

Joanne Veech | Sergeant Will Yarzab | Randolph Township, NJ



# Successfully Bringing the “Alive at 25<sup>®</sup>” Program to Your Municipality



# Table of Contents

(CLICK ON TOPIC TO GO TO PAGE)

INTRODUCTION .....	1
PROGRAM DESCRIPTION .....	1
TIME LINE .....	3
POSITIVE PUBLIC RELATIONS.....	3
APPENDIX A COUNCIL ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE .....	4
APPENDIX B STATE FARM GRANT APPLICATION.....	5
APPENDIX C PUPIL PARKING POLICY.....	10
APPENDIX D GRANT PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT .....	11
APPENDIX E SAMPLE NEWSLETTER ARTICLES .....	12
APPENDIX F SUPERINTENDENT’S LETTER .....	14
APPENDIX G TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE TEEN DRIVING PROGRAM PLAN.....	16
APPENDIX H SUMMARY REPORT.....	19
APPENDIX I RECOGNITION OF TEEN DRIVING PROGRAM .....	22
APPENDIX J EXCERPT FROM THE TEEN DRIVER STUDY COMMISSION REPORT.....	25

# Introduction

This guide is intended to help your municipality identify factors critical for the success of a community-wide "Alive at 25" program. It includes a checklist of key activities and connections that are necessary to ensure the program is embedded in the culture of the community.

At the start, parents must be educated about New Jersey's Graduated Driver License (GDL) law, the risks associated with teen driving and the critical role they play in educating their teens. It's also vital to point out that this is a community-wide effort and many groups must be involved and committed to the initiative. If you accept this premise, you can have a successful program.

## Program Description

Our success in Randolph was due in large part to the following:

- Sponsorship from the township's citizen Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC), the Sergeant in charge of the Traffic Safety Bureau and a Council member (also a newly elected Board of Education member)
- The Board of Education amended its "Pupil Parking Policy" requiring high school students and their parents to attend the "Alive at 25" program in order for students to be eligible for a parking spot.
- The high school driver education staff was certified as "Alive at 25" trainers and are teaching the program on an ongoing basis.
- The Chair of the TAC and the Traffic Safety Bureau Sergeant were also certified as "Alive at 25" trainers and teach the parent portion of the program one night a month. (When first implementing the program consider providing numerous presentation dates to allow for schedule flexibility.)
- Members of the police force are trained as "Alive at 25" instructors and are working in the high school classroom with sophomores taking driver education. This allows the students to ask police officers about the GDL law.
- The municipal judge attends the parent program and discusses what happens in his courtroom when it comes to teen drivers, parental liability, etc.
- Pam Fischer, Director of the NJ Division of Highway Traffic Safety and Chair of the Teen Driver Study Commission, is a fervent supporter of the "Alive at 25" program and the work done to date by Randolph and other communities. The TAC has begun to implement recommendations from the Commission's March 2008 Report.

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

The following sections are provided to help a municipality begin the journey of implementing a community-wide teen driver safety program.

1. Form a Traffic Advisory Committee sanctioned by the Town Council through an ordinance. (Appendix A)
2. Apply for grants from government agencies, corporations and private foundations to help fund the initiative. (Appendix B)
3. Get the support of the Chief of Police to allow the Traffic Safety Bureau to be involved in the TAC. Solicit the support of the Police Department to have several officers trained to teach the program.
4. Solicit the Board of Education to have a member work with the TAC to revise the "Pupil Parking Policy" to mandate program attendance at "Alive at 25." Request that the "Alive at 25" program be incorporated into the Sophomore driver education curriculum, offer the parent program on a monthly basis and identify those needing to be certified as trainers from the teaching staff. (Appendix C)
5. Contact Bill Margareta, President of the New Jersey Safety Council, to line up training for your town. ([info@njsafety.org](mailto:info@njsafety.org), 908-272-7712)
6. Identify and obtain funding for the training, booklets and DVDs used for both the student and parent program. (Appendix D)
7. Communicate with parents on the requirements, benefits and outcomes of the program, allowing for a selection of nights to attend the program. (Appendix E)
8. Communicate the parent program objectives and schedule through the town's web site, quarterly newsletters, PTA and text alerts. (See Appendix F)



(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

# Time Line

- In the Fall of 2006, the Police Department's Traffic Safety Bureau attended a presentation of the "Alive at 25" program presented by New Jersey Safety Council President Bill Margaretta. The issue of teen driver safety was discussed during the next few Traffic Advisory Committee meetings and work started on a plan to bring the program to Randolph.
- In February 2007, the TAC developed a formal plan detailing our vision, goals, audience and a schedule of events. [\(Appendix G\)](#)
- In the Spring of 2007, we hosted an "Alive at 25" training class for officers, teachers and TAC members. Additionally, the Randolph Board of Education amended its Pupil Parking Policy, which requires that students wishing to park on school property attend the "Alive at 25" four-hour student sessions, and their parent/guardian attend the one-hour parent session.
- In the Spring of 2007, the TAC applied for and received funding from local business and organizations including State Farm, which presented Randolph Township with a \$22,100 grant.
- In May and June of 2007, twelve one-hour parent sessions were scheduled and delivered to 324 participants. The municipal court judge discussed the teen driver cases that came before him at each session. Each attendee received an evaluation form which was compiled into a formal report that was presented to the Board of Education in the Summer of 2007. [\(Appendix H\)](#)
- During the 2007-2008 school year, officers from the Traffic Safety Bureau attended the high school classes where "Alive at 25" was presented. TAC Members testified at a Teen Driver Study Commission public hearing in the fall. Additionally, Randolph High School teachers and police officers were trained in the program and numerous jurisdictions contacted us requesting our help in establishing a teen driver program in their schools.

