



Advisory Council on Traffic Safety

ACTS NEWSLETTER

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON TRAFFIC SAFETY

Chester Bankston - Chairman; Hamilton County Commission

Clarence Shattuck - Vice-Chairman; Sessions Court Judge

Monica Baker - Coordinator; Highway Safety Education

Save the Date ... January 25, 12:00 NOON

ACTS LUNCHEON.... Golden Corral on Gunbarrel Rd.

TOPIC: Operation Lifesaver - Questions? 209-8204

January
2017

New Operation Lifesaver Video Warns Filming on Train Tracks is Illegal, Deadly

BY LRECTORSNIFE 11-30-2016

WASHINGTON, DC, November 30, 2016 – Alarmed by several deadly incidents involving people making videos near railroad tracks, the national nonprofit rail safety education group Operation Lifesaver, Inc. (OLI) is releasing a new animated video to warn amateur filmmakers and smart phone users of the dangers and illegality of using train tracks for videos. The new video is the latest in a series drawing attention to illegal and dangerous activities involving train tracks.

"Operation Lifesaver and our partners at the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), which funded the video, are concerned about this deadly trend," said OLI President and CEO Bonnie Murphy. "Since 2015, three people have died making videos on or near train tracks. Our new video makes it clear that taking videos on or near train tracks is not only illegal, it's a bad idea," she stated.

Murphy said the video will be available on the OLI website and via social media.



OLI's [new video](#) depicts the dangers of making a video on the tracks.



Commissioner's Corner



Chairman Bankston
ACTS Chairman
District 9

Welcome to the new year! As we begin 2017, I'm looking forward to being even more involved with the traffic safety community here in Hamilton County.

Learning about programs like Operation Lifesaver will

enable all of us to better serve the community we're working to protect. The new year will bring us great opportunities for partnerships, education, and outreach as we work to keep all the users of our roadways safe.

"Our message to the public is that train tracks are never a good place to take videos of your family or for a school project; what seems innocent can quickly turn to tragedy," said Karl Alexy, director, FRA office of safety analysis. "Trespassing on private railroad tracks and property is always illegal and often fatal, because trains can't stop quickly to avoid hitting someone on the tracks. Always expect a train on any track, in either direction, at any time."

While preliminary statistics for 2015 from the FRA show that trespass deaths and injuries dropped by two percent from 2014, early indications are that trespass incidents are rising substantially in 2016. Rail-related trespass deaths rose 19.8 percent from January through August 2016 compared to the same period in 2015, and injuries rose 12 percent, statistics show.

"Rail trespass deaths and injuries are especially heartbreaking because they are preventable," Murphy said. "We want people to know these tragic incidents are on the rise, reversing progress we were seeing with our ongoing "See Tracks? Think Train!" rail safety education campaign. Please spread the word to family and friends, and help us reverse this startling trend."

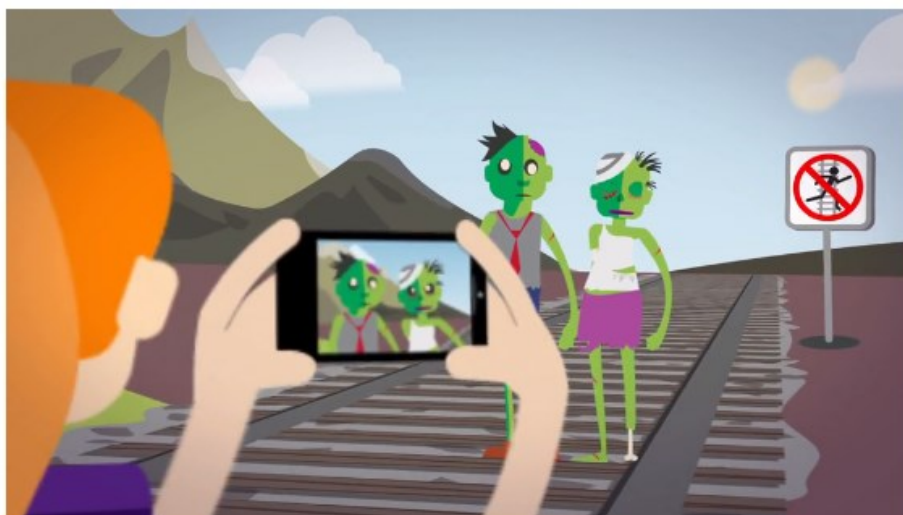


Tweetables!

Share OLI's new video and message - <http://bit.ly/2gT796l> #NoVideosOnTrainTracks
#SeeTracksThinkTrain <http://www.seetracksthinktrain.org>

Taking #videos on train tracks = an illegal, bad idea <http://bit.ly/2gT796l> #NoVideosOnTrainTracks

Be smart with your social media, never take #videos on train tracks (it's illegal, deadly!) <http://bit.ly/2gT796l>
#NoVideosOnTrainTracks





Our Speaker: Jill Moody, Operation Lifesaver

Jill Moody, the State Coordinator for Operation Lifesaver will be presenting at our next ACTS meeting. We're very grateful to the anonymous member who suggested her, and we're looking forward to learning about the great work Operation Lifesaver does nation wide to prevent rail crossing collisions.

Operation Lifesaver is a nonprofit public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail crossings and preventing trespassing on or near railroad tracks. A national network of trained volunteers give free presentations on rail safety and a public awareness campaign, "See Tracks? Think Train!" provides the general public with tips and statistics to encourage safe behavior near the tracks. Learn more at <http://www.oli.org>; follow OLI on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram.

Need more news hot off the presses?

Follow the Health Department's Social Media Pages!



<http://health.hamiltontn.org/>



Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department



@HamiltonHealth



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/chatthamhealth>

Our Hearts are with Woodmore

The ACTS Council and Chattanooga– Hamilton County Health Department have worked closely with Woodmore Elementary School for years, so we were heartbroken when those poor angels lost their lives. Preston Gunter, with the Hamilton County Department of Education, is coordinating assistance for Woodmore Elementary School. He can be reached at 902-2886 or GONTER_PRESTON@HCDE.ORG





Hamilton County Health Department
Highway Safety Coordinator
921 East 3rd Street
Chattanooga, TN 37403



Save the Date!
ACTS Council Meeting
Golden Corral on
Gunbarrel Rd.
Wednesday, January
25 at 12 pm!