

Complete newsletter in attachment



# NAWHSL

MARCH 2019

## NAWHSL Announces 2019 Distinguished Young

### Woman in Traffic Injury Prevention

Chandra Rapley is the winner of NAWHSL's inaugural scholarship, the 2019 Distinguished Young Woman in Traffic Injury Prevention. Chandra receives a \$1,000 stipend to aid her in the continuation of her program concerning youth pedestrian and biking safety.

As Program Coordinator and Lead Youth Educator for Ecology Action in Santa Cruz, Chandra is educating children with Bike Smart and Walk Smart programs.

Bike Smart is an innovative program that has yielded high evaluations from teachers and students, as well as measurable success in desired outcomes. It is delivered through a 1-hour assembly presentation followed by an on-campus bike rodeo on a separate day, using a unique intersection course that simulates a real streetscape. Walk Smart was developed in partnership with the Santa Cruz County Health Department for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students.



**Chandra Rapley, 2019 Distinguished Young Woman in Traffic Injury Prevention**

Chandra dressed as a car, teaching children to make eye contact with drivers.



Chandra is responsible for coordinating and scheduling with schools throughout the region, coaching the team of educators, delivering classroom and assembly presentations, hosting on-foot and on-bike rodeos and continuing to strengthen their bond with potential partners.

Chandra will be presenting her work at NAWHSL's 2019 Conference in Anaheim, California.

National  
Association of  
Women  
Highway Safety  
Leaders

2019 Traffic Safety  
Leadership  
Conference

August 22 – 25, 2019

Anaheim Marriott  
Anaheim, CA

SAVE  
THE  
DATE!

[www.NAWHSL.org](http://www.NAWHSL.org)

# NTSB's Most Wanted

The NTSB just released, this February, their 2019-2020 *Most Wanted List of Transportation Safety Improvements*, its premier advocacy tool. The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency that investigates accidents, determines their probable cause, and recommends ways to prevent them from happening. With each accident, they learn lessons about safety gaps and makes recommendations that, if acted upon, could close these gaps.

**These issues are both significant in impact and ripe for action.**

## Eliminate Distractions on the Highway

Distracted driving was the primary cause of 9% of fatal crashes in 2016, or 3,450 lives lost. While there are many ways a driver can be distracted, the major concern is the growing use of personal electronic devices. **Drivers spend more time on Personal Electronic Devices than any other distracting activity.** The NTSB also confronts the myth that hands-free devices are safer. The fact is that humans can only focus *cognitive* attention on one task at a time, and when behind the wheel, it needs to be on driving.

## End Alcohol and Other Drug Impairment on the Highway

Alcohol impairment remains a leading cause of highway crashes. In 2017, it accounted for 30% of deaths on U.S. roads (NHTSA) or 1 person for every 50 minutes. The NTSB states the 0.08 percent blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit is too high. There are significant increases in fatal crashes at levels as low as 0.05 percent BAC. Drug-impaired driving must also be addressed. In 2015, 46% of fatally injured drivers had the presence of drugs in their system. The NTSB is concerned that we are lacking standardized drug-testing protocol, and an established limit or threshold to determine drug impairment. In addition, data on drug-impaired driving is incomplete and inconsistent.

**6,400**

Estimated  
number of fatal  
crashes per  
year involving a  
drowsy driver

Source: AAA Foundation  
for Traffic Safety

## Reduce Fatigue-Related Accidents

The NTSB states that fatigue degrades a person's ability to stay alert and attentive to the demands of controlling a vehicle. They emphasize that drivers may not recognize the effects of fatigue *until it's too late*. The NTSB emphasizes that fatigue is a manageable threat and they have issued more than 200 safety recommendations addressing fatigue related problems.

**21% of fatal crashes  
involved a drowsy driver.**

**2x**

Odds of a crash when  
drivers engaged in  
all forms of visual-  
manual cell phone  
tasks, compared with  
the same drivers  
under similar traffic  
and environmental  
conditions without  
engaging in any visible  
nondriving tasks

Source: AAA Foundation  
for Traffic Safety

**NTSB's Most Wanted (continued)**

**Increase Implementation of Collision Avoidance Systems in All New Highway Vehicles.**



These systems are now readily available and it's time they were installed. They can help stop a crash or mitigate the crash severity when humans make mistakes or bad decisions. Forward collision avoidance systems have the ability to prevent thousands of crashes and the NTSB recommends to vehicle manufacturers that these systems be installed as standard equipment.