# Positive Public Relations

Members of the TAC and the police department have been recognized for their efforts in teen driver safety, receiving the New Jersey State Safety Council's Distinguished Service Award, Randolph Police Exceptional Service Award, and the Randolph Rotary Public Servant of the Year award in 2006. The TAC designated October as "Traffic Safety Month" beginning in 2006, and continues this initiative today. The TAC has participated in the town's annual July 4th Freedom Festival Parade by preparing a float and by providing educational material. [\(Appendix I\)](#)

Randolph's teen driver program has been highlighted in newspaper articles and recognized by the "Teen Driver Study Commission" in its March 2008 report which was delivered to Governor Corzine and the Legislature. [\(Appendix J\)](#)

## Appendix A (PAGE 1 OF 1)

### ARTICLE XVI. TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

#### Sec. 10-321. Creation.

There is hereby created a traffic advisory committee consisting of five regular members and one alternate member.

(Ord. No. 2-03, § 1, 3-6-2003; Ord. No. 21-06, § 2, 9-7-2006)

#### Sec. 10-322. Description of membership.

The regular members shall consist of five citizen members appointed by the council. One alternate member shall be appointed by the council to act in the absence or disqualification of any of the five regular members.

(Ord. No. 2-03, § 1, 3-6-2003)

#### Sec. 10-323. Initial and continuing terms of members; vacancies.

The initial terms of the five regular citizen members shall be retroactive to January 1, 2003, with three members appointed for a two-year term and two members appointed for a one-year term. Thereafter, the term of each regular member shall be for two years, appointed at the annual reorganization meeting.

The initial term of the alternate member shall be retroactive to January 1, 2003 and shall terminate on December 31, 2004. Thereafter, the term of the alternate member shall be for two years appointed at the annual reorganization meeting.

All vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

(Ord. No. 2-03, § 1, 3-6-2003)

#### Sec. 10-324. Functions of the committee.

The traffic advisory committee shall work with the community in identifying traffic problems and issues in various sections of the township. The committee shall work with local, county, state and federal officials and entities to help establish solutions to the identified traffic problems.

The traffic advisory committee shall report in writing to the township council of the problems investigated and the suggested solutions to them. The traffic advisory committee shall advise the council as to proposed methods to address and resolve the traffic problems identified.

(Ord. No. 2-03, § 1, 3-6-2003; Ord. No. 21-06, § 2, 9-7-2006)

#### Sec. 10-325. Assistance of appropriate municipal departments.

The traffic advisory committee may seek the assistance of appropriate municipal departments, as necessary, through the township manager, who shall have the discretion to make available personnel from said departments to assist the traffic advisory committee to perform its functions.

(Ord. No. 2-03, § 1, 3-6-2003; Ord. No. 21-06, § 2, 9-7-2006)

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix B (PAGE 1 OF 5)



### State Farm Good Neighbor Citizenship® (GNC)

#### Application for requesting GNC funds

One proposal per organization per year will be considered if it meets the guidelines outlined. This application will need to be sent electronically to the State Farm Public Affairs contact listed at the end of this application. All requested information in the application must be included for us to consider your grant request. Telephone solicitations cannot be considered.

#### All sections of this form must be completed for consideration

##### 1. In addition to completing this electronic application, we also need paper copies of the following:

A copy of the IRS exemption letter verifying 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or sufficient documentation verifying a governmental entity or educational institution (**We cannot begin the process of evaluating your request until we receive this documentation.**)

**To:**

State Farm Insurance Companies  
 Attn: [Arlene J. Lester](#)  
 300 Kimball Drive  
 Parsippany, NJ 07054  
 (973) 739-5197

##### 2. Organization contact information:

- **Organization name:** Randolph Township Traffic Advisory Committee
- **Contact name:** Sergeant Will Yarzab
- **Address:** 502 Millbrook Ave
- **City:** Randolph
- **County:** Morris
- **State:** New Jersey
- **ZIP code:** 07869
- **Phone number:** (973) 537 - 1706
- **E-mail address:** [WYarzab@randolphnj.org](mailto:WYarzab@randolphnj.org)
- **Web site address:** <http://www.randolphnj.org/>

##### 3. Background information about the organization, including history and purpose (This does not apply if the request is for a school or governmental entity.):

- The Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) was formed through an ordinance agreed upon by the Randolph Town Council in 2003. The ordinance noted its function as the following: "Functions of the Committee. The Traffic Advisory Committee shall work with the community in identifying traffic problems and issues in various section of the Township. The Committee shall work with the local, county, state and federal officials and entities to help establish solutions to the identified traffic problems (issues)."
- Since the committee's inception it has taken more of an active role over the last year, most notably in bringing a teen driver safety program to the High School.
- The committee also started the community's first "Traffic Safety Awareness" campaign which included featuring October as our Traffic Safety Awareness month. The TAC

## Appendix B (PAGE 2 OF 5)

**4. What is the purpose and objective(s) of the program/project State Farm is being asked to support? And which part(s) are you requesting funding for?**

- Under the banner of "Slow Down Randolph", more specifically Teen Driving this year, our objective is to educate our community, teen drivers and their parents on traffic safety issues. We in Morris County have recently experienced a significant increase in teen fatal crashes and as a result, our entire Randolph community has agreed to work together on increasing awareness and providing practical tools and advice to reduce crash risks. Our Traffic Advisory Committee in conjunction with the Police Department and Board of Education has agreed to implement the National Safety Council's "Alive at 25" program in the high school as well as for the teen parents. This program has been tied to the pupil parking permit process at the high school making it mandatory for campus parking privileges.

We are requesting funding for the entire "Slow Down Randolph" campaign.

