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Melissa Velez-Morales

From: Masser, Michelle
Sent: Friday, May 27, 2016 8:49 AM
To: Harris, Laura
Cc: Melissa Velez-Morales
Subject: FW: Go Smart! May 2016

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From: TransOptions [mailto:Info=TransOptions.org@mail55.us4.mcsv.net] **On Behalf Of** TransOptions
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2016 5:01 PM
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Subject: Go Smart! May 2016

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Join us as we celebrate 30 years of excellence and service
in northern New Jersey.



GO SMART!

May 2016

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TransOptions Celebrates 15 Years of Junior Solar Sprints

Honoring its tradition of promoting sustainability and alternative energy education, TransOptions proudly hosted its 15th annual Junior Solar Sprints (JSS) competition. Following five days of divisional races, awards were presented to the Inter-County Final JSS winners held on May 23, 2016, at Ridgedale Middle School, Florham Park.

Millennium Pigeon from Warren Township Middle School emerged victorious as the Overall Winner from a crowded field of 72 model racing cars. In addition to individual awards, Millennium Pigeon earned possession of the JSS Solar Cup for one year until it is passed to next year's winner. The overall winner's school name, Warren Township Middle School, will be engraved on the trophy.

The Inter-County Final races wrapped up months of effort by teams of middle school students who designed, built, documented and raced their solar-powered model racing cars en route to the championship. Participating teams earned a right to compete by winning in one or more categories at the five divisional races held last week.



Students competed in the categories of Speed, Engineering, Craftsmanship and Best Use of Recycled Materials. Each team was also required to submit a Progress Journal that documented the history of their car from concept through design, development and testing. Immediately following the races, awards were presented to each student on the winning teams. To see the complete list of the Inter-County Final winners, please click [here!](#)

JSS is a hands-on program introducing students to alternative energy science and engineering aligned with STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). The competition has grown in size and scope reaching 65 schools and nearly 5,000 students from an expanding geography that includes Bergen, Essex, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties.

Support from sponsors helps to defray the cost of materials and enables TransOptions to continue offering JSS at no cost to students, their teachers, parents and school districts. TransOptions gratefully acknowledges Alcoa Foundation, FirstEnergy Foundation, The Provident Bank Foundation, Thorlabs, 3M and Pitsco Education for their continued sponsorship. A dedicated group of volunteers lend their time and talents to support the growth of JSS as judges and repair table mentors.



