



PROCLAMATION

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

NATIONAL DRUNK AND DRUGGED DRIVING (3D) PREVENTION MONTH DECEMBER 2009

- WHEREAS:** Drivers are considered to be alcohol-impaired when their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is .08 grams per deciliter or higher. In 2008 there were 11,733 fatalities in crashes involving a driver with a BAC of .08 or higher, and; these deaths constitute 32% of the total traffic fatalities; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2008, a total of 1,347 children ages 14 and younger were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes. Of those deaths 46% were occupants of a vehicle with a driver who had a BAC level of .08 or higher. An additional 34 children age 14 and younger were killed in traffic crashes as pedestrians and or pedal cyclists struck by drivers with a BAC of .08 or higher; and
- WHEREAS:** Thirty-six percent of fatal crashes involving impaired drivers took place during night hours compared to nine percent during the day, and, fifteen percent of these fatalities took place during the week compared to thirty-two percent on the weekends. The highest percentage of drivers in fatal crashes who had BAC levels of .08 or higher was for drivers ages 21 to 24; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2008, 57% of the drivers involved in fatal crashes who had been drinking had a BAC of .15 or greater; and
- WHEREAS:** The Township of Middletown Police Department reports that a comparison of driving while intoxicated arrests between September 2008 and September 2009 indicates an overall increase in DWI arrests in the Township of Middletown of 11.71%; and
- WHEREAS:** Americans face a 40% chance of being killed or injured by an impaired driver during their lifetime. During the month of December 54% of all fatal accidents involving an impaired driver take place on New Years and 45% take place on Christmas; now
- THEREFORE:** I, Mayor Pamela M. Brightbill, and the Middletown Township Committee on November 16, 2009 do hereby join the Middletown Municipal Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse in proclaiming December 2009, as National Drunk and Drugged Driving Month. We call upon all citizens, government agencies, business leaders, hospitals, schools, and public and private institutions to make a conscious effort to ensure a safe and healthy holiday season for everyone by not driving impaired, by being a responsible party host, and by intervening when someone you know attempts to get behind the wheel after drinking or taking drugs.

Mayor Pamela M. Brightbill