**5. Which of State Farm's community focus areas does this program/project fall within? (check all that apply)**

- Education (Please underline appropriate category: Teacher Excellence, Service-Learning, Baldrige)
- **XX**  Safe Neighbors
- Strong Neighborhoods
- None

**6. What is the total or overall funding required for this program/project? Also, please itemize this amount, showing a breakdown of total expenses for this program/project.**

- (Total dollar amount of program/project)
- **Itemized budget for all total expenses:**

- **Funding required for this program / project: This is our 'wish list' in priority order.**
    - Banners, signage, and posters, etc. for the parade float, our National Safety Council training programs, public meetings, etc. \$1500
    - National Safety Council Parent and Student course materials for school years 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 (450 Parents at \$10, plus 450 students at \$5 times two years). \$13,500
    - Billboard sign on Route 10 (State Farm has already committed to the costs).
    - Driving Simulator for use by not only Randolph Township, but when not in use will be shared in State Farm's name with other school districts in the state. \$10,000
    - Drunk Simulator for use by not only Randolph Township, but when not in use will be shared in State Farm's name with other school districts in the state. \$5000
    - "Slow down - children at play" signs on speed limit signs (100 at \$38.50 each). \$3850
- Total request 33,850.**

**7. What amount of funding are you requesting from State Farm? Also, please itemize each expense, showing a breakdown of only what State Farm's donation will pay for (e.g., supplies -- \$100; printing -- \$50)**

- (Dollar amount being requested from State Farm) **Purposely left blank**
- Itemized budget: **Purposely left blank**

**8. What time period does the grant request cover?**

September 2007 through September 2008

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)



## Appendix B (PAGE 3 OF 5)

**9. How many program participants will directly benefit from State Farm’s support? How many participants overall will benefit from this program/project?**

Primary beneficiaries include:

- Over 400 Randolph High School juniors and their families
- Other townships and school districts have contacted us, as we are the first in the state to involve the entire community, looking to duplicate our program. Over a dozen townships have contacted us and we have been sharing our approach and knowledge

Secondary beneficiaries include:

- High School students, parents (Freshmen, Sophomore and Seniors) and faculty
- Randolph citizens, especially those involved in the following organizations: Board of Ed, Town Council, Board of Adjustment, Planning Board, PTA, Randolph Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, Municipal Alliance Committee, the Boy Scouts, Rescue Squad, and many others.
- The motoring public in general, as many non-Randolph citizens travel through our community and will see our visual displays, read about us in the newspapers, etc.

**10. What are the expected funding sources, including funds committed, pledged, and pending? State Farm prefers to fund programs with a diverse funding base.**

Name	Amount	Commitment level
1. Randolph Township Police Department	\$ 2000.00	Fully supportive, and this amount does not include man hours / power.
2. Township citizens*	\$ 200.00*	Fully supportive, looking for 100% backing from junior parents.
3. Heritage Children's Academy	\$ 734.00	Fundraiser complete
4. John Herold Jewelers	\$ 1250.00	Providing the design for and placement of an outdoor billboard in Randolph for the month designated as Traffic Safety Awareness month.
5. Randolph Township Manager	\$ 5000.00	Providing an outdoor billboard in Randolph for the month designated as Traffic Safety Awareness month. This billboard will be (hopefully) designed by State Farm and will bear the State Farm logo.

\* We have set up a Traffic Advisory Committee Trust Fund and have started to receive checks from ordinary citizens, as well as parents starting to go through the teen driving program. This is the amount we have received so far. We expect all of the 400 families to donate to the fund by September 2, 2007. We have just begun soliciting funding and will look for other funding vehicles.

## Appendix B (PAGE 4 OF 5)

**11. What are the measurable results of this program/project? Please include information about the outcome expected of the participants (e.g., attitude or behavior changes). Include your plans to measure this information.**

As we continue to support our annual Traffic Safety month this October, we address all traffic safety related issues for not only Randolph drivers, but for the entire motoring public. The end result should be lower crash statistics, injuries, etc. for our jurisdiction.

More specifically, four hundred high school students and their parents will be directly exposed to the "Alive at 25" program which aims to inform them about the risks of teen driving, provide practical advice and tools to reduce these risks, and encourage dialogue and mentoring throughout the young teen's driving experience. We expect fewer crashes, fatalities, injuries and risk related driving behaviours from these teens and their families.

**12. Has State Farm been involved, in any way, with this organization? If so, please explain the relationship.**

- State Farm representatives met with our Traffic Advisory Committee, our Traffic Safety Bureau, our Township Manager, our Mayor, and the editor of our township newspaper, the Randolph Reporter and :
  - complimented us in our community partnering efforts
  - advised us on new programs that State Farm offers or supports,
  - suggested funding ideas
  - circulated traffic safety data and ideas for our committee
  - circulated the State Farm Student Board of Governors program and scholarship application
  - informed us that State Farm is committing to funding a billboard in support of our efforts
  - provided additional networking contacts
  - helped us in getting State Farm agents to assist us and potentially march in our yearly Freedom parade

**13. What types of opportunities are available for State Farm agents and employees to be involved as volunteers with your organization (volunteer event, board position, etc.)? Please describe.**

- They can:
  - hold a non-voting advisory position on our Traffic Advisory Committee,
  - assist us in presenting the Alive at 25 program,
  - participate in our Freedom Festival parade,
  - present State Farm programs such as "Insurance Made Easy" for consideration of wider program distribution within our community, and
  - work with our township community to encourage safe driving practices.