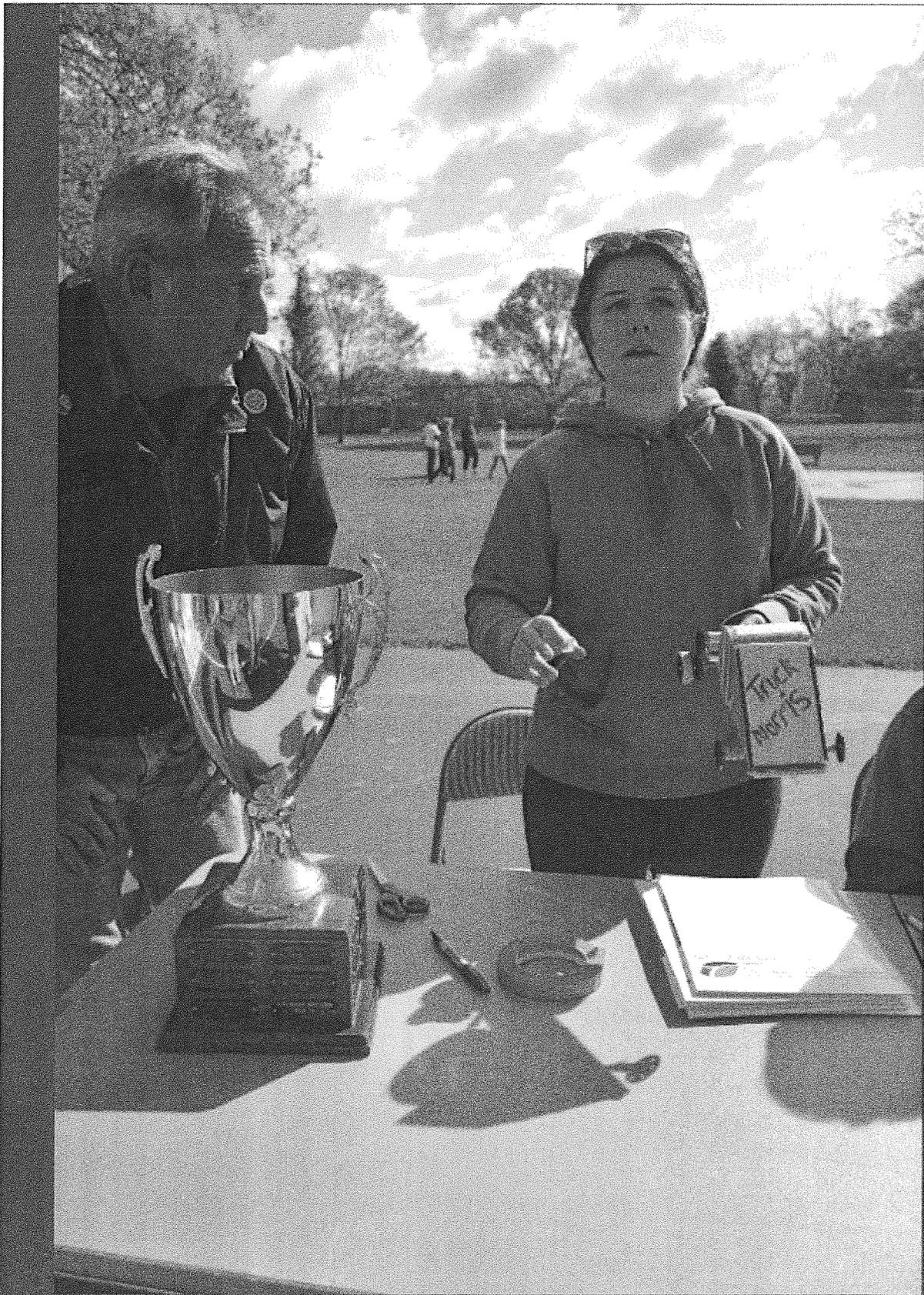
For more information and to learn how to participate in JSS next year, contact TransOptions' Environmental Education Coordinator, Kristen Tomasicchio at (973) 267-7600 or ktomasicchio@TransOptions.org.

Thank You Junior Solar Sprints Volunteers!

Junior Solar Sprints (JSS) could not have been successful without the help of our wonderful volunteers! TransOptions is grateful to all the volunteers who kindly provided their time, energy and effort to ensuring the kids enjoy an incredible educational experience.



Our volunteers Nathan Charron, Environmental Education Coordinator for fellow Transportation Management Association (TMA) HART Commuter Information Services, and returning JSS volunteers, Henry Van Dyke and Bruce Martin helping students at the "Fix-It" table. This image was taken during day one of our divisional races at Great Meadows Middle School in Great Meadows, NJ.



Volunteer Joseph Caravella speaking with TransOptions' Environmental Education Coordinator,

Kristen Tomasicchio at Division 1 race in Great Meadows Middle School.



Pictured here at the judging table during the Division 1 race at Great Meadows Middle School are TransOptions Data Management Specialist, Judy Maltese, Mt. Arlington interim mayor, Michael Stanzilis, Mike Bell and Regional Planning Director with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Lois Goldman.

