On September 11, 2014 the 4th Annual Celebrity Car Seat Challenge was held at the Shops at Kanawha.

Those participating in the event this year (pictured below from L-R) were Meterologist, James Hopkins from WOWK, WV Delegate, Meshea Poore, Coach Kidd from Electric 102, Morgan Robinson from Electric 102, and Woody Woods from 98.7 The Beat.

James Hopkins from WOWK and Coach Kidd from Electric 102 won this year’s competition. The winner was chosen on a scoring system, consisting of various points of correct installation.

A special thank you to the GHSP staff and others who worked diligently along with the CPS Statewide Coordinator to make this event possible.
Welcome

Hi, my name is Charlie Kessell, I’m the new guy! I started with the Governor’s Highway Safety Program in July of this year and certified as a technician in July of this year; busy start! I now serve as the Statewide Child Passenger Safety Program Coordinator and I have some big shoes to fill. Trish Anderson did a great job; she’s been very helpful! A little bit about myself, I’m married, my wife and I have a son who will soon be 4 years old. His safety is my top priority. I served as a 4-H Camp Counselor for 9 years and on the side I am a DJ - lots of fun! I look forward to working with each of you. If you have any pics or stories to share that you want included in future newsletters, send ‘em my way!

A Message From...

Charlie Kessell,
CPS Coordinator

Thanks to everyone for all their hard work this year! Without you the program would not be a success! If you have any pics or stories send them to me and I’ll be happy to publish them in the next newsletter.

For more information, visit our website:
www.dmv.wv.gov/cps
Or Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/wvghsp?ref=hl

Remember:
Check and update your profile often; this is very important! Logon today to http://cert.safekids.org online services and ensure that your address, email address, phone number and recerification info are current and up to date.

IT’S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO KEEP YOUR PROFILE UP TO DATE!

Check out these websites to receive CEUs:

- http://cert.safekids.org
- www.carseat.org
- www.cpsboard.org
- www.saferidenews.com

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Feel free to contact one of us via email should you have any questions. We will be happy to help you and answer any questions or concerns that you may have.
Child Passenger Safety Week
Around the State

Region 2

Region 3

Region 7
What to Know about Booster Seats

Booster seats protect children who are too big for a car seat but too small for a seat belt.

Seat belts don’t fit children properly until they are at least 57” (4’9”) tall and weigh between 80 and 100 pounds.

Motor vehicle crashes are the second-leading cause of death for children 4 to 10 years old. 1/3 of these children were riding without a restraint that could have saved their lives.

340 children this age died in motor vehicle crashes in 2012.

Although seat belts are safer than nothing at all, children who should be in booster seats but wear only seat belts are at risk of severe abdominal, head and spinal injuries in the event of a crash.

Booster seats can reduce the risk of serious injury by 45 percent compared to seat belts alone.

Safe Kids Worldwide surveyed 1,000 parents of 4 to 10 year olds. The study found seven in ten parents do not know that a child should be at least 57 inches (4’9”) to ride in a car using a seat belt without a booster seat.

The study revealed 9 out of 10 parents move their child from a booster seat to seat belt before their child is big enough.

One in five parents whose children carpool say they “bend the rules” when driving, letting children ride without seat belts and without the car seat or booster seat they would normally use.

And 61 percent of parents say they notice other carpool drivers bending the rules.

Buckle up every ride, every time, in the right seat.

REMEMBER: A child needs to be at least 57” tall (4’9”) and weigh between 80 and 100 pounds to ride with just a seat belt.

Learn more at www.safekids.org
Instructor Notes
by Dave Cook

Technicians must always stay current on changes in the CPS world. Between the changes in seats and vehicles, it can be challenging. I would like to address the somewhat confusing changes that have occurred in respect to LATCH weight limits.

FMVSS 213 addressed the weight limit of the lower anchors in vehicles and the labeling of seats to reflect the weight limit of 65 lbs. The combined weight limit of the seat and child for the lower anchor is 65 lbs. You can’t use lower anchors to secure a seat when the weight of the child and seat is over 65 lbs.; you must use the seat belt when the limit is reached. This is now part of the CPS Tech Certification class. For those of you who took the class more than one year ago, this might be news to you.