**14. Will State Farm receive recognition from this contribution if one is made? If yes, please describe. (Recognition is not a decisive factor for receiving funds. However, we need to know how you plan to use the applicable State Farm logo and name, making sure it's compliant with our trademark guidelines.)**

- Yes
  - Description: **State Farm recognition in the following manner:**  
**Press releases, billboard signs, banners, parade handouts, township newsletter, township website, Randolph School Board website, Township Council formal proclamation (at a public venue), etc.**

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix B (PAGE 5 OF 5)

- No

**15. Please list any community/political leaders involved with the organization.**

- Randolph Township Mayor Michael Obremski, Council Members and Manager John Lovell
- Randolph Board of Education Members and Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Max Riley
- Randolph High School P.T.A., Missy Faul
- Randolph Rotary, Dave Nicholas
- Randolph Chamber of Commerce, Margaret Leonard
- Randolph Municipal Alliance Committee, Marleen Reisner and Kevin Feilder
- Randolph High School Principal, Carol Strowbridge
- New Jersey Safety Council, Bill Margaretta
- Randolph Police Department, Traffic Safety Bureau, Sgt. Will Yarzab

**16. Does this program reach low-income or academically at-risk students? If so, please describe below.**

- Yes
  - Description:
- XX  No

**17. Does this program qualify under the Community Reinvestment Act?**

- Yes
- XX  No

**18. Send this application electronically to:**

arlene.j.lester.cibd@statefarm.com

**If you have questions about the GNC process, please e-mail Arlene J. Lester at the above e-mail address.**

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix C (PAGE 1 OF 1)

### **Driving Privileges and Responsibilities**

The high school has incorporated the “Alive at 25” program into the curriculum. Every parent/guardian must attend a one hour class before their student is issued a parking permit. Applications must include written proof that at least one of the student’s parents/guardians has attended a Board approved safe driving program within four calendar years prior to the date of the application. Driving to school and parking on school property is a revocable privilege. Only students with parking permits may use school parking facilities. **A \$25.00 fee per semester will be charged and these funds will be used to enhance and upgrade our security surveillance system.** All students will park in the lot at the rear of the school. Because of our limited parking area, **ONLY SENIORS** will be assigned permanent parking permits. Cars illegally parked on school grounds may be towed. A work commitment is not considered a reason to drive to school.

\*Copied from the Randolph High School Web site, Parent Handbook.

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix D (PAGE 1 OF 1)

### **Grant Participation Agreement Alive at 25 New Jersey State Safety Council**

Dear Grant Participant,

The New Jersey State Safety Council is a subcontractor to Rutgers University with a grant from the New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety using National Highway Traffic Safety Administration funds.

We are pleased to be able to train you in the National Safety Council's DDC program designed for Teens called Alive at 25.

We will provide all of the instructional materials including videos.

We will provide two days of instruction. We will provide student materials during the first year of the grant.

In order to complete this program there are certain responsibilities that you must discharge.

1. You must agree to complete the two-day instructor-training course.
2. You must teach two probationary courses which will be observed to complete your certification.
3. You must submit to the New Jersey State Safety Council a request to be fully certified as an instructor. This request should include the dates and location of the instructor course. This will allow you to teach this program any where in New Jersey and give you access to all of the National Safety Council's extensive DDC Instructor resources.
4. You must complete a signed sub agency agreement either public or private in order to obtain National Safety Council videos. {Please note that the grant will provide you with the first year lease of these videos. The renewal costs will be the responsibility of your employer or yourself if you are self employed.} This allows the National Safety Council to have the most up to date information in those media formats currently in use.
5. You must use the National Safety Council's Alive at 25 workbook materials when teaching the program. First year materials are included under the grant. This will insure that you are using the most current information on Defensive Driving available.
6. You must agree to issue certificates of completion to students that attend your courses.
7. Finally you must agree to maintain a roster of students who have completed the course and forward a copy to the New Jersey State Safety Council. This insures that the Council, which is the chapter of the National Safety Council in the state of New Jersey, has a record of individuals who have completed our programs.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix E (PAGE 1 OF 2)

*This is one of the articles posted in Randolph Township's Quarterly Newsletter, Fall of 2007.*

### **Traffic Advisory Committee News** **By Sgt. Will Yarzab and Traffic Advisory Committee** **Chairperson Joanne Veech**

#### Parent Teen Driver program

The Randolph Township Traffic Advisory Committee and the Randolph Police Department Traffic Safety Bureau are happy to announce that the Parent Teen Driver Program and the "Alive at 25" program have been well received by the citizens of Randolph based upon the evaluations submitted by those who have attended the program.

During the twelve Parent Program dates held from May through June 2007, 324 people signed in and 40 students attended the program with one of their parents. The surveys returned revealed an overall program rating of 1.1 on a 1 to 5 scale, 1 being best. Overall the evaluations posted an increase in knowledge for those attending at 62%.

The following dates and times are open to all citizens but please check the Randolph High School Web site for the most up-to-date listing of program dates: ***Monday, September 17 at 7 PM, Tuesday, September 18 at 1 PM and 7 PM, October 10 at 7 PM, November 7 at PM and December 5 at 7 PM. We will be holding one program each calendar month.***

#### Traffic Safety Month

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **Traffic Safety Month** for Randolph Township will be held in October. The Police department

- will have educational banners displayed throughout town,
- place calming signs reminding motorists of the speed limit and
- will have officers will patrolling those areas which have speeding and aggressive driving problems.

Please SLOW DOWN RANDOLPH! The road you travel is another citizen's neighborhood.

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix E (PAGE 2 OF 2)

### ***October is Traffic Safety Month***

**Posted: October 1, 2007**

The Randolph Township Police Department, in conjunction with Randolph's Traffic Advisory Committee, is pleased to announce for the second year in a row that October has been designated as Traffic Safety Month.

During this month long campaign, the Randolph Police will be placing increased emphasis on enforcing New Jersey's motor vehicle laws.

According to Sgt. Will Yarzab, Traffic Safety Bureau Supervisor, there will be special focus this year on educating teen drivers and their parents in an effort to reduce fatalities involving teens. "Teen driver safety is everyone's responsibility," he said recently. "We're merging education and enforcement to save lives."

