



Advisory Council on Traffic Safety

# ACTS NEWSLETTER

## ADVISORY COUNCIL ON TRAFFIC SAFETY

*Marty Haynes - Chairman; Hamilton County Commission*

*Clarence Shattuck - Vice-Chairman; Sessions Court Judge*

*Monica Baker - Coordinator; Highway Safety Education*

Save the Date ... October 28, 12:00 NOON

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

TOPIC: Marijuana's Impact on Driving - Questions? 209-8204

October  
2015

## NHTSA encourages Parents of Teens to Join the '5 to Drive' Campaign

Source: nhtsa.gov

Contact: Kathryn Henry, NHTSA  
202-366- 9550, [Public.Affairs@dot.gov](mailto:Public.Affairs@dot.gov)

Campaign gives parents the words to use when they talk with their teens about the rules of the road

WASHINGTON - In recognition of National Teen Driver Safety Week, October 18-24, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration urges parents and guardians of teen drivers to discuss with their teens one traffic safety topic each day. Those topics, also the most risky behaviors among teens, include alcohol, texting, failure to wear seat belts, speeding, and riding with extra teen passengers.

"When parents model and reinforce safe driving habits, they equip their teens with the skills to safely navigate the roadways for life," said U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx. "Parents need to take the time to talk with their kids about behaviors that will keep them safe, and those that create greater risk."



## Special Agent/ Forensic Scientist April Bramlage



Special Agent/ Forensic Scientist April Bramlage, from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), will be presenting information about marijuana and driving at the ACTS Meeting on October 28.

She'll address what parts of the brain marijuana targets, and what recent research says about the effects of acute use vs. long term use. She'll also explain how they test for the substance at the TBI lab, and what the results can mean for the possible impairment of a driver.

Next, she'll discuss how alcohol targets the brain to cause those characteristic 'drunk' effects people are familiar with. Finally, she'll demonstrate how the combination of these two compounds can enhance the effects of each other causing a much more increased impairment potential.

## Commissioner's Corner



Commissioner Marty Haynes, District 3

Halloween is right around the corner, so it's time to think about nighttime visibility for the little ones!

October 31 can be a scary night because of haunted houses and ghosts, but the main thing we need to fear is the combination of drunk drivers leaving parties, and small children trick- or- treating. I know that our law enforcement will be out catching the law breakers who put innocent lives at risk, but for the rest of us, we need to consider ways to make our neighborhoods safer for trick- or- treaters. Make sure that your trick- or- treater has a flashlight and reflectors on their costume, and if you're handing out treats, make sure your house is well lit and your sidewalks are clear. Happy Halloween!

Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for 15- to 20-year-olds in the United States. In 2013, there were 2,614 teen passenger vehicle drivers involved in fatal crashes and an estimated 130,000 were injured. Yet a survey shows that only 25 percent of parents have had a serious talk with their kids about the key components of driving. During National Teen Driver Safety Week, and as part of the "5 to Drive" campaign, NHTSA urges parents and guardians to make time to have these talks, and to continue those conversations throughout the learning-to-drive process.

#NTSDW15

TOP 5 THINGS YOU'RE NOT DOING WITH YOUR NEW TEEN DRIVER:  
DRIVING THE WAY YOU WANT THEM TO DRIVE

LEARN MORE AT [DriveItHOME.org](http://DriveItHOME.org)

#NTSDW15

TOP 5 THINGS YOU'RE NOT DOING WITH YOUR NEW TEEN DRIVER:  
SETTING PASSENGER LIMITS

LEARN MORE AT [DriveItHOME.org](http://DriveItHOME.org)

The "5 to Drive" campaign addresses the five most dangerous and deadly behaviors for teen drivers.

1. **No alcohol** - The minimum legal drinking age in every state is 21. However, in 2013, among 15- to 20-year-old drivers killed in crashes, 29 percent had been drinking.
2. **No cell phone use or texting while driving** - Texting or dialing while driving is more than just risky - it's deadly. In 2013, among drivers 15 to 19 years old involved in fatal crashes, 11 percent were reported as distracted at the time of the crash. This age group has the highest percentage of drivers distracted by phone use. In 2013, 318 people were killed in crashes that involved a distracted teen driver.
3. **No driving or riding without a seat belt** - In 2013, more than half (55%) of all 15- to 20-year-old occupants of passenger vehicles killed in crashes were unrestrained.
4. **No speeding** - In 2013, speeding was a factor in 42 percent of the crashes that killed 15- to 20-year-old drivers.
5. **No extra passengers** - NHTSA data shows that a teenage driver is 2.5 times more likely to engage in risky behaviors when driving with one teenage passenger and three times more likely with multiple teenage passengers.

"The '5 to Drive' campaign gives parents and teens a simple, straightforward checklist that can help them talk about good driving skills, and most importantly, prevent a tragedy before it happens," said NHTSA Administrator Mark Rosekind.

To address the issue of underage drinking, NHTSA has joined with the Ad Council to launch a new public service announcement campaign that targets new drivers 16 and 17 years old, and is built around the idea of "Underage Drinking and Driving: The Ultimate Party Foul." The campaign includes a TV ad, a Tumblr site, web banners and outdoor advertising. A branded emoji keyboard will be available later on both the iOS and Android platforms. [View the PSAs and learn more about the campaign.](#)

NHTSA has also partnered with the Ad Council to develop new English and Spanish TV PSAs that target motorists who text and drive. The new ads remind people that the kind of overconfidence displayed by those who text and drive is not only selfish - it's dangerous. The PSAs also make it clear that no one is special enough to text and drive.



## Broad Street Bike Lanes to be Finished in October

Source: Nooga.com



Construction is expected to be complete in October on the city's first protected bicycle lanes.

The Chattanooga Transportation Department is narrowing Broad Street from six to four lanes. Existing on-street parking spaces will be separated from the road with a curb, and one lane of traffic on each side will be converted to on-street spaces.

The protected bike lanes stretch from the Tennessee Aquarium to Martin Luther King Boulevard. The Transportation Department said the street improvements will help increase foot traffic, downtown retail and overall safety.

Four lanes on Broad Street will still be able to accommodate the daily average traffic of 8,000 vehicles, Transportation Administrator Blythe Bailey said.

Protected bike lanes for nine blocks on Broad Street are expected to be finished in October. (Rendering: Contributed)

"We're basically taking the road and getting more use out of it without a negative impact on traffic," he said.

The \$225,000 project will create a "more vibrant streetscape" for pedestrians and bicyclists, Bailey said. The city has received two federal grants to create a bicycling network from downtown to surrounding neighborhoods. The project coincides with a White House challenge to make streets safer for cars, bikes and pedestrians.



## 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>



# Pictures from Walk to School Week @ Woodmore Elementary School and Orchard Knob Middle & Elementary Schools

Photo Credit: Tom Bodkin and Ashanti Jefferson, Chattanooga– Hamilton County Health Department

