

## The Voice and Vision for Pupil Transportation in Virginia



### APRIL 2010 NEWSLETTER Bill Carr

|  |  |   |   |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Michael Ashby<br>Hanover County<br>President<br>804-365-6520 | Dwight Elam<br>Mecklenburg Co.<br>Vice President<br>434-738-6771 | James Day<br>Manassas Park<br>Secretary<br>703-361-1510 | Kermit Shaffer<br>Spotsylvania Co.<br>Treasurer<br>540-582-5125 | David Pace<br>Virginia Beach<br>Past President<br>757-263-1576 |
|--|--|---|---|--|

#### **Board of Directors**

Region 1 - Floyd Miles  
Petersburg City  
Region 2 -James Lash  
York County  
Region 3 -Dennis Newton  
King George County  
Region 4 -Ed Bishop  
Prince William County  
Region 5 - Charmane White  
Albemarle County  
Region 6 - Rebecca Mummau  
Montgomery County  
Region 7 -Sam Musick  
Smyth County  
Region 8 -Bill Mayhew  
Charlotte County

#### **Stand Committees**

Audit -James Lash  
Conference -Mike Ashby  
Dwight Elam, David Pace  
Constitution/Bylaws -Tim  
Parker  
Legislative -Harold Grimes  
Membership -Bertha Thomas  
Nominating -Linwood Horne  
Resolutions -Michael Ashby  
Scholarship -Linwood Horne

#### **Special Committee**

Conference Guest Activities  
-Linda Shaffer  
Hall of Fame -Bob Carter  
Historian -Dwight Elam  
Newsletter -Donna Carter  
Position Papers - Barry  
Sudduth  
Poster -Anne Pilson  
Web Site -Tim Parker  
Procedural Manual  
-Barry Sudduth  
Roadeo -Sharon Utley  
Technicians -Bob Clinebell

## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 30<sup>th</sup>

The Scholarship Committee wants to remind VAPT members that the due date for submitting an application for the 2010 **CLYDE W. MORRIS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP** is Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010. All applications must be postmarked by this date in order to be considered eligible for state level competition.

Applications must first be submitted to the respective local school division where a local finalist shall be selected. The local finalist's application shall be submitted to the VAPT Scholarship Committee no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. Finalist's application from the local division must contain signature of local committee selection chairperson. Only one application from each school division will be judged at state level.

Local finalist application should be sent to:

Linwood Horne, Scholarship Chairperson  
Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation  
Hanover County Public Schools  
11375 N. Lakeridge Parkway  
Ashland, VA 23005-8043

# VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

## 2010 National School Bus Safety Week

### SCHOOL BUS SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

#### WHO MAY ENTER

Anyone enrolled in a public school. Five winning divisions that include: Division #1- Grades K-2; Division #2-Grades 3-5; Division #3-Grades 6-8; Division #4-Special Education; and Division # 5- Computer aided Drawing (CAD). The first place winner from each division will be entered in the national poster contest.

#### DEADLINE DATE

Completed posted designs must be post marked by **APRIL 30, 2010**. All entries become the property of the State School Bus Safety Committee, and will not be returned.

#### POSTER SPECIFICATIONS

Completed poster size must be 12” by 18” ONLY, with a one-inch (1”) space left at the bottom of the poster for the entry blank. This space must be available due to printing requirements.

If not provided, poster will be disqualified. Poster may be illustrated on the vertical or horizontal axis.

Please type or print all information required on entry blank clearly and securely glue to the lower left hand corner of the poster and on the back side in the center.

Designs should be submitted on quality tag, poster illustration board or heavy paper. Construction paper may be used but must be mounted on quality tag poster board. Lamination is not permitted, and will disqualify the poster.

Cut paper/stencils (freehand or pre-dawn stick-on stencils) are not permitted and will disqualify the poster.

There is no limitation on the use and number of colors.

There is no limitation on the type of media-such as print, crayon, and felt pen etc,-used on the posted design; however, wood plastic, glass, metal or collage materials should not be part of the poster. Glued on pieces will eliminate the poster.

Poster designs may not incorporate any copyrighted characters such as comic and /or television characters, or photographs, magazine or newspaper illustrations.

## **POSTER THEMES MUST BE ORIGINAL AND CORRECT IN SAFETY CONCEPT**

Poster themes must be original, correct in safety concept and exclusive work of the student entering the contest in idea, design and execution.

Instructors should supervise all work created. Completion of art should be done in school. Poster slogan must harmonize with the theme. **The theme for 2010 is: "BE AWARE – KNOW THE DANGER ZONE!"** (Contestants must illustrate above theme only, and the theme must be included on poster)

Illustration should be positive in approach, demonstrating only proper school bus safety behaviors. At least a part of a yellow school bus must be present in the poster.