Still not convinced? Sgt. Yarzab points out the sobering message delivered by one of the banners police have installed throughout the township: "There are teens not with us today...speeding kills."

The police department has placed numerous calming devices on or along the roadways within the town and officers will be vigorously enforcing the traffic laws.

For more information regarding teen driving and traffic safety issues, you can contact Sgt. William Yarzab at 973.537.7106 or via [e-mail](#).

## Randolph Township Schools

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**Dr. Max R. Riley**

**25 School House Rd., Randolph, NJ 07869**

**Superintendent of Schools**

**Phone 973-361-0808, fax 973-361-2405**

May 21, 2007

Dear Parents/Guardians of Randolph High School Juniors:

The statistics about fatalities among new teenage drivers are frightening, especially to all of us whose personal or professional lives center around the futures of these promising young people. In the United States, 16 such teens die every day, more than 6,000 a year.

This is why, at its April 16, 2007 meeting, the Board of Education decided to partner with the Township of Randolph in implementing a new driver safety program at Randolph High School. The new program, called "Alive at 25," was developed by the National Safety Council (NSC) and has three key goals:

- to inform family members about the risks of teen driving based on solid scientific evidence;
- to provide practical advice about strategies the NSC believes may reduce that risk, also based on solid scientific evidence;
- to encourage parent-teen cooperation and involvement throughout the entire process, from learning to drive through independent driving.

The High School is currently incorporating a four-hour student program into the curriculum. In addition, an integral component of "Alive at 25" is a one-hour class for parents and guardians. Randolph is taking the lead in the state to address the risks associated with teen driving by providing both teens and their parents with the tools that may help to reduce those risks.

The Board is so convinced of the importance of parental participation in this program that it amended its policy on pupil parking to require it before a student can receive an RHS parking permit. The revised policy now states that student applications for parking permits "must include written proof that at least one of the student's parents or guardians has attended a Board-approved safe driving program within four (4) calendar years prior to the date of the application."

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)



## Appendix F (PAGE 2 OF 2)

In an effort to make it as convenient as possible for parents and guardians to attend the one-hour class, the Township (specifically, members of the Traffic Advisory Committee and the Traffic Safety Bureau) and the District are offering it on multiple occasions during May and June. Classes began last week in the High School in Room A114, next to the auditorium. The remaining schedule for this Spring is as follows:

Wednesday, May 30, 1-2 p.m.

Thursday, June 7, 6-7 p.m.

Friday, June 8, 6-7 p.m.

Monday, June 11, 1-2 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 13, 1-2 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

Monday, June 18, 1-2 p.m. and 6-7 p.m.

Please plan to attend one of these sessions so that your student's application for a parking permit can be processed in September. We also suggest – although it is not mandatory – that you encourage your son or daughter to accompany you to the class.

No advance registration is required for the parent classes. To check for possible changes or cancellations to the schedule, the Township recommends that you visit its web site at [www.randolphnj.org](http://www.randolphnj.org) or contact Sgt. Will Yarzab of the Traffic Safety Bureau.

Thank you in advance for joining with the District and the Township to help ensure that driver education at Randolph High School results in the creation of safe new drivers – a goal that enhances on-the-road safety for everyone.

Sincerely,

Max Riley, Ph.D.

teendriversafety052107letter

cc: C. Strowbridge

## Appendix G (PAGE 1 OF 3)

### **Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) Teen Driving Program Plan February 21, 2007**

#### **Vision**

The Police Department and the TAC seek to educate parents and teen drivers' on the dangers of inexperience behind the wheel using The National Safety Council's Teen Driver Program (NSCTDP) with assistance from State Farm and other organizations committed to addressing teen driver safety. We support the implementation of the program as detailed in this plan.

#### **Randolph primary organizations involved and contact member**

- Police Department (PD) - Will Yarzab
- TAC - Joanne Veech
- Board of Ed - Chris Carey
- Randolph High School (RHS) - Carol Strowbridge
- Town Council - Mike Obremski
- PTA - Karen Berner
- Randolph Township Manager - John Lovell
- RHS Student Liaison(s) - SADD, Student Council, etc. - TBD

#### **Randolph secondary organizations with contact member(s)**

- Randolph Municipal Alliance Committee - Betsy Hendrick and Marlene Reisner
- Randolph Community School - Elaine Voorhis
- Randolph Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts - TBD
- Randolph Chamber of Commerce - TBD
- Randolph Rotary - TBD
- Randolph Kiwanis - TBD
- Randolph Lions Club - TBD
- Randolph VFW Post - TBD
- Randolph Explorers - TBD
- Randolph YMCA - TBD
- Randolph Fire Companies, Rescue Squads, etc. - TBD

#### **External organizations and businesses**

1. NJ State Safety Council - Bill Margaretta
2. State Farm - Arlene Lester and Karyn Faggello
3. AAA - Michelle Mount
4. Start Right - Barbara Cornwell
5. Easy Method Driving School - Diane Sullivan
6. John Herold Jewelers - John Herold
7. Tony's Towing - Tony
8. Teresa Wright Promise Foundation - TBD
9. Salerno / other automobile dealerships - TBD

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix G (PAGE 2 OF 3)

### Specific recommendations

- Approval from the Board of Ed and the Town Council for implementation of this proposed plan by April 1st. More specifically, a policy change is agreed by the Board of Ed to mandate completion of the program by one parent or guardian and the student driver prior to obtaining parking approval on RHS property. All applications for a RHS parking permit will need to be accompanied by a signed NSTCDP "Parent/Teen Driving Agreement"
- RHS schedule ten four-hour assemblies at various times during the school week and on weekends allowing all Juniors (fall Seniors) to attend from May through September
- RHS schedule ten one-hour sessions in the evenings and weekends for the parent program from May through September
- RHS with the PD identify people to be trained to deliver the program, specifically targeting the driver ed teachers, members of our police department, as well as appropriate volunteers from the Town Council and TAC
- The PD and TAC will solicit support from town organizations and businesses to assist with resources
- The PD and TAC will work with RHS Athletic Director to incorporate appropriate changes in the Driver's Ed curriculum using recommendations from the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association, and incorporate the NSTCDP four-hour teen driver program over a week of Driver's Ed classes for the next school year cycle.