When doing installs remember to read the labels on the seats and the owner’s manual for the vehicle. The newer seats have calculated the weight of the seat when giving the max weight of the child allowed when using lower latch anchors.

Anchor weight limits are not always stated in the vehicle or car seat owner’s manual. If the manufacturer offers no weight limit, do not use lower anchors or the tether anchor if the child plus the car seat weight is more than 65 lbs.

REGION 3
On Child Seat Saturday, a child seat clinic was conducted at the Vienna Wal-Mart. A total of 39 seats were checked. Of these seats, 7 were replaced and 32 were properly reinstalled. In addition, a variety of public educational materials on the importance of child seats was provided and many questions were answered. Upcoming child seat checks in Region 3 include: Saturday, November 8th (10:00 AM at Gilmer County VFD), and Friday, November 21st (11:30 AM at Wood County Baby Shower).

REGION 7
Over the summer, Region 7 assisted in the correct installation of exactly 100 seats. During the month of September, 15 infant seats, 10 forward facing seats, 5 convertible, and 4 booster seats were installed. Also during September, Region 7 had 5 reinstalls.
CPS Tech Classes Around the State

May 6-8, 2014
Huntington, WV

Amy Baylor (Mountain State Healthy Families), Amanda Danko (Jackson County Pilot), Margaret Ferguson (NECCO), Shannon Marcum (TEAM for WV Children), Aleisha McCarty, Chad Messer (NECCO), Paula Newsome (TEAM for WV Children), Betty Tyler (West Virginia Violence and Injury Prevention Program), Bryan Varney (Jackson County Sheriff’s Office), Douglas West (Winfield Police Department), Erin White (NECCO), Loma Williams (NECCO)

July 8-11, 2014
Morgantown, WV

Robert Ambrose (Monongalia CSO), Chad Barker (WVU PD), Angela Bryant, Matthew Bukrim (WVU PD), Mike Campbell (Granville PD), Brandon Curry (FBI), Andy Dotson (Morgantown FD), Gary Freshour (Morgantown FD), Eric Gidley (FBI CJIS), Jessica Hardesty (Monongalia Starting Point), Brian Hyde (City of Bridgeport), Charlie Kessell (WV Governor’s Highway Safety Program), Angela Lambka, Stormy Matlick (Monongalia Starting Point), Kimberly Reed (City of Bridgeport), Dennis Smith (Mountain State Healthy Families), Annette Sovastion (WVU PD), Ryan Stouffer (Town of Star City), Travis Thomas (WVU PD), Brenda Wilson (Monongalia CSO), Jefferie Wright (WVU PD)
In the blink of an eye, a beautiful California day turned upside-down, literally. Christine Lopez and her five year old daughter, Leilani, were in a terrible crash; their SUV flipped over and landed on its roof. But it wasn’t just luck that kept them safe that day. Learn more about the factors that went into keeping Christine and Leilani safe by reading “Saving Leilani.”

“Saving Leilani” tells the story of how this mother and daughter walked away from a crash that could have easily been fatal if Christine had made a few different decisions. Fortunately, Christine went to a car seat inspection event just four days prior to the crash. What she learned at this event played a role in keeping her family safe and sound.

Please share this story and its important safety messages with your members and social community! Every day, every minute, a new parent is bringing their child home for the first time and it’s important we share this story that can help keep their little ones safe on the road.

Also, be sure to check out the YouTube video, “Saving Leilani”.
Child Safety Seat Technician’s Class & Clinic at Barboursville Toys R Us - October 2007

Clockwise from Top: Graduating Class; Natalie Harvey Preparing to Begin Clinic; Matt Kember (St. Mary’s Medical Center) Playing with His Baby Doll; Jim Reynolds (Point Pleasant PG) Completing the Always Necessary Paperwork, and Natalie and Candice Armstrong (Cabell Huntington Hospital)