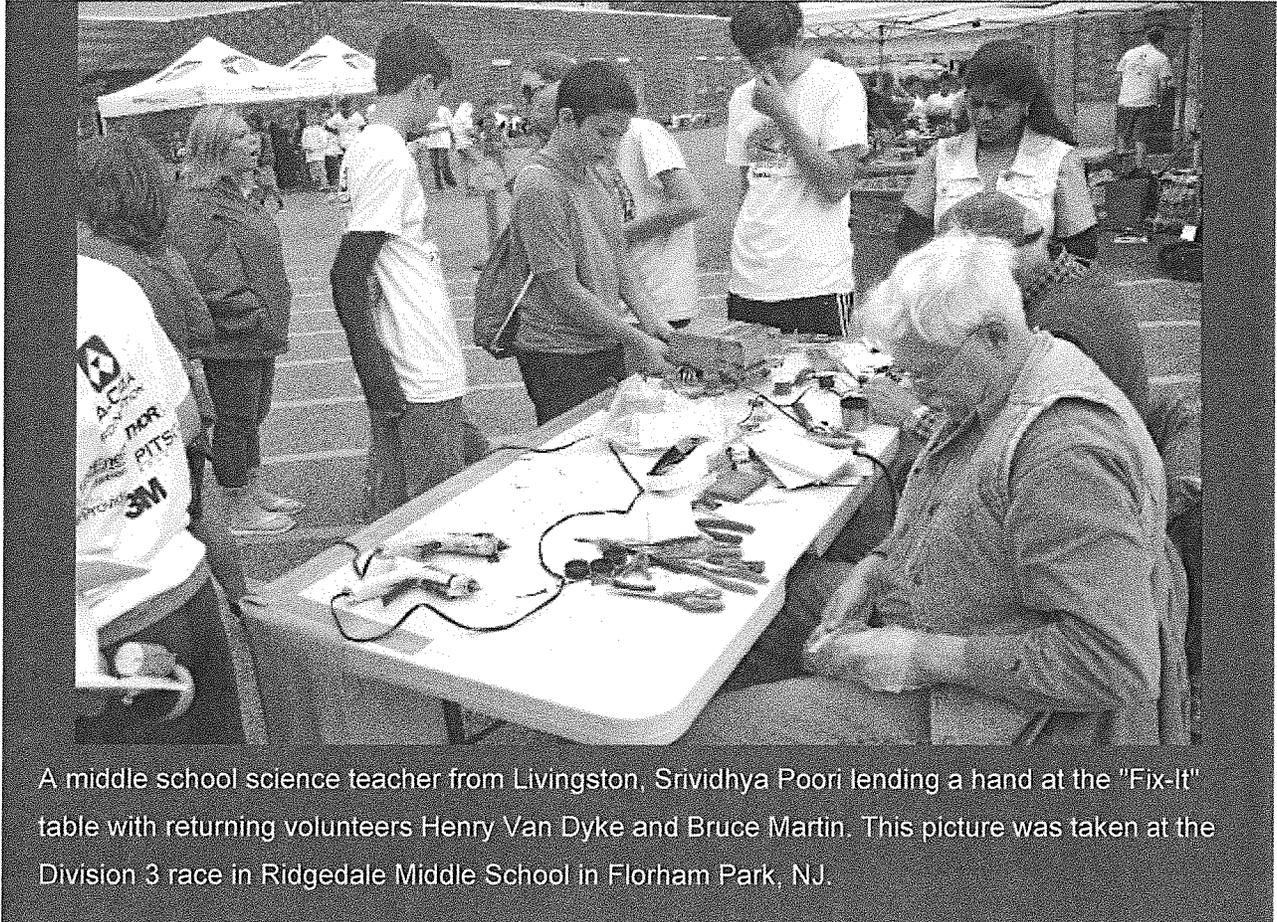


Regional Planning Director with the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority, Lois Goldman, Mike Bell and Mt. Arlington interim mayor, Michael Stanzilis.



Pictured here are the volunteers from Wyndham Worldwide during the Division 2 race day in

Kittatinny Regional High School. The volunteers are Liz McKeivitt, Gerron Wooten, Bill Paterson, Dotty Bradbrook, Dawn Arrabito, Martha Zelasny, Frank Campana, John Anderson, Debbie Potterton, Dolores Munzial, Kathy Giordano, Justin Keating, Carolyn Mesce, Marianne Zeller and Miggy Gogolen.



A middle school science teacher from Livingston, Srividhya Poori lending a hand at the "Fix-It" table with returning volunteers Henry Van Dyke and Bruce Martin. This picture was taken at the Division 3 race in Ridgedale Middle School in Florham Park, NJ.



