

# VERMONT

## GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

Monthly Newsletter

May / June 2017

### Click It or Ticket Border to Border 2017 Kick-Off

Charlotte Vt. On May 22nd, the Highway Safety professionals, State, County and Local police, representatives from NHTSA and the Red Cross joined for a press event to kick off the 2017 campaign.



Ahead of Memorial Day, Vermont law enforcement met New York State police on the ferry from Charlotte, VT to Essex, NY to kick off the Border to Border campaign.

"As of last Friday in Vermont, 19 people lost their lives in crashes. While that number may seem small depending on which state you're from, those are lives lost to families and communities and they affect everybody," Vermont Transportation Secretary Joe Flynn said.

The group said roughly half of the people who die in crashes aren't wearing a seat belt. "It's not just the law, it's the small thing you can do that will protect you, your passengers and everyone on the roads that we all share together," Flynn said.

Vermont joins 20 other states in the national campaign committing to the effort.

From May 22nd until June 4th, police will be on patrol and holding checkpoints, enforcing driving and seat belt laws.



In Vermont, tickets start at \$25 for the first offense and can get up to \$100 for subsequent offenses.

"If we see you or your front seat passenger without a seat belt, or child that is not properly restrained, you will get a ticket. Our goal is to make sure that everyone gets where they are going safely," New York State Police Maj. John Tebbetts said.

### IT'S A BOY!

#### Parker Matthew Koval

The staff here would like to congratulate

Danielle Record, Grant Management Specialist on the birth

of her son. We are so happy to welcome Parker Matthew into the GHSP family. He was born six weeks early on April 16th, 2017 (Easter Sunday), weighing in at 5 pounds, 15 ounces. Parker stayed in the hospital for a few weeks, but everyone is doing great and they are home. We would like to congratulate Peter Koval and Danielle Record on their new addition, and wish them the best as they settle into life at home. We look forward to having Danielle back from maternity leave in late June.



### VHSA Presents Awards

At the June 8<sup>th</sup> VT Sheriffs & Chiefs of Police Conference at Lake Morey Resort in Fairlee, VT, 17 police departments were recognized by the VHSA & VTrans as leaders in providing complete & timely crash reports into the Web Crash program. The criteria for this award was based on the avg number of days it took for an agency to report crash data, from the date of crash, to the date of first submittal. The Office of Highway Safety wants to stress the importance of timely reporting of crashes for readily available data. Through this effort the following police departments were recognized with an overall, yearly avg of less than 20 days: Bennington PD, Brandon PD, Brattleboro PD, Burlington PD, Caledonia CSD, Castleton PD, Dover PD, Hardwick PD, Lamoille CSD, Ludlow PD, Montpelier PD, Pittsford PD, Richmond PD, Rutland PD, South Burlington PD, Williston PD, & Winooski PD. We congratulate you all for consistently striving to conduct thorough crash investigations and report this valuable information in a timely manner.

### From the 2017 NHTSA Campaign Calendar

#### [4th of July Drunk Driving Prevention Campaign 2017](#)

Impaired Driving Campaign

Primary Message

"Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over"



#### [SaferRide. NHTSA's Mobile App](#)

Throughout the year NHTSA's SaferRide app will help keep drunk drivers off our roads by allowing users to call a taxi or a friend and by identifying their location so they can be picked up.

Download for **Android** devices from [Google Play](#) store, and **Apple** devices from [iTunes](#).

#### [Heatstroke Prevention 2017](#)

Primary Message

"Act Fast, Safe a Life"



### Our Mission Statement

*Working toward the goal of "Zero Deaths" by promoting highway safety awareness through education and enforcement, thereby reducing crashes, saving lives, and improving the overall quality of life for those using Vermont's roadways.*

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## See It, Click It, *Commit to it*, Commercial Vehicle Safety

See It, Click It, Commit to it, Commercial Vehicle Safety Event. (Rutland) This project is a partnership between the Vermont Governor's Highway Safety Office at the Agency of Transportation, law enforcement agencies, members of the trucking companies around the state, The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and AAA of Northern New England.