## **LETTERING**

Free hand-drawn letters only may be used on poster design. Stenciled, pre-printed, manufactured stick-on or press-on letters or tracing may not be used. Lettering should be clearly legible, even if used as part of the poster design.

## **SENDING ENTRIES**

Entries should be mailed in a flat box so that they arrive undamaged.

Send posters to the following address:

Mrs. Anne Pilson  
Transportation Director  
Patrick County Public Schools  
115 Via Avenue  
P.O. Box 346  
Stuart, Virginia 24171

## **JUDGING**

Judging will be comprised of prominent individuals in the field of pupil transportation safety. The winning posters will represent the state in the National School Bus Safety Week Poster Contest. Criteria for the selection of award-winning posters are:

- a. Relationship of the poster design to the school bus safety practices.
- b. Originality of the poster and how the idea is expressed in the poster design.
- c. Artwork and its execution.
- d. Visual impact of the poster design.

**All rules regarding poster specification, themes, lettering, etc. must be followed or the poster will be disqualified.**

**PRIZES**

Prizes will be awarded for the first, second, and third places in each division as follows:

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> . Place Winner of each division | \$100.00 Savings Bond |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place Winner of each division   | \$ 75.00 Savings Bond |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Place Winner of each division   | \$ 50.00 Savings Bond |

**2010 NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK**

**SCHOOL BUS SAFETY POSTER CONTEST ENTRY BLANK**

***PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY***

**POSTER PROGRAM ENTRY BLANK**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gr. \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**POSTER PROGRAM ENTRY BLANK**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Gr. \_\_\_\_\_

Division: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

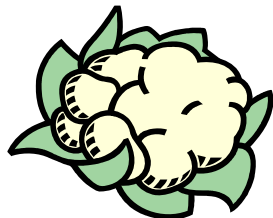
County: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

***PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY***



## Vegetables That Fight Against Stomach Fat



A unique way that a few specific vegetables can actually stimulate the burning of abdominal fat... There is a specific class of vegetables that contain very specific **phytonutrients** that actually help to fight against stubborn belly fat. How do these unique vegetables help to burn stomach fat?

Something most of us may have never heard about is that certain chemicals in our food supply and our environment, such as pesticides, herbicides, and certain **petrochemicals** from air and water pollution, household cleaners, cosmetics, etc can react with our body and make our body store excess abdominal fat.

These chemicals are known as **xenoestrogens**. Xenoestrogens are chemicals that we are exposed to (and are hard to avoid in the modern world) that have an estrogenic effect in our body. Excess exposure to these can cause hormone balance disruptions for both men and women. So these can wreak havoc in the body for both men and women. These estrogenic chemicals that we are exposed to on a daily basis can stimulate our body to store belly fat, along with many other problems (including cancer risks in the long term).

So here's where this specific class of vegetables comes in handy to help fight against stomach fat. **Cruciferous vegetables** such as **broccoli, cauliflower, brussel sprouts, kale, cabbage**, etc. contain very specific and unique **phytonutrients** such as **indole-3-carbinol (I3C)** that help to fight against these estrogenic compounds. And by fighting against these belly fat stimulating estrogenic chemicals, this is just one more step in helping us to win the battle against abdominal fat!

Editor's Note: I found this information folded up in a book, "a yard sale find" of mine and thought it was interesting. Is it valid information? I don't know, but I personally didn't think it would hurt me to eat these vegetables and see what happens. So, I am sharing it with you all.

### You Be the Judge

Despite warning signs about a lane ending plus flashing lights and traffic cones, some twit flies down the shoulder of the road and tries to merge at the front of the line. **You decide he should:**

1. Be stuffed in an orange and white barrel and rolled to his destination
2. Be prevented from re-entering the road for at least one hour
3. Be ignored, because it's not worth getting angry about.

**The National School Bus Loading and Unloading Survey** is a collection of fatality accident records provided by the state agencies responsible for school transportation safety and/or accident records\*. Only those fatalities involving school children in or around the loading or unloading areas of a school bus or transit bus are included in this survey.

Onboard fatalities are excluded.

*\* Numbers are only as accurate as the reporting agency has provided.*



## 2008-2009 National School Bus Loading & Unloading Survey

Survey Data provided by:  
 Kansas State Department of Education  
 School Bus Safety Education Unit  
 Topeka, Kansas

This survey is provided annually to the school transportation industry in an effort to alert individuals and organizations of the dangers involved in loading and unloading school children. Fatalities continue to occur at the bus stop, caused by a variety of circumstances and errors on the part of the school bus driver or passing motorist. It points out the continuing need for forceful, advanced instruction to school bus drivers and students, as well as the need to increase our efforts to thoroughly inform the driving public about the requirements of the school bus stop law.