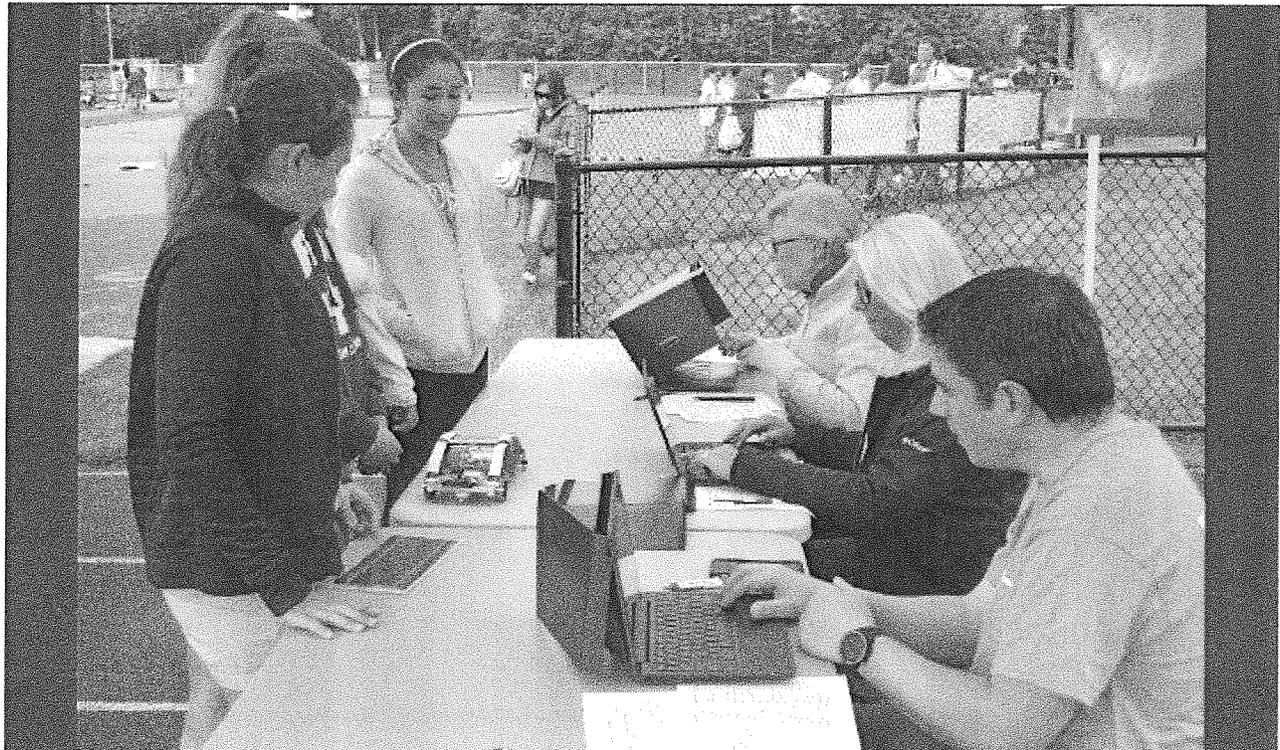
At our judging table for the Division 3 race in Ridgedale Middle School are Mike Bell, Richard Johnson from the Morris County Parks Department and TransOptions board member Dot Ciolino.



Volunteer from the Morris County Parks Department, Mauricio Cabrera, assisting students at the starting line.