**Implement a Comprehensive Strategy to Reduce Speeding-Related Crashes**

NTSB states that *proven* countermeasures against speeding—automated enforcement technology, vehicle technology and design, and education campaigns—are underused, which leads to more frequent speeding. Additionally, speeding is not socially unacceptable. In 2016, speed-related traffic fatalities increased to 10,111. Although research shows speeding impacts all road users, it is particularly dangerous for the most vulnerable, such as pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorcyclists.

**Strengthen Occupant Protection**

Occupants are still dying in crashes because *they simply didn't buckle up*. Just 29 states have laws that cover all positions. Laws need to be put in place in every state, as seat belt use is significantly lower in states without primary enforcement addressing rear-seat passengers. There is also concern for the absence of seatbelts on larger vehicles, such as school buses. A small number of states require seat belts in school buses, but the NTSB advises all school buses need seatbelts.

**Speeding-related crashes heavy toll**

**10,000**  
People killed each year

**\$52B**  
Annual cost to the U.S. economy

Source: NHTSA

NAWHSL  
MARCH  
2019

## Hit-and-Run Deaths Moving Up



In 2016, 2,049 people lost their lives in hit-and-run crashes, and nearly 20% of the victims were pedestrians. Hit-and-runs are so prevalent that more than one occurs every minute on U.S. roads; that's an average of 682,000 crashes each year since 2006. Be especially alert for pedestrians, exercising patience and vigilance.

*Source: AAA Southern Traveler, 8/18*

## When the Other Driver is a Hit-and-Run

Oh nooo, don't tell me! The other driver actually fled. Now what? According to Cindy Ringler, State Farm agent in Clinton, MS, "It's important to stay to talk to witnesses, insurance representatives, and the police." If possible, move vehicle out of traffic and use hazard flashers.



While it's tricky to get enough information about the other driver and vehicle, get what you can:

- Other vehicle - Make, model, and color of vehicle. Description of damage. License number if possible. Which direction the other vehicle was headed.
- Collision scene – Location, time and cause of crash.
- Witnesses – Have them write what they saw and their contact information.

Do not follow the other driver. Stay, call emergency services if needed and law enforcement; talk with witnesses. File an accident report as soon as possible.

*Source: State Farm Insurance*

# Work Zone Fatalities on the Rise

How would you like a vehicle to blast through your office at 70 mph and barely miss your desk? It's a scene that road construction workers can relate to. "For men and women in construction, the roadways are their offices," states Shawn Wilson, Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Transportation.

Work zone fatalities are increasing, in fact, they increased 35% from 2013 to 2017. Those killed in 2017 included workers, pedestrians, drivers and passengers, a total of 799. The most common type of crash was rear-end collision. (US DOT)



All 50 states have Move Over laws for emergency vehicles working on the side of the road. Some states include road repair and utility vehicles. Whether it's in the law or not, this situation requires greater awareness and care while driving near vulnerable roadside workers. Remain alert and avoid distractions.

Let them live.

Source: AAA Southern Traveler, 3/19

## Takata Air Bag Recall: Feel free to print and share this warning.

The Takata airbags can malfunction upon deployment, causing an explosion that sends shrapnel at driver and passengers, causing injuries and deaths. NHTSA urges vehicle owners to take a few steps to protect themselves and others from this very serious threat.

<https://www.safercar.gov/>

~~3750~~  
MILLION  
Takata  
air bags  
have been  
**RECALLED**

Is your airbag on recall?  
Check your vehicle at  
[www.safercar.gov](http://www.safercar.gov)

## Are Dangers Lurking in your Office?



*Very Possibly! A friend of mine appeared one day with two black eyes and bruises. She had been standing on a chair, of all things, on a rolling office chair. Obviously, she took the quick way down and was injured. Keep a sturdy step stool handy in the office area. If higher elevations need to be reached, a step ladder must be used.*

*-Kay Brodbeck*

Falls are the most common source of injury with struck/caught by and ergonomic injuries next. Simple changes to the workspace can eliminate hazards.

