

# Tennessee Highway Safety Office



# THSO Mission-

*To reduce Tennessee traffic fatalities as part of the nation's vision [Toward Zero Deaths](#). The Tennessee Highway Safety Office works to achieve this goal by changing driver behavior through increased education, enforcement, and community partnerships.*

The THSO works in tandem with NHSTA to implement statewide programs addressing:

- *occupant protection*
- *impaired driving*
- *distracted driving*
- *speed enforcement*
- *pedestrian and bicycle safety*
- *crash data collection and analysis*






## HOW DO WE DO EVEN START??

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- Use Data Driven approach to identify locations where speeding is a key factor in fatal crashes
- Develop partnerships with law enforcement agencies and traffic safety advocates.
- Safety Campaigns



**SLOW DOWN**  
**TENNESSEE**  
TENNESSEE HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE



**EXCLUSIVE**

SEE HOW ALL THE LOCAL MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAMS DID IN THE AREA TOURNAMENTS.

SPORTS, B SECTION

**COMING SOON**

SEE HOW ALL THE LOCAL MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAMS DID IN THE AREA TOURNAMENTS.

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**WATCH**

TONS OF VIDEOS, INCLUDING AN ARCHIVED LIVE RECORDING OF THE TENNESSEE HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE PRESS CONFERENCE, AS WELL AS POSTGAME ATHLETE INTERVIEWS AND MORE, CAN BE FOUND ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!



# EYES ON THE ROAD



Photo by Robby O'Daniel

A Tennessee Highway Safety Office press conference took place on Friday in Caryville to talk about the uptick in traffic fatalities in Campbell County in 2021.

## Police target reducing traffic fatalities

State says 17 people died in Campbell County in traffic crashes in 2021, more than four-times the amount of traffic-related deaths in 2019 and 2020 combined

BY ROBBY O'DANIEL

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There were 17 traffic fatalities in Campbell County in 2021, a dramatic increase from recent years.

"Keep in mind that that is not just a number," said Tennessee

Highway Patrol public information officer Clint McKissack. "That number reflects a family, a work colleague and someone who lost their life in a traffic crash."

There was one traffic fatality in Campbell County in 2020

and three traffic fatalities in the county in 2019, McKissack said. "In 2021, we lost 10 drivers, five passengers and two pedestrians that were killed as a result of a motor vehicle crash," McKissack said. "Again, it's not just a number. It's personal. It's a family member. It's a trooper or law enforcement officer making a notification, being on scene, seeing the devastation. You become very close, and you never forget it."

Law enforcement officials who gathered for a press event in Caryville last Friday to shine a light on the issue. "The reason why we're having this press conference is to get the word out that we cannot have a repeat of 2021," McKissack said. "If you look back at our crash data, which we gather through our troopers and other agencies into our Titan system, which allows us to then break down causations, times and areas where crashes are likely

to occur, we're able to look back at 2020 and find that there was one fatality in Campbell County. Looking back into 2019, there were three. Again, that may just seem like a number, but think about your family members and how difficult that is for the trooper or law enforcement officer to go to the home of that individual and tell them that their loved one is never coming home. That's something that our troopers and law enforcement

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## New sports complex coming to Campbell County?

BY EVA HERINKOVA

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Commissioners on the recreation committee have proposed bringing a sports complex to Campbell County, including gyms and a baseball field, to earn revenue and provide more activity for children in the area.

In a meeting on Jan. 19, Recreation Chairman Dewayne Baird suggested building a gym that could be used for travel ball tournaments and local tennis; however, commissioner Lisa Lester expanded on the idea, stating that she'd like to see a full sports complex if possible.

"We base our county off tourism and the lake, the mountains, and I think some of this money that we've earmarked for tourism can go toward getting us a gym or a piece of property that can be a multi-use facility," Baird said.

Baird specifically mentioned the popularity of travel ball, saying the county could partner with municipalities and the school system.

"We've got to look to the future," commissioner Johnny Bruce added. "We've got good things going right here, but 15 years down the road, 10 years down the road, what do we have?" Commissioner Ralph Davis suggested that Baird speak with Financial Director Jeff Mar-

low and contact MBI Companies Inc. to see if the county could acquire a rough sketch of a two-gym or four-gym building. However, he disagreed with the idea of partnering with the cities.

"You can't deal with them now, so if they're going to be involved in the money part of it, I'd say no," he said. "We could build a building, but the first thing you've got to do is get the price."

Lester proposed including indoor and outdoor batting cages as well, not just gyms, as well as an indoor pool.

"Start small, but maybe we should just see about a sports complex," she said.

During the committee meeting, commissioners also spoke about the development of the Lonas Young Park campground, which should begin construction in March after FMS approves bids. The total cost, according to Baird, will be \$1,711,500.

In addition to the 19 campsites, the bid includes electrical and sewer work, as well as a full-shower house.

"When these people start coming in and seeing how beautiful it is out there and how the upkeep is...we're going to have to expand later, there's no question about it," said commissioner Scotty Kitts.

## Building-grounds team hears Future Energy Solutions proposal

BY EVA HERINKOVA

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Employees with Future Energy Solutions appeared before the county's building and grounds committee last week to propose a contract that would reduce lighting costs in the courthouse and jail.

The 15-year agreement would include installation and maintenance of new bulbs.

"Especially with the onslaught of LEDs, we started to realize that people lose money," said FES National Sales Director Wayne Bur-

rell, explaining the company's program. "...When LEDs came out, [manufacturers] pitched the story that they last forever, so switch over to LEDs. All you had to do is ask one simple question. If their business model is to make and sell the same goods over and over again, if they last forever, what would

they sell you next? They'd go out of business."

Although LEDs may last four or five years, if not longer, they will need to be replaced at some point, and businesses won't continue to save money on lighting costs after that second purchase, Burrell continued.

He added that manufacturers have also adjusted their warranties, creating stipulations that say using their lights in any facility that operates over 12 hours a day, like the jail, automatically voids their warranty.

"You have no warranty starting on day one," Burrell said. "One of the values that we bring is that our warranty covers 15 years."

Associate Vice President Scott Chase, who spoke to the commission during its workshop in December, has already conducted an audit to determine light fixture

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# Partnerships





Dyer County High School

October 18 at 6:48 PM · 🌐

Slow down, Choctaws! This week is National Teen Driver Safety Week. Let's start by SLOWING DOWN! #choctaws #dyercounty #dchs #teendriversafety



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**TENNIS**  
TENNESSEE HIGH SCHOOL



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**STATE CHAMPION**





**TENNESSEE HIGHWAY  
SAFETY OFFICE LAUNCHES  
"SLOW DOWN TENNESSEE"  
ON APRIL 15**

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AGENCIES TAKE PART IN SLOW DOWN TENNESSEE



ANY  
QUESTIONS  
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