## Reports of Fatalities by State (2008)

### 50 States & Washington, D.C. Surveyed    2005 2006 2007 2008

|                                |    |    |    |    |
|--------------------------------|----|----|----|----|
| Number reporting fatalities    | 9  | 5  | 5  | 11 |
| Number reporting no fatalities | 42 | 45 | 45 | 39 |
| Number not Reporting           | 0  | 1  | 1  | 0  |

### School Children Killed by Vehicle Passing School Bus    2005 2006 2007 2008

|                            |          |              |           |          |          |           |
|----------------------------|----------|--------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                            |          | Total        | 6         | 4        | 4        | 7         |
| Other                      | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u>     | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u> |          |           |
| School Bus & other vehicle |          | <b>Total</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>17</b> |

School Children's Position When Killed by School Bus 2005 2006 2007 2008

|              |          |          |          |           |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Front of Bus | 0        | 2        | 1        | 3         |
| Back of Bus  | <u>7</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>7</u>  |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>10</b> |

School Children Killed

|                 |           |          |          |             |             |             |             |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                 |           |          |          | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
| Going to School | 4         | 4        | 2        | 13          |             |             |             |
| Activity Trip   | 1         | 0        | 0        | 0           |             |             |             |
| Going Home      | 8         | 3        | 3        | 3           |             |             |             |
| No information  | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>1</u>    |             |             |             |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>17</b>   |             |             |             |

Place Pupil Was Killed

|                                      |           |          |          |             |             |             |             |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                      |           |          |          | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
| Unloading on School Ground (A.M.)    | 0         | 0        | 0        | 2           |             |             |             |
| Loading on School Ground (P.M.)      | 1         | 0        | 0        | 0           |             |             |             |
| Waiting at Bus Stop (A.M.)           | 0         | 2        | 2        | 7           |             |             |             |
| Getting off of Bus (P.M.)            | 6         | 3        | 0        | 3           |             |             |             |
| Walking/Running to Bus Stop (A.M.)   | 5         | 2        | 0        | 5           |             |             |             |
| Walking/Running from Bus Stop (P.M.) | 1         | 0        | 3        | 0           |             |             |             |
| Road, Street or Highway              | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0           |             |             |             |
| Other                                | 0         | 0        | 0        | 0           |             |             |             |
| No Information                       | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u>    |             |             |             |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>17</b>   |             |             |             |

## Day and Month of Fatality

Day of the Week Fatality Occurred (2008 only)

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Monday    | 3 |
| Tuesday   | 6 |
| Wednesday | 5 |
| Thursday  | 0 |
| Friday    | 3 |
| Saturday  | 0 |
| Sunday    | 0 |
| Unknown   | 0 |

Month Fatality Occurred 2005 2006 2007 2008

|           |          |          |          |          |
|-----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| January   | 1        | 1        | 2        | 4        |
| February  | 2        | 1        | 0        | 3        |
| March     | 1        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| April     | 0        | 1        | 0        | 5        |
| May       | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| June      | 1        | 0        | 0        | 1        |
| July      | 0        | 0        | 0        | 0        |
| August    | 1        | 0        | 0        | 1        |
| September | 3        | 2        | 2        | 1        |
| October   | 0        | 0        | 0        | 1        |
| November  | 0        | 2        | 0        | 1        |
| December  | 3        | 0        | 1        | 0        |
| Unknown   | <u>1</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |

**Total**                      **13**   **7**   **5**   **17**

## Light and Weather Conditions

| <u>Light Condition</u> |           | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Dawn                   |           | 3           | 2           | 0           | 1           |
| Dusk                   | 1         | 0           | 0           | 0           |             |
| Daylight               |           | 9           | 3           | 4           | 15          |
| Dark                   | 0         | 2           | 1           | 1           |             |
| Unknown                | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    |             |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>17</b>   |             |

| <u>Road Conditions</u> |           | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Dry                    | 11        | 6           | 3           | 14          |             |
| Wet                    | 0         | 1           | 1           | 2           |             |
| Snow/Slush             | 0         | 0           | 0           | 1           |             |
| Ice/Snow Packed        | 2         | 0           | 1           | 0           |             |
| Mud/Dirt/Sand          | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    |             |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>17</b>   |             |

| <u>Weather Conditions</u> |           | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Clear                     | 11        | 6           | 4           | 13          |             |
| Cloudy                    | 1         | 0           | 1           | 2           |             |
| Cloudy/Raining            | 0         | 1           | 0           | 0           |             |
| Rain                      | 0         | 0           | 0           | 1           |             |
| Snow/Sleet/Ice            | 1         | 0           | 0           | 1           |             |
| Fog                       | 0         | 0           | 0           | 0           |             |
| Unknown                   | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    |             |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>17</b>   |             |

