

# INTERCHANGE

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*Interchange* is designed to provide NYSATSB members up to date information about traffic safety and injury prevention programs across the state. We invite you to share your knowledge, resources, and ideas with us. **We want to hear from you about the current traffic safety issues facing your community and the strategies you have implemented to address them.** All submissions can be e-mailed to [info@nysatsb.com](mailto:info@nysatsb.com) and should be in text format with any pictures or graphics attached in a PDF.format.

## “SAVE YOUR FRIEND’S LIFE OVER THE AIRWAVES CONTEST” WINNERS

The New York State Association of Traffic Safety Boards (NYSATSB) is pleased to announce the following winners of this year’s “Save Your Friend’s Life Over the Airwaves” contest.

Category	County	Winner	Grade	Location
	Dutchess	Chris Hoolihan	12 <sup>th</sup>	Arlington High School
Dis-tracted Driving	Monroe	Courtney Rae Munnings	12 <sup>th</sup>	Eastern Monroe Career Center
Driving Impaired	Albany	Daniel Ritz	11 <sup>th</sup>	Colonie Central High School
Driving Impaired	Monroe	Cameron Dean	11 <sup>th</sup>	Eastern Monroe Career Center
Safety Belt Use	Monroe	Hannah St. Marie	11 <sup>th</sup>	Eastern Monroe Career Center
Speeding	Dutchess	Anthony Belmonte	12 <sup>th</sup>	Arlington High School

Students and student groups in 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grades could enter the contest by submitting recorded thirty-second public service announcements (PSAs) addressing five risk factors associated with teen motor vehicle crashes and injuries which include; speeding/aggressive driving, failure to buckle up, drowsy driving, driving distractions and impaired driving. Winners were selected for each category.

Members of the NYSATSB Youth Committee, which coordinated the contest, reviewed more than 70 entries from 12 counties in New York State. Each winner received a Certificate of Recognition and a \$200.00 award. Four entries were selected to receive Honorable Mention awards of \$75.00 each. These winners include:

Category	County	Winner	Grade	Location
Driving Impaired	Franklin	Jordin Benware & Justin Collins	12 <sup>th</sup>	Franklin Academy High School
Driving Impaired	Onon-daga	Students Questioning Underage Drinking (SQUAD)	7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	Syracuse
Safety Belt Use	Dutchess	Nicholas Benson	12 <sup>th</sup>	Arlington High School
Safety Belt Use	Dutchess	Spencer Carlon	12 <sup>th</sup>	Arlington High School

## NATIONAL TRAFFIC SAFETY INSTITUTE OFFERS DEFENSIVE DRIVING IN STATEN ISLAND

By: Rosemary DeFresco

Staten Island has shown the largest growth of residents within all of the five boroughs in New York City but has seen little improvement on their transportation system. Although there are currently many resources such as a bus and ferry system, a commuter rail, and four bridges, there are still many issues regarding transportation and overcrowding. Some of the largest problems are the lack of subways linking to New York City and a lack of transit to New Jersey. Staten Islanders are also faced with the longest estimated

commute in the nation. It's estimated that 39.7 million Staten Island passengers use NYC transit, and travelers produce in excess \$400 million in bridge tolls per year. Unfortunately a large population of forced commuters leads to an increased number of motor vehicles and ultimately the number of accidents. According to the Institute for Traffic Safety Management and Research, the number of accidents has increased and will continue to do so.

National Traffic Safety Institute works to change this and has the oldest and largest defensive driving program in the nation, and

campaigns to empower driver safety and civic responsibility. Rosemary DeFresco, Vice President Northeast Region, who is headquartered in, and a resident of, Staten Island says, "We currently offer our defensive driving program throughout Staten Island, and we hope to offer it to all registered drivers in order to produce a better and safer community of drivers." Mrs. DeFresco knows the importance of assisting with transportation issues on Staten Island and has joined many local committees to fight for changes within her community.