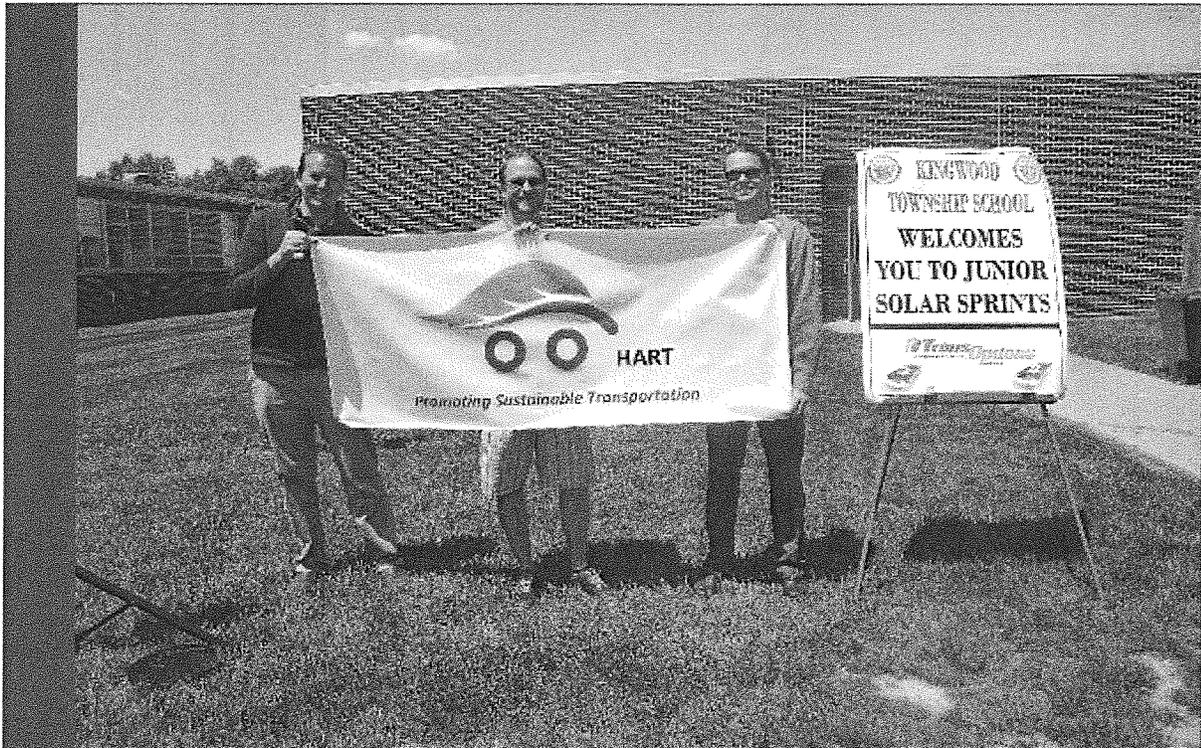
Students from the Union County Magnet High School volunteered along with their guidance counselor, Judith Linnett, during our Division 4 race at New Providence Middle School. The students pictured here have participated in TransOptions' Hydrogen Fuel Cell Model Car Challenge.



Volunteers at the judging table during the Division 4 race at New Providence High School were Christopher Cirrotti an employee from Environmental Consulting firm, Dewberry, TransOptions board member Dot Ciolino and Leslie Stevens, a professor from Stevens Institute of Technology.



Johnson & Johnson volunteers at the Division 5 race at Kingwood Township School in Frenchtown, NJ. Pictured here are Al Cirne, Kim Hinton, Shiju Koshy, David Krause, Nicholas Palmiero, Mohammad Paracha, Katarzyna Pieklo and Gary Thomas.



Our friends from sister Transportation Management Association (TMA) HART Commuter Information Services volunteered during the Division 5 races at Kingwood Township School. Above are Ryan Fisher, Safe Routes to School Coordinator, Nathan Charron, Environmental Education Coordinator and Tim Arnold, Complete Streets Coordinator.



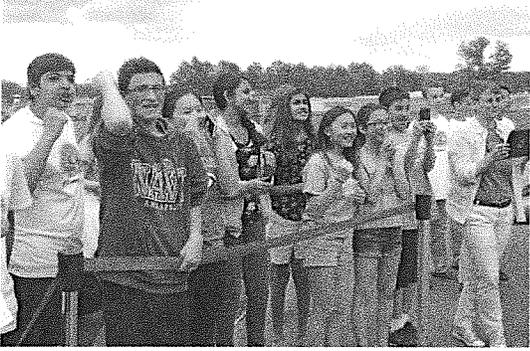
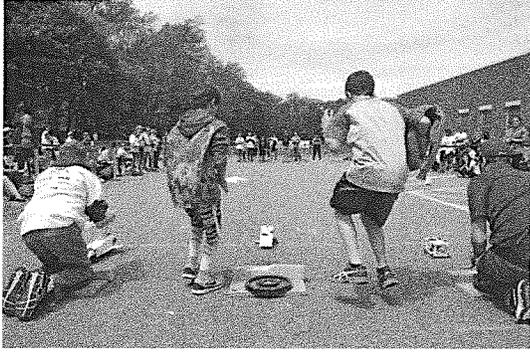
At the judging table during our Inter County Final race day are Joseph Russo and Deborah Delligiacoma both from the Morris County Parks Department and TransOptions' board member, Maria Sheridan.