## Area and Road Types

| <u>Area Fatality Occurred</u> |           | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Urban                         | 7         | 3           | 2           | 11          |             |
| Rural                         | 6         | 4           | 3           | 6           |             |
| No Information                | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    | <u>0</u>    |             |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b>    | <b>5</b>    | <b>17</b>   |             |

| <u>Type of Road</u> |   | <u>2005</u> | <u>2006</u> | <u>2007</u> | <u>2008</u> |
|---------------------|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Gravel              | 0 | 0           | 0           | 0           |             |
| City Street         | 6 | 2           | 1           | 8           |             |
| State Highway       | 4 | 2           | 2           | 4           |             |
| Federal Highway     | 1 | 1           | 0           | 0           |             |
| Interstate          | 0 | 0           | 0           | 0           |             |





|                      |   |           |          |          |           |
|----------------------|---|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Female               | 5 | 3         | 1        | 5        |           |
| Male                 |   | 8         | 4        | 4        | 12        |
| Number not Reporting |   | <u>0</u>  | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u>  |
| <b>Total</b>         |   | <b>13</b> | <b>7</b> | <b>5</b> | <b>17</b> |

## 2008-2009 Fatality Report

- 1. Georgia:** A west-bound school bus had come to a stop with the 8-way lights activated. An east-bound armored truck was approaching the stop. The truck driver attempted to stop, but slid to the left, crossing through a turn lane and impacted the front of the bus in the next lane and knocked the school bus off the roadway. A **12-year-old female** had left her parent's car to board the bus when she was struck and killed by the passing vehicle.
- 2. Illinois:** According to police, a **9-year-old male** was crossing the intersection at Lincoln Avenue and West Street around 7:15 a.m. The boy reportedly was not trying to catch the bus that hit him, but appeared to run out in front of the school bus and was struck and killed by the right front wheel of the bus. The driver did not have time to react.
- 3. Indiana:** A **16-year-old male missed the bus** at his scheduled stop. The boy ran after the bus and slipped, sliding under the right rear dual wheels of the school bus and was killed.
- 4. Indiana:** A **12-year-old female missed her bus** at her scheduled stop. The parent drove the girl to catch the bus at another stop along the route. The girl exited her parent's car and attempted to board the bus, approaching from the right rear of the bus. The bus departed the stop, preparing to turn right. The girl was reaching for the bus entry door and tripped. She fell and was struck and killed by the right rear dual wheels of the bus.
- 5. Indiana:** An **11-year-old male** student with special needs exited the bus in the outside lane of the school parking lot. He proceeded toward the school building, walking between rows of parked cars. The boy crossed in front of another bus and was struck and killed by the left front wheel of that bus as it was departing the school loading zone.
- 6. Massachusetts:** A **2-year-old male** was accompanying his 6-year-old sister and his mother to the bus stop when the boy was run over by the school bus. The bus had picked up his sister and the boy was last seen by the school bus driver at the right of the school bus. Somehow the boy ended up in front of the school bus and was struck by the front bumper of the school bus. The fatal injuries occurred when he was run over by the right rear wheels of the bus.
- 7. Minnesota:** A **9-year-old male** was crossing in front of the bus when he dropped some papers The driver lost sight of the boy and he was struck and killed by the left front wheel of the bus.
- 8. North Carolina:** A **16-year-old male** was crossing the street to catch his bus when he was struck and killed by an on-coming sport utility vehicle. The SUV failed to stop for the activated school bus stop arm.
- 9. Ohio:** An **11-year-old male** was **late for the bus stop**. He was running along side of the bus trying to catch it. The boy was struck and killed by the right rear dual wheels when he slipped and fell under the bus.
- 10. Pennsylvania:** A **12-year-old male** was standing near the curb waiting for the approaching bus. The boy was pushed and was struck and killed by the right rear dual wheels as he slipped and fell under the bus.

**11. Tennessee:** An **8-year-old male** was crossing in front of the bus when an on-coming vehicle struck and killed the boy.

**12. Tennessee:** A **7-year-old male** was crossing the street to catch the bus when he was struck and killed by an on-coming vehicle. Several **witnesses said the warning lights were not working on the school bus.**

**13. Texas:** A **7-year-old girl** was waiting for the bus when an oncoming vehicle swerved into a ditch to avoid two other vehicles that had already stopped for the on-coming bus. The vehicle rolled and struck several children waiting at the bus stop. The 7-year-old was pronounced dead at the scene.

**14. Texas:** A **4-year-old male** was waiting for the bus with several other children when an on-coming vehicle swerved into a ditch to avoid two other vehicles that were already stopped for the on-coming bus. The boy was struck by the on-coming vehicle as it rolled and died in the hospital from his injuries.

**15. Texas:** An **11-year-old female** was waiting for the bus when she was struck and killed by an on-coming vehicle that failed to stop for the bus she was trying to board.

**16. Texas:** A **15-year-old female** was struck and killed while crossing in front of her bus shortly after she was dropped off near her home. The girl had grabbed onto the front bumper of the bus after she was knocked down, but couldn't hold on. When she let go, she was dragged under the bus and run over by the rear wheels.