### Timeline

#### February

- Engage Chris Carey in the best approach with the Board of Ed members in gaining their approval of this plan (Will to follow up and obtain date to present to full Board of Ed)
- Vet this plan with the primary Randolph organizations as named above

#### March

- Present plan recommendations to the PTA, gaining their support and approval (March 26th - Will, Joanne, Damion, possibly Mike)
- Board of Ed meeting (TBD) to vet plan and obtain approval
- Solicit names of volunteers / teachers to be trained (March 15)
- Obtain dates of two day training program (early March)
- Obtain and incorporate feedback from primary Randolph organizations by March 15th, and re-circulate amended plan for final approval by March 31st.
- Put together State Farm wish list for commitments

#### April

- Contact external organizations announcing our plan and seek ways for them to get involved (early April)
- Trainers get trained (TBD)
- Order program supplies early April for deliver early May

## Appendix G (PAGE 3 OF 3)

- Launch program to RHS Parents and students via emails, quarterly town newsletter, PTA newsletter, town and school website, press releases, etc. (early April)
- Announce schedule of dates for parent and teen programs (mid April)

### May

1. Run a pilot program for parents and teen drivers and incorporate suggested changes
2. Board of Ed issues new policy change on the parking permit process and new application forms are distributed
3. TAC plans Freedom Day parade with focus on Teen Driving Safety (banners, billboards, float, give-aways, etc.)
4. TAC to work with RHS to implement curriculum changes, if asked

### June, July and August

- Continue implementing parent and teen programs
- RHS and TAC to review status of participation in the program and take necessary steps to ensure compliance

### September

9. Continue to implement last sessions of program
10. RHS will accept properly documented applications for parking permits
11. RHS to provide a status report to Board of Ed, TAC, etc. on program success and next steps if needed

### October and beyond

- Evaluate program ....

### **Major events**

- Board of Ed meeting - vet and gain approval
- PTA meeting - gain support
- Proposed Plan initial release - to primary organizations
- Final Plan distributed - distribution TBD
- State Farm's commitment (wish list to be complied and sent to them)
- Parade - all events associated with parade
- Train the trainer dates - volunteers and teachers attend
- Pilot of the parent and teen driver programs - early May

### **Critical success factors**

- Approval of plan (policy change) by the Board of Ed
- Enough volunteers to be trained
- Train the trainers must occur prior to May / first session scheduled
- Financial commitment for year two and beyond (if funding is not underwritten by Randolph or external organizations and businesses)
- Resource commitment for trainers to be trained by Board of Ed / RHS
- Communications to parents and students on policy change and parking permit / program requirements

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix H (PAGE 1 OF 3)

### **Summary Report of the National Safety Council's (NSC) Teen Driver Safety Program for Randolph Township**

**Prepared by Sergeant Will Yarzab and Joanne Veech**

**June 26, 2007**

Randolph Township Traffic Advisory Committee in conjunction with Randolph Township Police Department supported by the Board of Ed and the Township Council held twelve sessions of the NSC Parent Teen Driver Program "Alive at 25" at the Randolph High School with 324 people signing in from May 16th through June 18th.

The one hour sessions were held either at 1pm in the afternoon or at 6 pm. About 40 students attended with a parent. Some attendees had other students from eighth grade through 11th that they listed on the sign in sheets to eliminate the necessity for their return within four years.

Sergeant Will Yarzab and Joanne Veech taught the programs and have agreed to hold three additional sessions in September. Judge Ira Cohen appeared five times during the month of June and has asked to continue spending fifteen to twenty minutes discussing his 'penalty box' program along with what he sees in traffic court.

We respectfully submit the following recommendations for this program to the Board of Ed to consider:

10. Extend the timing of the program from one hour to 1 1/2 hours to include commentary from Judge Ira Cohen, setting expectations clearly up front, finishing early if appropriate
11. Work Judge Ira Cohen into the program and videotape him to be used when he can't be at the session
12. Mandate that the teens join their parent for the parent session
13. Offer the Teen Driver Safety program to Sophomores and Juniors this coming calendar year 2007 - 2008 and leave it in the Sophomore curriculum in years after that, as many parents found this program coming too late
14. Ensure that an officer is present during the teen program in school
15. Continue to have a Board of Ed member attend each session and say a few words about the program
16. Hold the program for the Sophomore and Junior parents once a month beginning in October, inviting the general public to attend

The following statistics have been calculated as a result of an evaluation form that was circulated to the parents at each session. Note the rating to question 6 which is the overall rating of the program a 1.13 and the 62% increase in knowledge in question 9. The rating of 1 is Agree with 5 Disagree. Overall, the results were very impressive. We recognized that the audience was pleased with the program but they are much higher than we expected.

