

Ohio State Highway Patrol



MEDIA RELEASE



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Ohio State Highway Patrol partners with Keeping Us Safe to prevent older driver tragedies

WARREN – The Ohio State Highway Patrol is pleased to announce a new partnership with two organizations dedicated to keeping older drivers safe on the roads of the Mahoning Valley: SCOPE of Trumbull County (Senior Citizen's Opportunity for Personal Endeavor) and [Keeping Us Safe](#).

In conjunction with the Warren Post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol, SCOPE will sponsor Keeping Us Safe's "[A Safe Drive Through the Aging Process](#)" presentation throughout March and April.

Keeping Us Safe is a national organization that works with older drivers and their families with the issue of age-related diminishing driving skills. The one-hour long presentation, free to the public, will offer suggestions on how an older driver can extend his or her safe driving career. The program stresses the importance of staying aware of diminishing physical and cognitive skills as we age, as well as making appropriate adjustments in driving behavior to compensate for a decline in those skills.

Last year in Ohio, 454 individuals age 56 and older were killed in traffic crashes. Keeping Us Safe's programs are designed to significantly reduce those numbers, both in Ohio and across the country.

"Meaningful partnerships between government agencies and the private sector can prove invaluable in solving public safety challenges," said Matt Gurwell, founder of Keeping Us Safe. "It is an honor to be working with the Ohio State Highway Patrol on this life-saving initiative."

According to AARP, boomers will turn 65 at a rate of about 8,000 individuals per day for the next 18 years. Tragically, an average of 15 people ages 65 and older die in car accidents every day across the United States.

"The issue of older drivers with diminished driving skills can be a very complex, sensitive and emotional family issue," Gurwell said. "Our programs help older drivers extend their safe driving careers, or when necessary, help them make a smooth transition into a driving retirement, with minimal erosion to their pride, dignity, or independence."

SCOPE will host presentations at the following locations. Family members and friends are also invited to attend.

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Location / Time

Niles S.C.O.P.E Senior Center	March 4, 2016	12:00PM
Champion S.C.O.P.E	March 7, 2016	10:30AM
Cortland S.C.O.P.E	March 18, 2016	1:00PM
Warren S.C.O.P.E	March 23, 2016	10:30AM

More dates and locations to be added at a later time

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