**17. Virginia:** A **4-year-old male** was struck and killed by the left front wheel of a bus moving through the school parking lot after he left the bus he had been riding.

**18. Wyoming:** A **6-year-old male missed his bus** and his father took him to another stop to board the school bus. The father dropped the boy off at the stop. The bus driver activated the stop lights to wait for the boy to get on the school bus. The driver waited, but had not seen anyone get out of the first vehicle. As the driver looked to the left, she was momentarily distracted by a white passenger van that failed to stop for the school bus stop lights. As the driver returned attention back to the right rear-view mirror, she still did not see a passenger approaching, so she resumed driving. As she checked her mirrors while pulling out, she noticed a small child lying in the roadway in her passenger side mirror. She exited the bus and discovered that she had struck the boy with the right rear dual wheels of the bus and killed him.



Only those fatalities involving school children in or around the loading or unloading areas of a school bus **Or** transit bus are included in this survey. **But, remember not all**

**accidents involving a school bus occur at school loading zones or passenger stops. Always Drive Cautiously.**

**Fatalities** attributed to the school bus were 59%. Those involving "the other vehicle," were 41% for 2008-2009.



### God's Problem Now

His wife's grave side service was just barely finished, when there was a massive clap of thunder, followed by a tremendous bolt of lightning, accompanied by even more thunder rumbling in the distance. The little old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, 'Well, she's there.'



### Don't Mess With Seniors

We went to breakfast at a restaurant where the 'seniors' special' was two eggs, bacon, grits and a biscuit for \$2.99 Special.

"Sounds good," my wife said. 'But I don't want the eggs.'

"Then, I'll have to charge you three dollars and forty-nine cents because you're ordering a la carte,' the waitress warned her.

'You mean I'd have to pay for not taking the eggs?' my wife asked incredulously.

'YES!!' stated the waitress.

'I'll take the special then,' my wife said.

'How do you want your eggs?' the waitress asked.

'Raw and in the shell,' my wife replied.

She took the two eggs home and baked a cake.

Don't mess with seniors!



### Wooden Leg Insurance

A man and his wife moved back home to Texas from Louisiana. The husband had a wooden leg, and to insure it back in Louisiana it cost them \$2,000 per year! When they arrived in Texas, they went to an insurance agency to see how much it would cost to insure his wooden leg.

The agent looked it up on the computer and said: '\$39.' The husband was shocked and asked why it was so cheap here in Texas to insure it because it cost him \$2000 in Louisiana!

The insurance agent turned his computer screen to the couple and said, 'well, here it is on the screen, it says: Any wooden structure, with a sprinkler system above it is \$39. You just have to know how to describe it!'

**FYI... Opinion Only, but it may help you in forming yours or just being aware...**  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2010**  
**ACTIVE**

**BILL:**

**SB 517** Wireless telecommunications devices; prohibits talking on such device unless in hands-free mode.

**PATRON:**

Senator Thomas K. Norment, Jr. (R) - Senate District 3  
Williamsburg

**POSITION:** No Opposition

**RATIONALE:** Provides exception for two-way radio communication.

**SUMMARY:**

**Wireless telecommunications devices in motor vehicles.** Extends prohibition on use of wireless telecommunications devices in motor vehicles to initiating or answering a call on such device, unless the device is configured for hands-free operation and is being used in the hands-free mode. The bill also provided for graduated penalties for violations.

**Full text:**

[01/13/10 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10100093D pdf](#)

[01/28/10 Senate: Committee substitute printed 10104806D-S1 pdf](#)

[02/04/10 Senate: Printed as engrossed 10104806D-ES1 pdf](#)

**Amendments:**

[Senate amendments](#)

**Status:**

01/13/10 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10100093D

[01/13/10 Senate: Referred to Committee on Transportation](#)

[01/28/10 Senate: Reported from Transportation with substitute \(10-Y 5-N\)](#)

01/28/10 Senate: Committee substitute printed 10104806D-S1

[02/01/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

02/02/10 Senate: Passed by for the day

02/03/10 Senate: Passed by for the day

02/04/10 Senate: Read second time

02/04/10 Senate: Reading of substitute waived

02/04/10 Senate: Committee substitute agreed to 10104806D-S1

02/04/10 Senate: Reading of amendment waived

02/04/10 Senate: Amendment by Senator Norment agreed to

02/04/10 Senate: Engrossed by Senate - committee substitute with amendment SB517ES1

02/04/10 Senate: Printed as engrossed 10104806D-ES1

[02/08/10 Senate: Read third time and passed Senate \(25-Y 15-N\)](#)

02/17/10 House: Placed on Calendar

02/17/10 House: Read first time

[02/17/10 House: Referred to Committee on Militia, Police and Public Safety](#)

**BILL:**

**SB 272** Biodiesel or green diesel fuel; minimum content in state contracts for vehicle fuel.

**PATRON:**

Senator Mary Margaret Whipple (D) - Senate District 31  
Arlington

**POSITION:** Opposed as written

**RATIONALE:** Biodiesel is more affected by cold temperatures which could affect the operation of buses plus any additional cost for the product or additives to correct deficiencies in the product should be discouraged.