## Appendix H (PAGE 2 OF 3)

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| 1. This program met the objectives that were set for it.  | 1.14 |
| 2. The program materials helped me learn. (e.g., participant tools, electronic tools, audio and visual materials, etc.) | 1.19 |
| 3. The program content was relevant to my responsibilities.   | 1.11 |
| 4. The instructional methods (e.g., lecture, case studies) helped me to learn.  | 1.20 |

### ENVIRONMENT

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| 5. The physical environment was conducive to learning. | 1.41 |
|--|------|

### LEARNING EFFECTIVENESS

#### **6. Overall, the program was effective. 1.13**

- |  |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |  |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 7. Overall, the instructors were effective (e.g., knowledgeable, effective in presenting, worked collaboratively as a team).   | 1.07                     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |  |
| 8. I acquired usable knowledge/skills from this training.  | 1.25                     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |  |
| 9. Rate your <b>INCREASE</b> in skill level or knowledge of this content before versus after the program. A 0% is no increase and a 100% is a very significant increase.   | <b>62%</b>               |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |  |
| <table style="display: inline-table; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">0%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">10%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">20%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">30%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">40%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">50%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">60%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">70%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">80%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">90%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">100%</td> <td style="padding: 0 10px;">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table> | 0%                       | 10%                      | 20%                      | 30%                      | 40%                      | 50%                      | 60%                      | 70%                      | 80%                      | 90%                      | 100%                     | N/A | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
| 0%   | 10%                      | 20%                      | 30%                      | 40%                      | 50%                      | 60%                      | 70%                      | 80%                      | 90%                      | 100%                     | N/A                      |     |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |                          |  |
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### INSTRUCTORS

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| 10. The instructors demonstrated mastery of the subject matter.  | 1.12 |
| 11. The instructors demonstrated strong facilitation skills (e.g., encouraged participation, generated discussion, etc.) | 1.17 |
| 12. Overall the instructors were effective   | 1.15 |

Please provide any comments on this one hour training program (worth the time? made you more aware? etc.)

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix H (PAGE 3 OF 3)

Bold face numbers indicate the number of times this comment was made.

Well worth the time **24**  
 Very informative, impactful **23**  
 Thank you **21**  
 Excellent, great program, relevant **16**  
 Important that the teens go through this program with the parents **14**  
 Run for sophomores **12**  
 Band was noisy **11**  
 Stats make a very good impact **6**  
 Parents fears are true and hopefully parents reluctant to make rules will **6**  
 School announcements were distracting, turn them off **5**  
 Reinforces the messages I have sent my child **4**  
 Hope all parents will learn from this program **4**  
 Very effective **4**  
 Ira Cohen was a very effective presenter and should continue and should speak to the students **4**  
 Opens the door for dialogue with teens **4**  
 Very well run program **3**  
 Refreshing to see community come together in the best interest of the students **3**  
 Contract was great **3**  
 Ask parents to shut off cell phones **2**  
 Impressed with instructor presentation skills  
 Hope parents reinforce GDL at home  
 Hopefully will decrease crashes  
 Emphasize not putting them in fancy cars  
 Better than expected  
 Program well meaning but offers little in raising the new drivers recognition of their responsibility or how to do that  
 Program shows consequences  
 Cold  
 Run twice once at 16 and 17  
 Enjoyed it and will implement the suggestions  
 Enforce junior's not being allowed to park at school  
 Everyone should take this class and stay off cell phones  
 Didn't know what GDL was, don't use abbreviations, parents that don't enforce GDL are morons  
 There should be a program for underage drinking and house parties  
 May be required more often than four years as laws change  
 Conversation now generated among parents as a result of this program

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix I (PAGE 1 OF 3)

### ***Randolph Sergeant and Resident Receive Award***

**Posted: April 23, 2008**

Randolph Police Sgt. William Yarzab and resident Joanne Veech are recipients of the New Jersey State Safety Council's "Distinguished Service Award." Both were lauded for their accomplishments at the organization's 24th Annual Mid-Atlantic Safety Expo held at the Trump Plaza in Atlantic City on April 22, 2008. Mrs. Veech was out of the country and unable to attend so Sgt. Yarzab accepted her award on her behalf.

Sgt. Yarzab serves as Randolph's Traffic Safety Bureau Supervisor and Mrs. Veech is the chairwoman for the township's Traffic Advisory Committee. Together, they are the driving force behind the implementation of the "Alive at 25" teen driver safety program at Randolph High School. The program consists of classroom instruction taught by certified teachers plus a unique parents' class presented by Yarzab and Veech. Any high school senior who intends to submit an application for a senior parking permit must first have a parent attend the parents' class.

William Margaretta, President of the New Jersey State Safety Council, praised both Sgt. Yarzab and Mrs. Veech for their tireless efforts in the area of teen driver safety education.



*Safety Council President William Margaretta presents Randolph Police Sergeant William Yarzab with the Council's "Distinguished Service Award."*

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)



## Appendix I (PAGE 2 OF 3)

### ***The New Jersey State Safety Council Announces the Beacon of Safety Award Winners***

The New Jersey State Safety Council has selected the following individuals and companies to receive its highest Awards for outstanding and continuous achievement in safety. Receiving the New Jersey State Safety Council's prestigious Distinguished Service to Safety Award (NJDSSA) will be five individuals at this year's event.

- ◆ Patricia K. Clark, Regional Administrator, US Department of Labor - OSHA
- ◆ Robert Dinetz, Coordinator, Education & Certification, Division of Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, New Jersey State Department of Health and Senior Services
- ◆ Chief William Nally, Lacey Township Police Department
- ◆ Joanne Veech, Traffic Advisory Committee, Price Waterhouse Coopers
- ◆ Sgt. William M. Yarzab, Traffic Bureau Supervisor, Tactical Operations Unit Supervisor, Randolph Township Police Department

The "Distinguished Service to Safety Award" is the highest award that the Council can give to New Jersey citizens for outstanding individual leadership and support of safety.

Receiving the New Jersey State Safety Council's highest Company Award, the Beacon of Safety for outstanding continuous commitment to safety will be the following organizations:

- ◆ Freehold Regional High School District
- ◆ Morristown Memorial Hospital
- ◆ New Jersey State Division of Highway Traffic Safety
- ◆ Rutgers, The State University, Center for Advanced Infrastructure & Transportation

These awards are determined by an overall and sustained commitment to the safety of the citizens of New Jersey.