## BENEFITS OF SMALL COUNTIES

By: Dick Pearson

Franklin County, New York lies in the Northern section of the Adirondack Park, right on the Canadian border. We have a population of 51,000 people in the entire county, spread out in a very rural area with only three large villages: Tupper Lake, Saranac Lake, and Malone, the county seat. The villages are the only places with local law enforcement agencies; the rest of the county is covered by the New York State Police. Because of our small size, our traffic safety initiatives, such as Buckle Up, Child Passenger Safety, Stop DWI, teen driver kits for all new

drivers, and senior driving programs develop feedback for us very quickly, allowing us to evaluate and change them rapidly if needed. Franklin County, given its rural area, also has a high amount of recreational traffic, such as ATV's and snowmobiles. The hazards presented by this recreational traffic are being addressed by our Off-Road initiative, which is one of the first in the state involving New York State Police, Department of Environmental Conservation Officers, Park Police, County Sheriff's, and the various Village Police Departments. Since this initiative started, we have not had one

fatality; before the initiative began, we had five in one year. With the assistance of our Legislators, New York State Department of Transportation, and our County Department of Transportation, we have continued to improve our traffic safety programs and reduce our fatalities. These results have come very rapidly while including a substantial transient non-resident traffic flow. A small county is just like a very large community, where everyone knows everyone else, and can work much more easily to bring about change to save lives.

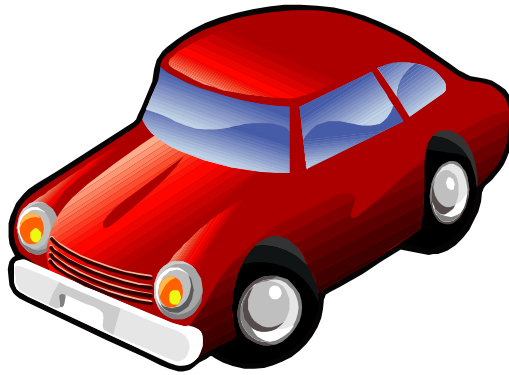
## GOVERNOR SPITZER SIGNS BILL TO IMPROVE NEW YORK'S ANTI-DRUNK DRIVING EFFORTS

Governor Eliot Spitzer announced that he has signed into law legislation designed to help prevent recurring acts of drunk driving. This new law, which was the result of a joint effort by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and the Division of Probation and Correctional Alternatives (DPCA), will increase the judicial use of ignition interlock devices, which prevent vehicles from being started when the driver's breath indicates alcohol consumption.

"It is our duty to ensure the safety of our roads and to protect every New Yorker from the dangers of drunk driving," said Governor Spitzer. "This law will help prevent incidents of repeat drunk driving, which sadly occur far too often."

The legislation's Senate sponsor, Senator Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr. said, "Expanding New York's ignition interlock program gives judges another tool for managing particularly difficult DWI criminals who choose to continue to drink and drive and put the general public in danger."

The legislation's Assembly sponsor, Assemblyman David Gantt said, "This legislation, which expands to statewide application the Ignition Interlock Program, demonstrates how serious this state is about getting drunk drivers off our roads. This



is a proven approach that will make our roads safer."

DPCA Director Robert Maccarone said: "This important new law will standardize probation practices throughout the state and ensure that probation officers are better equipped with new tools and technologies to monitor persons under their supervision who have been convicted of alcohol-related driving crimes. It will improve traffic and public safety and promote offender accountability."

DMV Commissioner David J. Swarts said: "This new law is critical for giving judges throughout the state the option of ordering ignition interlock as a condition of probation when sentencing DWI offenders, with specific conditions attached to the use of the device and specific restrictions imposed upon those offenders. In addition, because all counties now will fall under a uniform interlock program, it will be far easier for the DMV to administer the program and will help in our efforts to reduce

recidivist drunk driving across the state."

The bill will make several improvements to the current anti-drunk driving system by:

- Requiring ignition interlock devices to be used on any vehicle owned or operated by an offender;
- Closing a loophole which had allowed offenders to use business vehicles for personal use with the consent of their employers;
- Allowing judges throughout the state to restrict certain offenders from driving as a probation condition unless they have received a "post-revocation conditional license," which allows driving under specified narrow purposes, like driving to work or to alcohol counseling;
- Expanding the classes of appropriate health professionals licensed by the State Education Department who may conduct screening and assessment evaluations for those charged with alcohol-related driving offenses; and,
- Requiring the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services to provide the Chief Administrator of the Office of Court Administration and the DMV with an expanded list of names of alcohol and substance abuse professionals who provide assessment and treatment for alcohol and substance abuse and dependency.

## CORNING POLICE CHIEF NAMED EVERYDAY HERO

By: Sarah Grossman  
Published on July 17, 2007 in  
*The Leader Online*

CORNING | Hiding information from Corning Police Chief Salvatore Trentanelli is a difficult task, but his family and friends were determined to surprise him Tuesday with a special award.

They succeeded in keeping the chief in the dark until he was named the first recipient of the Corning Kiwanis Club's Everyday Hero award.