**SUMMARY:**

Summary as introduced:

Biodiesel and green diesel; minimum content in state contracts for vehicle fuel.

Requires state public bodies to procure only diesel fuel containing, at a minimum, two percent, by volume, biodiesel fuel or green diesel fuel. The requirement will only apply to procurements of diesel fuel for use in on-road internal combustion engines and shall not apply if (i) such fuel is not practically available or (ii) the cost of such procurement exceeds the cost of unblended diesel fuel by five percent or more. Based on a finding of sufficient availability of biodiesel or green diesel, the Governor may increase the requirement of biodiesel fuel or green diesel fuel up to 20 percent by volume.

**Full text:**

[01/12/10 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10100653D pdf | impact statement](#)

[02/16/10 Senate: Printed as engrossed 10100653D-E pdf | impact statement](#)

**Amendments:**

[Senate amendments](#)

**Status:**

01/12/10 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10100653D

[01/12/10 Senate: Referred to Committee on General Laws and Technology](#)

[01/27/10 Senate: Reported from General Laws and Technology \(15-Y 0-N\)](#)

[01/27/10 Senate: Rereferred to Finance](#)

[02/11/10 Senate: Reported from Finance with amendment \(14-Y 0-N\)](#)

[02/15/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

02/16/10 Senate: Read second time

02/16/10 Senate: Reading of amendment waived

02/16/10 Senate: Committee amendment agreed to

02/16/10 Senate: Engrossed by Senate as amended SB272E

02/16/10 Senate: Printed as engrossed 10100653D-E

[02/16/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

[02/16/10 Senate: Passed Senate \(31-Y 8-N\)](#)

02/17/10 House: Placed on Calendar

02/17/10 House: Read first time

[02/17/10 House: Referred to Committee on General Laws](#)

**BILL:**

**HB 445** DMV eye exams; allows greater flexibility assessing applicants' and licensees' horizontal vision.

**PATRON:**

Delegate R. Lee Ware, Jr. (R) - House District 65  
Powhatan

**POSITION:** Oppose as written

**RATIONALE:** Unknown basis for the requirement which could have a negative affect on the availability of bus drivers to support requirements.

**SUMMARY:**

Summary as introduced:

**DMV eye exams.** Allows DMV greater flexibility in assessing applicants' and licensees' horizontal fields of vision.

**Full text:**

[01/12/10 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10102979D pdf | impact statement](#)

[02/18/10 House: Bill text as passed House and Senate \(HB445ER\) pdf | impact statement](#)

**Status:**

01/12/10 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10102979D

[01/12/10 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation](#)

[01/21/10 House: Reported from Transportation \(21-Y 0-N\)](#)

01/22/10 House: Read first time

01/25/10 House: Read second time and engrossed

01/26/10 House: Read third time and passed House BLOCK VOTE (99-Y 0-N)

[01/26/10 House: VOTE: BLOCK VOTE PASSAGE \(99-Y 0-N\)](#)

01/27/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed

[01/27/10 Senate: Referred to Committee on Transportation](#)

[02/11/10 Senate: Reported from Transportation \(15-Y 0-N\)](#)

[02/15/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

02/16/10 Senate: Read third time

[02/16/10 Senate: Passed Senate \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

02/18/10 House: Enrolled

02/18/10 House: Bill text as passed House and Senate (HB445ER)

02/18/10 House: Signed by Speaker

02/19/10 Senate: Signed by President

**BILL:**

**HB 856** Speed limits; increases on highways where it is presently 65 mph to 70 mph.

**PATRON:**

Delegate Charles W. Carrico, Sr. (R) - House District 5  
Galax

**POSITION:** Oppose

**RATIONALE:** Creates a greater gap between speed of school buses and other vehicles on the interstate and would have a negative impact on fuel conservation.

**SUMMARY:**

Summary as introduced:

Highway speed limits. Increases the general highway speed limit on highways where it is presently 65 mph to 70 mph. This bill incorporates [HB 176](#).