This is the third "**Commit to It**" partnership and includes J.P. Noonan, Markowski Excavating, Fabian Earth Moving, Farrell's Distributing and AAA of Northern New England. We are joining forces to spread this safety message.

Our very first "**Commit to It**" partnership was formed in 2016 when the Vermont Truck and Bus Association, and Mr. Roland Bellavance, owner of Bellavance Trucking agreed to place our Click it or Ticket signs on the back of their trucks. By attaching these signs they have

collaborated with us to put this "Commit to It" message out. These businesses have done this not only in Vermont, but in all areas where their vehicles travel. The message is now being spread across highways across the nation.

"Twenty people have died on our highways as of this morning and 50% of that 20 would be here if they had buckled up." said Lt. Kevin Geno, "Think about the families that have been affected by one simple choice not to wear their seat belt." Lt Geno went on to say "I speak for all our law enforcement in the State when I say please buckle up every time. Make it a habit. Don't let anyone ride with you not restrained because you could get the ticket for their unwise choice."

These trucks with the Click it or Ticket Stickers send a message to the motoring public that law enforcement is vigilant in trying to get people to buckle up. These trucks will carry the message across the State and into other States for a very simple message. We want people to live and we know first-hand the devastation that comes from people crashing and not wearing their seat belts.

GHSP would like to acknowledge Farrell Distributing Corporation, Fabian Earth Moving, Markowski Excavating and J.P. Noonan for participating in this effort. Our Goal is that motorists will not be able to travel the highways without seeing this sign on the back of every Big Rig and that more people - Buckle Up! Read more at the Rutland Herald at <http://www.rutlandherald.com/articles/truck-firms-help-pitch-click-it>

### **FORD Driving Skills for Life comes to Vermont 07/19+07/20**

Vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for teenagers in America. Nearly 3,000 teens die annually in such crashes, according to the most recent data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Two major areas contribute to this alarming statistic: 1) inexperience of young drivers and 2) issues surrounding distracted and impaired driving.

Ford Driving Skills for Life (Ford DSFL) in conjunction with the Governors Highway Safety Association, is holding a hands-on advanced driving course in Essex Junction, Vermont. They bring with them a panel of safety experts to teach teens the necessary skills for safe driving to supplement what they learn in standard driver education programs.

The basic premise behind Ford Driving Skills for Life is to provide a step in the learning process, providing skills and information for newly licensed drivers. Training is conducted as a hands-on curriculum and the entire program is available at no cost. Training conducted under the Ford Driving Skills for Life program addresses the 'inexperience factor' to help teens improve their skills in hazard recognition, vehicle handling, speed and space management, braking distances, reaction time, and how to avoid the dangers of distracted and impaired driving. This course is intended for teens to learn these skills in a safe environment with professional instructors sitting right next to them. Ford DFSL and the GHSA report that results over the past ten years of this effort have been outstanding. For best results, they encourage both teens and parents to engage in the instruction together. This is a **free** event and space is limited.

For registration and further information visit: <https://www.drivingskillsforlife.com/>

### **Governor's Highway Safety Program**

Governor's Highway Safety Program  
Agency of Transportation  
One National Life Drive  
Montpelier, Vermont 05633

Visit our Website...

[www.ghsp.vermont.gov](http://www.ghsp.vermont.gov)

[Please add my name to the GHSP monthly newsletter mailing](#)

If you have comments or suggestions for our newsletter, please send them to [james.baraw@vermont.gov](mailto:james.baraw@vermont.gov).

SAVE **NOVEMBER 8, 2017**  
the **DATE** THE HILTON, BURLINGTON, VT



5TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

### **LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE HIGHWAY SAFETY**

Address highway safety issues with professionals in education, engineering, enforcement, and emergency services

NO COST | INCLUDES LUNCH | [VERMONTHIGHWAYSAFETY.ORG](http://VERMONTHIGHWAYSAFETY.ORG)

### **Deaths on Vermont Roadways**

Year	Deaths
2012	77
2013	71
2014	44
2015	57
2016	62

**21 Deaths as of  
June 7th, 2017**