"This was a major surprise," he said at the Kiwanis luncheon held at the Radisson Hotel Corning. "I am still overwhelmed."

Trentanelli was nominated by city officials Mark Ryckman and Jim Goodling, and his neighbor, Steve Blackwell.

"One of the important things about the award, while it is meant to recognize people who go above and beyond, is it also recognizes people who don't seek acknowledgment for their deeds," Ryckman said. "That description fits Sal."

"The most telling aspect of Sal's



character is that he never seeks any attention or recognition for [his] additional community work," Ryckman said in a prepared statement. "He does this work because he is a person of integrity who cares about our community."

Trentanelli has shown extraordinary work beyond his required duties involving the Crystal City Drug Court and the Police Department Child Safety Seat program, Ryckman said.

The chief is also involved with social agencies such as Family Service Society, the Youth Center, Meals on Wheels, and special events with Corning's Gaffer District, he said.

"It is nice for him to be recognized for the things I see in him everyday," said Trentanelli's wife, Karen. "The role model he sets for his sons is unbeatable."

"He shows the boys to do things because it is the right thing to do," she said.

John Trentanelli, 8, admires his dad because he is "really nice" and felt it was great to see him praised. Trentanelli, 42, has been chief for seven years.

Because of the response it received, the Kiwanis Club plans to give the award annually, said Judith Ratcliffe, the program's chairwoman.

## “SAVE YOUR FRIEND’S LIFE OVER THE AIRWAVES” CONTEST SPONSORS



This year’s contest was supported by contributions from the NYSATSB, NYS Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee, NYS Association of Chiefs of Police, Inc, AAA Hudson Valley, New York State Department of Health Bureau of Injury Prevention and AAA Northway. Members of the NYSATSB Youth Committee include representatives from NYSDOH Bureau of Injury Prevention, Albany County Traffic Safety Program, AAA Northway, and AAA Hudson Valley.

## TRAFFIC SAFETY RESOURCES

AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety	<a href="http://www.aaafoundation.org">www.aaafoundation.org</a>
American Traffic Safety Services Association	<a href="http://www.tssa.com">www.tssa.com</a>
Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute	<a href="http://www.helmets.org">www.helmets.org</a>
Cornell University	<a href="http://www.bike.cornell.edu">www.bike.cornell.edu</a>
Drive & Stay Alive	<a href="http://www.driveandstayalive.com">www.driveandstayalive.com</a>
DriveHomeSafe.com	<a href="http://www.drivehomesafe.com">www.drivehomesafe.com</a>
Federal Highway Administration	<a href="http://www.fhwa.dot.gov">www.fhwa.dot.gov</a>
Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee	<a href="http://www.safeny.com">www.safeny.com</a>
Insurance Institute for Traffic Safety	<a href="http://www.hwysafety.org">www.hwysafety.org</a>
League of American Bicyclists	<a href="http://www.bikeleague.org">www.bikeleague.org</a>
Most of Us Traffic Safety Resource Center	<a href="http://trafficsafety.mostofus.org">http://trafficsafety.mostofus.org</a>
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration	<a href="http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov">www.nhtsa.dot.gov</a>
National Safety Council	<a href="http://www.nsc.org">www.nsc.org</a>
National Transportation Safety Board	<a href="http://www.nts.gov">www.nts.gov</a>
NY Bicycling Coalition	<a href="http://www.nybc.net">www.nybc.net</a>
NYS Thruway Authority	<a href="http://www.thruway.state.ny.us">www.thruway.state.ny.us</a>
Operation Lifesaver	<a href="http://www.oli.org">www.oli.org</a>
Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center	<a href="http://www.bicyclinginfo.org">www.bicyclinginfo.org</a>
Pupil Transportation Safety Institute	<a href="http://www.ptsi.org">www.ptsi.org</a>
Safe Kids Worldwide	<a href="http://www.safekids.org">www.safekids.org</a>
Transportation Alternatives	<a href="http://www.transalt.org">www.transalt.org</a>
UNC Highway Safety Research Center	<a href="http://www.hsrc.unc.edu/pubinfo/publicinfo.htm">www.hsrc.unc.edu/pubinfo/publicinfo.htm</a>



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Association of Traffic  
Safety Boards

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12303



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## NYSATSB Membership Application Form

Please check one:  \$ 75.00 Individual/ Non-Profit       \$ 100.00 Corporation

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

AFFILIATION \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY/TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Send check or money order to:**  
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