The Awards will be presented at a luncheon at Trump Plaza Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, NJ on April 22, 2008 in the main theatre. Nicole Nason, Administrator, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, US Department of Transportation is the invited keynote speaker for this year's event.

The Council's Beacon of Safety Award has the Sandy Hook Lighthouse engraved as its symbol of safety. The Lighthouse was the first Public, Private cooperative safety project undertaken in the State of New Jersey. The New Jersey State Safety Council has cosponsored the Governors Safety Awards since their inception in 1927. The Council annually recognizes those individuals and organizations whose commitment to safety consistently achieves excellent results. Many organizations make a commitment to safety and their enthusiasm or will fades with time, while others, like those chosen for these honors, demonstrate that safety and health are strongly held values.

## Appendix I (PAGE 3 OF 3)

### **Exceptional Duty Award/Distinguished Volunteer Award**

As head of the Traffic Safety Bureau, Sergeant William Yarzab was instrumental in bringing the “Alive at 25” teen and parent driving programs sponsored by the National Safety Council to Randolph Township. Sergeant Yarzab researched the program and attended an information gathering training program which convinced him that the program would be a benefit to this community. Sergeant Yarzab presented the program to the Traffic Advisory Committee, whose members also recognized the benefits of the program. Sergeant Yarzab then presented the idea to the school district and scheduled an information gathering session for members of the school district. The Board of Education bought into the idea which resulted in collaborations between the police, the schools, and the community to minimize teen crashes. Sergeant Yarzab then attended the training and become an instructor of the “Alive at 25” program. He was then certified as a Master Instructor and now instructs other officers and school teachers to be certified to teach the program.

For his call to duty and dedication to reducing crashes among the township’s teens, the 2007 Awards Committee presents Sergeant William Yarzab the Department’s Exceptional Duty Award.

This is Sergeant Yarzab’s second Exceptional Duty Award.

As Chairwoman of the Traffic Advisory Committee, Joanne Veech was instrumental in bringing the “Alive at 25” teen driving and parent programs to Randolph Township. Joanne has worked as a partner with Sergeant Yarzab and has been influential in the success of the program. She has strong community ties which helped raise awareness of the program and Joanne possesses an outstanding level of motivation and dedication to this beneficial program. She also became certified in the program and went on to be certified as a Master Instructor, providing training to 11 other agencies in the state. Joanne has provided instruction at 12 sessions of the parent/teen driver program with a total number of attendees above 500 people.

Joanne formulated a survey which has been used to obtain feedback about the program from the attendees to allow the program to be adjusted as necessary. As a result, Joanne, along with Sergeant Yarzab, made recommendations to the Board of Education to include the expansion of the program by 50 percent.

Joanne Veech and Sergeant Yarzab were awarded a \$22,000.00 grant from State Farm Insurance Company to continue their work in the area of teen driving.

For her dedication to her volunteer position and work put into the teen driving program, the 2007 Awards Committee presents Joanne Veech the Department’s Distinguished Volunteer Award.

Both Joanne Veech and Sergeant Yarzab received the Distinguished Service Award from the New Jersey State Safety Council in April.

(RETURN TO TABLE OF CONTENTS)

## Appendix J (PAGE 1 OF 1)

- 4.9 Identify and disseminate best practices for involving parents, police officers, prosecutors, judges, elected and school officials, and volunteers in community-based teen driver education and crash-prevention programs.

### Champion: Division of Highway Traffic Safety

Teen driver safety is not just a parental or police problem, it's a community problem. Engaging all sectors of the community in helping to address teen driver safety is essential not just for teens but everyone on the road – including pedestrians and bicyclists. A community-based approach sends a strong message to teens that their behavior behind-the-wheel is being monitored not just by their parents and police officers, but everyone from neighbors, teachers, and coaches, to business owners and town officials, and will be reported and dealt with appropriately and in accordance with the law.

The New Jersey Division of Highway Traffic Safety should identify and share, through its 13 county-based Community Traffic Safety Programs (CTSPs) and other traffic safety partners, examples of effective community-based approaches to teen driver education and crash prevention. This information should also be posted on the Division of Highway Traffic Safety's website in the driver education resource library for access by the public and driver education and traffic safety professionals.

The good news is that communities in New Jersey are actively involved in teen driver safety. In Randolph (Morris County), for example, the town's Traffic Advisory

Council (TAC), which has the support of the mayor, town council and police department, has developed a community-wide approach to teen driver safety that includes a requirement that all high school students and their parents attend the National Safety Council's *Alive at 25* program in order for students to obtain parking privileges on campus. The municipal judge participates in this program pointing out that he has a "no tolerance" policy for teens that violate the GDL or other motor vehicle statutes. The TAC has also been working to secure funding to make simulator training available to teens and municipal employees through a partnership with the Morris County Fire & Police Training Academy.

The Freehold Regional High School District, the state's largest with six high schools, also requires its students and their parents to attend the *Alive at 25* program and has tied it to parking privileges. The District has taken it one step further by tying that privilege to a violation-free driving record. If a police officer in any of the communities served by the District cites a student for violating the GDL or another motor vehicle statute, the school is notified and the student's parking privileges are rescinded for a set period of time.

For the complete report, please visit:

<http://www.nj.gov/oag/hts/teen-driver-report.html>

Joanne Veech | Sergeant Will Yarzab | Randolph Township, NJ

For more information contact:

Sergeant Will Yarzab  
Randolph Township Police Department  
Traffic Safety Bureau Supervisor  
(973) 537-7106  
[wyarzab@randolphnj.org](mailto:wyarzab@randolphnj.org)