus that has stopped to load or unload passengers. Red flashing lights and an extended stop arm tell you the school bus has stopped to load or unload children. State law requires you to stop.
- ★ Be alert and ready to stop. Watch for children walking in the street, especially if there are no sidewalks in the neighborhood. Watch for children playing and gathering near bus stops. Watch for children arriving late for the bus, who may dart into the street without looking for traffic.

MAKE SURE KIDS ARE STREET SMART

Tips for Parents:

- ★ Help your children learn and practice the safety rules for walking, bicycling, or riding in a passenger car, school bus or transit bus.
- ★ Supervise young children as they are walking or biking to school or as they wait at the school bus stop.
- ★ Be a good role model, especially when you are with your kids. Always buckle up in the car, always wear a helmet when biking, and always follow pedestrian safety rules.

If you will teach your children to follow these common sense practices, it will make school transportation safer and more importantly keep your child(ren) safe.

Tips for Educators:

- ★ Teach young children the safety rules for traveling to school, whether it be walking, bicycling, or riding in a motor vehicle or on a school bus. Remember to be a good role model yourself by practicing what you teach.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has developed a variety of kid-friendly materials and teaching tools. These can be downloaded from NHTSA's website @ www.nhtsa.dot.gov The website also provides links to many other organizations and materials related to safe school travel.

INSIDE

GHSO
Message 2

Not Convinced by
State Law ? 3

Why We Use
Booster Seats 3

Events Calendar 4
(On Back)

Child Passenger Safety
Technician (CPST)
Training Schedule 4
(On Back)

When You're Driving, Pay Attention To The Job
Remember, cell phone, notepads, maps, and newspapers distract you from the job of driving. Pay attention or you could pay a hefty price.

TENNESSEE AND GEORGIA JOIN HANDS TO PROMOTE HIGHWAY SAFETY



Law enforcement agencies in Tennessee and Georgia joined forces to promote strict adherence to traffic laws in the **Hands Across the Border** campaign. Tennessee's participation in the annual traffic safety initiative kicked off Monday, August 25 with sobriety checkpoints set up along Highway 11 in Hamilton County, TN.

In a display of solidarity, highway safety officials from both states participated in the official **2003 Hands Across the Border** public ceremony on Tuesday, August 26 at the I-75 Georgia Welcome Center in Whitfield County. Tennessee Department of Safety Commissioner Fred Phillips was among the dignitaries who spoke before an audience comprised of representatives from the Governor's Highway Safety Office, Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, Winchester Police Department, Athens Police Department, Jasper Police Department, Red Bank Police Department, Collegedale Police Department, Chattanooga Police Department, Tennessee Highway Patrol and the Tennessee Commercial Vehicle Enforcement. The ceremony concluded with a Tennessee multi-jurisdictional marked vehicle caravan making its

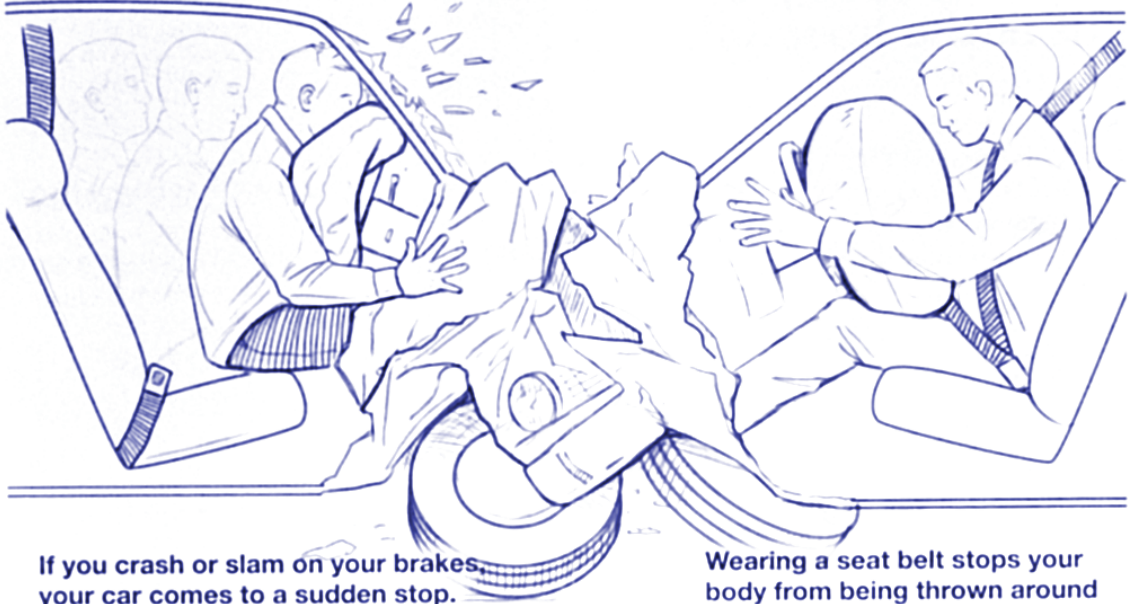
way to the State Welcome center located on I-75 south of Chattanooga on the Georgia line.

