

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Dave Phalen, Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE

Fairfield County Sheriff's Office
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SAFE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Kick-Off for “Click It or Ticket” Set for May 22, 2013 –
Lancaster High School Students to be Focus of Event**

[Lancaster, Ohio, May 14, 2013] The National Enforcement Mobilization for Seatbelt Use is slated for May 20-June 2, 2013. In Fairfield County, the Safe Communities Program within the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office will join Lancaster High School and other supporters to kick-off the enforcement period by highlighting local teen drivers. A press conference has been scheduled for May 22, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at Lancaster High School, 1312 Granville Pike. Promoters are planning an “official” unveiling of a banner promoting the mobilization period, and a seat belt survey/rewards event with teen drivers from the high school. Each teen that is buckled up when they leave school that day will be rewarded with a gift from Safe Communities and participating sponsors AAA Ohio, Ohio SADD, the Ohio State Highway Patrol, and local business yo.m.g.

“The idea of the event is to reward safe behavior, especially among teens that are at a higher risk for motor vehicle crashes,” noted Teresa C. Carper, Director for the Safe Communities Program. “Lancaster High School was chosen for their proactive stance on traffic safety education and events.”

Earlier this year, Lancaster High School students sponsored a week-long event promoting distracted driving issues, and the school continually strives for safety education. Since motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of death among teens, Safe Communities wanted to highlight seat belt use among this age group.

The National Enforcement Mobilization is sponsored by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and promotes local law enforcement to extend extra patrols to promote seat belt use. Also during the period organizations such as Safe Communities attempts to educate the public on the importance of seat belt use. In a motor vehicle crash, you have a 50% increased chance of survival if you are belted. The slogan “Click It or Ticket Day and Night” refers to the need to promote seat belt use not only during the day, but at night when crash risks increase.

“My office, along with other law enforcement agencies, will increase our patrols in support of this National Mobilization,” noted Sheriff Dave Phalen. “I encourage everyone to ‘Buckle Up Every Trip Every Time’ they drive or ride in a motor vehicle.”

TO SERVE AND PROTECT

Officials and representatives will be on hand to support the kick-off event. Members of local law enforcement, Safe Communities, AAA Ohio, and Lancaster School Administrators and students will help to unveil the official banner and participate in the Teen Seat Belt Event.

For more information on this National Mobilization and other traffic safety enforcement periods, visit the National Highway Traffic Administration website at www.nhtsa.gov.

PR051413



You Are Invited!

The Safe Communities of Fairfield County Program

With

The Fairfield County Sheriff's Office, Lancaster High School,

The Ohio State Highway Patrol, AAA Ohio, SADD Ohio,

and participating sponsor yo.m.g (Yogurt Made Great)

INVITES YOU TO THE PRESS CONFERENCE/TEEN SEAT BELT EVENT

TO KICK-OFF

"Click It or Ticket"

The National Seatbelt Enforcement Mobilization

WHEN: May 22, 2013 @ 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: Lancaster High School, 1312 Granville Pike, Lancaster, Ohio

WHAT: Press Conference & Banner Unveiling/Seat Belt Survey-Rewards Event

(All Lancaster High School Teens who are belted when leaving school will receive a reward for their safety efforts)

Please Plan to Join Us and "Click It or Ticket: Day and Night!"

Please Contact Teresa C. Carper, Director, Safe Communities of Fairfield County @

740-466-4700 or tcarper@pickawaysheriff.com for more information.