Above are volunteers from Reed Business Information of XpertHR, an employment law compliance company based in New Providence. Pictured above are Matt Kofi, Marta Moakley, Alicia Smith, Melissa Burdorf and Beth Zoller.

Highlights from Junior Solar Sprints







Only Days Remain in TransOptions' Bike To Work Challenge

We've been on a roll! Participants of our free 2016 Bike to Work Challenge have logged more than 9,000 total miles ridden and approximately 1,200 trips. Now only day remain!

This week is the final full week of the Challenge. Participants aiming to win most miles biked for Week 4 have until this Saturday the 28th to log their commutes but can qualify to win our grand prizes by continuing to log their trips up until noon on June 2nd.

Among participating teams, Thorlabs' #MakeAmericaBikeAgain continues to hold strong to its first place ranking with the Bed Bath and Beyond team not far behind. The REI East Hanover Commute Team 2 has moved up in the rankings recently and now sits in third place.

There are just a few more days remaining so the top three teams to win are anyone's guess!

LEADING TEAMS

Thorlabs #MakeAmericaBikeAgain - 134 Trips
Bed Bath and Beyond - 105 trips
REI East Hanover Commute Team 2 - 72 Trips

INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS

Our Most Miles Biked Winners so far are:

Week 1 Winner: Stephen N., biking 234.1 miles over 10 trips.

Week 2 Winner: Jim V., biking 254 miles over 12 trips.

Week 3 Winner: Stephen B., biking 304 miles over 10 trips.

Our Week 4 Winner for most miles biked remains to be seen! By the end of the Challenge, we will also have a Miles Master winner for most overall miles traveled, the team prize for the team who bikes the most total trips and three grand prize-winning Champion Challengers chosen through three raffles. A complete list of the prizes can be viewed [here](#).

Good luck to all our participants!

BIKE TO WORK CHALLENGE

2016





Drivers May Face Deadliest Memorial Day Weekend Since 2009

According to the National Safety Council (NSC), troubling estimates come as traffic fatalities show no signs of slowing. The NSC estimates 439 people may be killed and an additional 50,500 will be seriously injured in motor vehicle crashes during the three-day Memorial Day holiday period. If the estimate holds, this will be the deadliest Memorial Day holiday since 2009, when 462 Americans were killed on the nation's roadways, according to federal data.

The estimate comes as traffic fatalities continue to trend upwards. In February, NSC released its preliminary estimates showing motor vehicle fatalities had increased 8% in 2015 compared to 2014 – the largest year-over-year percentage increase in 50 years. Memorial Day also marks the unofficial start of summer, which always is a dangerous time on the roads. More than 9,570 people died on our roads in 2014 from May 24 and Aug. 31.

"As Americans gear up for the most carefree months of the year, we cannot take our safety for granted," said Deborah A.P. Hersman, NSC president and CEO. "Driving is one of the riskiest things we do every day. Engaging our defensive driving skills and staying alert can mean the difference between attending cookouts and family parties or spending the evening at the emergency room or worse."

NSC believes the spike in fatal car crashes is due in part to an improving economy with lower gas prices and lower unemployment rates. Certain crash factors, such as speeding and alcohol, are more common during the summer, too.

To help stay safe on the roads this summer, NSC recommends:

- Making sure every passenger buckles up every trip; NSC estimates 104 people could be saved this Memorial Day holiday if they buckle up
- Designating an alcohol and drug-free driver or arranging alternate transportation
- Getting plenty of sleep and taking regular breaks to avoid fatigue on long trips
- Never using a cell phone behind the wheel, even hands-free
- Staying engaged with your teens' driving habits. An NSC survey found many parents are more inclined to loosen household driving rules during the summer.
- Learning about your vehicle's safety systems and how to use them; MyCarDoesWhat? can help drivers understand the ins and outs of features such as adaptive cruise control, automatic emergency braking, blind spot warning systems and backup cameras

Be careful on the roads and enjoy a happy and safe Memorial Day weekend!



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