**Full text:**

[01/13/10 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10101942D pdf](#)

[01/28/10 House: Committee substitute printed 10104686D-H1 pdf](#)

[02/18/10 House: Bill text as passed House and Senate \(HB856ER\) pdf | impact statement](#)

**Status:**

[01/13/10 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10101942D](#)

[01/13/10 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation](#)

[01/22/10 House: Assigned Transportation sub: #2](#)

[01/27/10 House: Subcommittee recommends reporting \(4-Y 3-N\)](#)

[01/28/10 House: Reported from Transportation with substitute \(13-Y 8-N\)](#)

[01/28/10 House: Committee substitute printed 10104686D-H1](#)

[01/29/10 House: Read first time](#)

[02/01/10 House: Read second time](#)

[02/01/10 House: Committee substitute agreed to 10104686D-H1](#)

[02/01/10 House: Engrossed by House - committee substitute HB856H1](#)

[02/02/10 House: Read third time and passed House \(71-Y 26-N\)](#)

[02/02/10 House: VOTE: --- PASSAGE \(71-Y 26-N\)](#)

[02/03/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed](#)

[02/03/10 Senate: Referred to Committee on Transportation](#)

[02/11/10 Senate: Reported from Transportation \(12-Y 3-N\)](#)

[02/15/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

[02/16/10 Senate: Read third time](#)

[02/16/10 Senate: Passed by temporarily](#)

[02/16/10 Senate: Passed Senate \(30-Y 10-N\)](#)

[02/18/10 House: Enrolled](#)

[02/18/10 House: Bill text as passed House and Senate \(HB856ER\)](#)

[02/18/10 House: Signed by Speaker](#)

[02/19/10 Senate: Signed by President](#)

**BILL:**

**HB 806** Alternative Fuels Revolving Fund; adds improvement of infrastructure such as refueling stations.



**PATRON:**

Delegate Charles D. Poindexter (R) - House District 9  
Glade Hill

**POSITION:** No Opposition

**RATIONALE:** May make alternative fuel infrastructure more accessible.

**SUMMARY:**

Summary as introduced:

**Virginia Alternative Fuels Revolving Fund.** Adds improvement of infrastructure such as refueling stations as a goal of the Fund. Requires that the Commissioner aggressively pursue grants and other sources of funding for the Fund.

**Full text:**

[01/13/10 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10102229D pdf | impact statement](#)

**Status:**

01/13/10 House: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/13/10 10102229D

[01/13/10 House: Referred to Committee on Transportation](#)

[02/02/10 House: Reported from Transportation \(17-Y 0-N\)](#)

02/04/10 House: Read first time

02/08/10 House: Read second time and engrossed

02/09/10 House: Read third time and passed House BLOCK VOTE (99-Y 0-N)

[02/09/10 House: VOTE: BLOCK VOTE PASSAGE \(99-Y 0-N\)](#)

02/10/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed

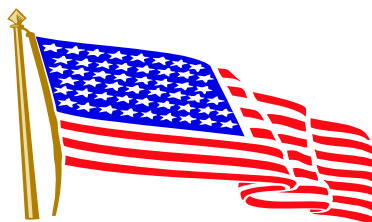
[02/10/10 Senate: Referred to Committee on Transportation](#)

[02/18/10 Senate: Reported from Transportation \(15-Y 0-N\)](#)

[02/22/10 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

02/23/10 Senate: Read third time

[02/23/10 Senate: Passed Senate \(40-Y 0-N\)](#)

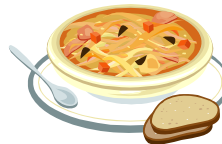
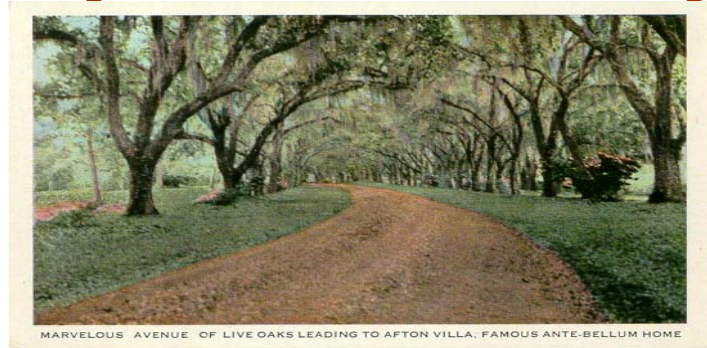


**GOD BLESS AMERICA**

**God bless America  
Land that I love  
Stand beside her  
And guide her  
Through the night with  
The light from above  
From the mountains  
To the prairies  
To the oceans**

White with foam  
God bless America  
My home sweet home  
God bless America  
My home sweet home.

## *Cooking Down Home in Virginia*



**Spoon Bread:** 3 cups milk, 1 cup corn meal, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 tablespoon sugar, yolks of 3 eggs beaten until lemon-colored, 3 egg whites beaten until stiff. Combine 3 cups of milk and 1 cup corn meal and cook together in double boiler for 5 minutes. Add butter, sugar, salt and the beaten egg yolks. Gently fold in egg whites. Bake in 350-degree oven for 45 minutes.