"It is the goal of the Governor's Highway Safety Office to continue to work with law enforcement agencies along our borders on proactive outreach initiatives to keep Tennessee highways safe," announced Governor's Highway Safety Office Director, Chuck Taylor.

This year's campaign was a huge success, thanks to Captain Albert Strawther, Hands Across the Border Tennessee coordinator.

Hands Across the Border was created in 1991 by safety advocates across the southeast to bring about awareness of safety belt and child safety seat use during the Labor Day weekend. Participating state and local enforcement agencies sponsor education and community outreach events, where motorists will receive literature regarding the dangers of drunk driving, as well as the importance of seat belt and proper child safety seat use. During this year's HAB campaign, literature was distributed at all Tennessee Welcome Centers.

Not convinced by State law? Consider the laws of physics:



If you crash or slam on your brakes, your car comes to a sudden stop. But you will keep moving until you, too, are stopped—by the windshield, dashboard or pavement.

Wearing a seat belt stops your body from being thrown around inside or outside the car. A seat belt decreases the chances you'll get hurt by firmly keeping you in place.

* Air bags are designed to be used *with* seat belts. Air bags alone are only 12% effective at reducing deaths.

How do you want to stop?

WHY WE USE BOOSTER SEATS

Safety belts are not designed for children. Young children are too small for safety belts and too large for toddler seats. A booster seat raises your child up so that the safety belt fits right—and can better protect your child. The shoulder belt should cross the child's chest and rest snugly on the shoulder, and the lap belt should rest low across the pelvis or hip area—never across the stomach area. Your child's ears should not be higher than the vehicle's seat back cushion or the back of a high-back booster seat.



NEED MORE HELP? Contact Us.

For information about child safety seats, seat belts, air bags, teen driving, drinking and driving, biking, motorcycles, elder driving and other highway safety issues visit our web site @ <http://www.tntrafficsafety.org>

EVENTS CALENDAR

October 2003

08, Walk to School Day
01-08, Walk to School Week
10, Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day
06-10, Nat'l Drive Safely to Work Week
19-25, Nat'l School Bus Safety Week

November 2003

05, Child Passenger Safety Summit
17-Dec 1, Click It or Ticket Mobilization
24-30, Operation ABC Mobilization

December 2003

Nat'l Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention
(3D) Month
09-Jan 4, You Drink & Drive, You Lose
Mobilization
19-22, Operation CARE Mobilization

For more details on these events, please visit
<http://www.tntrafficsafety.org>
and click on calendar.

2003-2004 CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY (CPS) TECHNICIAN TRAINING SCHEDULE



The TN Child Passenger Safety Center has scheduled the NHTSA Standardized Child Passenger Safety Technician Training classes for fall 2003 and for 2004. To find a location near you, check the schedule below. If you want to register for a **FREE** class, call the Center at 1.423.392.8026.

DATE	LOCATION
10/13/03 thru 10/16/03	Alamo Nat'l. Guard Armory (Alamo, TN)
11/10/03 thru 11/13/03	Saturn Training Ctr. (Spring Hill, TN)
12/08/03 thru 12/12/03	Collegedale PD (Hamilton County, TN)
01/01/04 thru 01/31/04	No Class Scheduled
02/09/04 thru 02/12/04	Clarksville PD (Clarksville, TN)
03/08/04 thru 08/11/04	Memphis PD (Memphis, TN)
04/12/04 thru 04/15/04	TN Dept. of Safety (Nashville, TN)
05/10/04 thru 05/13/04	Cookeville PD (Cookeville, TN)
06/14/04 thru 06/17/04	JCPD (Johnson City, TN)
07/01/04 thru 07/30/04	No Class Scheduled
08/09/04 thru 08/12/04	KPD Training Ctr. (Knoxville, TN)
09/13/04 thru 09/16/04	Open

TENNESSEE TRAFFIC SAFETY

reporter

TTSRS Director

Karen Simerly

Assistant Editor

Lorna Jelley-Wren

For more information on TTSRS or to submit comments or suggestions contact:

TN Traffic Safety Resource Service

309 Conference Center Bldg.
Knoxville, TN 37996-4133

Office: **1.800.99BELTS (TN Only)**

Fax: 865-974-3889

E-Mail: simerly@utk.edu

Web: www.tntrafficsafety.org

Governor's Highway Safety Office

James K. Polk Office Building
505 Deaderick Street, Ste. 1800

Nashville, TN 37243

Office: 615-741-2589

Web: <http://www.tdot.state.tn.us/>

*This material was developed through a project funded by the Tennessee Department of Transportation, Governor's Highway Safety Office and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.
Publication Number: R01.2517.005.002.03*

DID YOU KNOW? -

Every 15 seconds, someone is injured in a traffic crash. If you're not buckled up, you could be thrown through a window, sent skidding along the pavement or be crushed under a vehicle in a crash.

TENNESSEE TRAFFIC SAFETY

reporter

Tennessee Traffic Safety Resource Service
Center for Transportation Research
The University of Tennessee
309 Conference Center Building
Knoxville, TN 37996-4133
1.800.99BELTS

U.S. Postage Paid
Non-Profit Organization
Knoxville, Tennessee
PERMIT NO. 309