**Keep a clear path and view.** Clutter in walkways create tripping hazards. If hallways and walking paths have blind corners, use convex mirrors at intersections.

**Get traction.** Marble and tile are attractive and easy to care for but can be very slippery, especially when wet. Flat carpet rugs are needed at entranceways.

**Ergonomics** is the practice of making the environment fit the person. Take a good look at office equipment. Chairs should be adjustable to accommodate a range of employees. Workers should know how to use the adjustable features to fit their posture and body. Make sure feet touch the floor when workers are seated at their desks. The mouse should be beside the keyboard and at the same level. If a worker is typing from a hard copy, a document holder can prevent neck and eye strain.

*Lauretta Claussen, Safety and Health, National Safety Council.*

## MyKey in Ford Vehicles Help Teens - and Their Parents

Parents can keep some control over their teen's driving with Ford's monitoring system. They can program a key for their teen that can set the top speed, limit audio volume and make it impossible to disable the do-not-disturb feature.

Rebecca Weast, research scientist for the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, found that 61% of parents surveyed use the system, when they know that it's there. Most parents had learned about it at the dealership, an important step to making the best use of this technology. However, more than a third of the 1,500 adults surveyed did not know their vehicle had the system. Ms. Weast states, "To do the most good, more consumers need to be aware of it and choose to activate it for their young driver."



*Source: Status Report, 11/18*

## **Too Tired to Drive? Your Uber or Lyft Driver Might be Also.**

Many drivers in the ridesharing – or ride hailing – industry have two reasons that they may be driving when they are tired. This may be their second job and they frequently drive at night. Long work hours and driving during regular sleeping hours both contribute to fatigue-related crashes.



According to the Journal of Clinical Sleep Medicine, another risk factor is that these drivers are often employed as "independent contractors", and therefore are not screened for medical problems that can reduce alertness, such as obstructive sleep apnea. The American Academy of Sleep Medicine takes the position that fatigue and sleepiness are inherent safety risks in the ridesharing industry. They call for action to address this public safety risk through education, thoughtful regulation and effective fatigue risk management systems.



### **Check out Transportation Certification!**

Explore the possibility of earning your Road Safety Professional Certification.

Go to [www.tpcb.org](http://www.tpcb.org), (Transportation Professional Certification Board, Inc.).

Telephone (202) 785-0060. Fax: (202) 785-0609.

Ann O'Neill is the point of contact: [aoNeill@tpcb.org](mailto:aoNeill@tpcb.org).

Address: 1627 I (eye) Street, NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20006.



# Our Mission

To disseminate information and conduct educational programs to promote safe behavior among high risk populations and to assure vigorous, effective public policy and programs to reduce highway crashes and crash severity.

**National Association of Women  
Highway Safety Leaders**  
[www.NAWHSL.org](http://www.NAWHSL.org)  
P. O. Box 1379  
Clinton, MS 39060  
601-924-7815  
[kay@MSSafety.com](mailto:kay@MSSafety.com)

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
President: Kay Brodbeck (MS)  
First Vice President: Juliet Little (CT)  
Second Vice President: Cecilia Javier (GU)  
Secretary: Jennifer Parsons (IA)  
Treasurer: Cynthia McKay (WA)

## BOARD OF ADVISORS

Leanna Depue, Ph.D.- Chairman  
Natalie Draisin- FIA Foundation  
Patrick Hoyer – Iowa Governor's Traffic  
Safety Bureau  
William Shapiro- MS/WS Strategies  
Sandy Spavone- FCCLA  
Terecia Wilson- Clemson University  
Robert Beaton – Liaison with NTSB

## Board Members

Michelle Ward (ME)  
Jennie Glasgow (GA)  
Brooxine Kidder (AR)  
Susan Leach (CO)

NAWHSL invites you to  
become an  
*Associate Member*

**\$25 per year**

Send check to:  
Cynthia McKay, Treasurer  
24425 Marine View Drive S  
Des Moines, WA 98198  
or pay with credit card:  
Kay Brodbeck 601-924-7815

## **Curious? Locations of Future NAWHSL Conferences**

**2020 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
2021 Denver, Colorado**

**Around the Corner**

**Lifesavers National Conference on  
Highway Safety Priorities.**  
March 31-April 2, 2019.

Louisville, Kentucky.  
Kentucky International Convention Center.