**Sweet Potato Custard Pie:** 3 eggs, 4 tablespoons butter, ¼ cup sugar, 1 cup mashed sweet potatoes, lemon, nutmeg or vanilla flavoring, 1½ cups sweet milk. Add butter to hot mashed sweet potatoes. Separate eggs. Beat yolks and add sugar. Mix with potatoes. Add milk and flavoring – vanilla preferred. Fold in stiffly beaten egg whites. Brush pie shell with melted shortening or egg whites before pouring in mixture to prevent getting soggy. Bake 30 minutes in 350-degree oven.

**Cream of Peanut Soup:** 2 stalks chopped celery, ¼ cup butter, 1 small chopped onion, 2 tablespoons flour, 2 cups chicken broth, 1 cup milk, 1 cup light cream, 1 cup peanut butter, salt and pepper, paprika. Brown celery and onions in butter. Add flour and chicken broth and bring to a boil. Add milk and cream. Strain. Add peanut butter and simmer for 5 minutes. Season to taste.

**Fried Ripe Tomatoes (1894 recipe):** 3 or 4 large tomatoes, 4 tablespoons cornmeal, 2 tablespoons sugar, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon pepper, 1 tablespoon butter, 1 tablespoon lard. Mix together thoroughly the corn meal, sugar, salt and pepper. Peel tomatoes and slice them ¼ inches thick. Put butter and lard into frying pan to get hot.

Dip tomato slices in cornmeal mixture and drop into hot grease. Let brown on one side, turn and brown on the other side. Cook quickly or tomatoes will start to go to pieces.

**Japanese Fruit Pie:** 1 stick butter, ½ cup coconut, 1 cup sugar, ½ cup raisins, 2 eggs, ½ cup pecans, 1 tablespoon vinegar.

Mix all ingredients and pour in unbaked pie crust. Bake at 325 degrees for 30 minutes.

## A Couple of Topics for Local School Bus Drivers Newsletters

### DEFENSIVE DRIVING



Defensive driving is, in one word, PREVENTION. Prevention is especially important to the school bus driver who is directly responsible for the lives of the many school children he or she transports twice a day, each day of the school year.

Defensive driving is both an action and a state of mind. It is being prepared to yield the right-of-way to someone who does not warrant receiving it, in order to prevent an accident or a situation that might result in one.

Most accidents are preventable. One or all of the drivers involved could have avoided the accident. Many accidents are the result of plain carelessness.

### STUDENT DISCIPLINE



1. Children are not mature with adult attitudes.
2. The driver should have an understanding of the problems of students:
  - Most students want to be older than they are, to be free of adult controls and to do things that adults do.
  - Most students want adults to recognize their good traits and or abilities.
  - Students dislike being singled out for disciplining in the presence of a group.
  - Some students will create problems in order to get recognition.
  - Students who normally comply with regulations may become problems if the driver is too lax, indifferent, or unreasonable in his demands.
3. Be friendly, but not familiar. For example, you probably know your passengers by their first name, but they should refer to you as Mr., Mrs. or Miss.
4. A smile or a friendly greeting can do more to promote a pleasant atmosphere on the school bus.

5. A list of rules should be posted on the front inside of the school bus.
6. Treat each child as an individual.
7. Do not threaten a passenger.
8. Be firm and fair in dealing with your passengers, but not harsh
9. Do not punish everyone because of the misbehavior of a few.

## **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**

### **SCHOOL BUS SAFETY IS INFLUENCED BY THE “ATTITUDE” OF THE TRANSPORTATION OFFICE, ESPECIALLY THE SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS SUPERVISORS.**

*It's up to the supervisor to cultivate a safety conscience attitude in their school bus drivers and maintain a plan to make sure their drivers are driving accordingly. The supervisors are the School Bus Safety Salespeople. You have to convince them of the importance of their driving in the manner you, the school board, and the Virginia State Department of Education is expecting them to drive.*

*Think about how you have or have not personally contributed to school bus safety? Do you regularly supervise the drivers while they are driving their routes? Do you know if they are activating the school bus traffic warning lights the proper distance before reaching the passenger stops? Do you know if they follow the correct procedure for completing a passenger stop? What are all of the steps drivers must follow when loading and unloading passengers? Do you know if they are maintaining a safe following distance? Do your drivers wear their seatbelts? Do your drivers back correctly? Do your drivers speed or exceed the State's restricted maximum speed limit for school buses?*

*If a tragic school bus accident happened in your city or county and the school bus driver is found at fault, do you believe you could face that parent and honestly say you had done everything possible to help prevent school bus accidents? **Could you tell them you make scheduled and unscheduled school bus driver observations on a regular basis to make sure they are performing in a safe and professional manner?** Are you doing what you would want someone in your position to do to make sure the children riding your city or county's school buses is safe as possible?*

**Accidents don't usually just happen – they are caused.**

**SO WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO HELP IMPROVE THE SAFETY RECORD REGARDING SCHOOL BUS ACCIDENTS?**