

news

NHTSA

David Umansky, New Director of Public Affairs



Volume 5
Number 10



Published by
National Highway Traffic
Safety Administration

U.S. Department of
Transportation
Washington, D.C.

NHTSA News is a semi-monthly publication prepared for all agency employees by the Executive Secretariat, Room 5221, Nassif Building, 426-2876. Distribution is on the 1st and 3rd Monday of every month.

Editor M. J. Noll

May 1979

David J. Umansky, NHTSA's new Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Participation, is no stranger to the Department of Transportation. He comes to NHTSA from the Federal Railroad Administration, where he has served as the Director of Public Affairs and Consumer Services since March 1977.

Prior to coming to the Department, Umansky worked for Congressman Joshua Eilberg of Pennsylvania. From July 1971 until January 1975, Umansky served as Representative Eilberg's Executive Assistant. And from January 1975 until March 1977, he was his Administrative Assistant, with full responsibility for the general supervision of the Washington and Philadelphia Office staffs.

From 1965 to 1971, NHTSA's new Director was a reporter for the Philadelphia Inquirer, covering first the governments of several suburban communities and later serving on the city desk in general assignment work. During his last 18 months at the Inquirer, Umansky was the paper's education writer, covering the city's public and parochial school systems, area colleges and universities as well as national education issues. His weekly education column appeared in the Sunday edition of the newspaper.

Umansky, an alumnus of Temple University in Philadelphia, has often returned to his alma mater as a guest lecturer on

(See **New Director** on page 4.)

May is U.S. Savings Bond Month

The annual U. S. Savings Bond Campaign for DOT employees will be held during the month of May 1979. This year the Acting Associate Administrator for Enforcement, Lynn L. Bradford, will serve as the Vice Chairman for this all important effort.

Savings Bonds continue to accomplish two purposes. First, their purchase through the Payroll Savings Plan represents a means of accumulating savings in a relatively painless way. Once the authorization card is signed, that amount is set aside for you automatically every payday. When you don't see the money, you don't miss it. Secondly, this investment provides the Government with the means to meet important national objectives. Every Bond dollar works to build our county's economic strength.

Savings Bonds are liquid assets and have build-in tax advantages which endow them with

Monthly Savings	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years	15 Years
(a) \$ 6.25	\$ 76.40	\$ 240.57	\$ 421.89	\$ 999.65	\$ 1,776.15
(b) 12.50	153.16	482.02	844.66	2,000.18	3,553.18
(c) 18.75	230.20	724.82	1,272.27	3,014.22	5,355.36
(d) 25.00	306.60	965.39	1,694.16	4,013.87	7,131.51
37.50	460.40	1,449.64	2,544.54	6,028.44	10,710.72
56.25	690.60	2,174.46	3,816.81	9,042.66	16,066.08
75.00	920.80	2,899.28	5,089.08	12,056.88	21,421.44
150.00	1,841.60	5,798.56	10,178.16	24,113.76	42,842.88

- (a) Buys a \$25 Bond each quarter.
 (b) Buys a \$50 Bond each quarter.
 (c) Buys a \$75 Bond each quarter.
 (d) Buys a \$100 Bond each quarter.

How Your Money Grows

added attractions as nest eggs for a more comfortable retirement or to help underwrite the cost of a college education for your children. They pay 6% interest when held to maturity of five years; 4-1/2% interest the first year. If you're not ready to use your money when the Bonds mature, you can go right on holding them for an additional 10-year extension period while they go on increasing in value.

Another advantage of

U.S. Savings Bonds is that the interest they earn is exempt from state and local income taxes. And, depending on which is most advantageous to you, Federal tax may either be declared annually or deferred until the Bond is redeemed or reaches maturity, whichever comes first.

Each NHTSA employee who plans to improve his or her savings program should join the Payroll Savings Plan during this month. And current bond purchasers should give consideration to increasing their allotment. All you have to do is sign a card and our payroll office will do the rest. Be ready for tomorrow by signing up for U. S. Savings Bonds today.

Just In . . .

Effective June 1, 1979, U.S. Savings Bonds will earn 6-1/2% interest annually when held to maturity.

Take
 stock
 in America.



Good Ideas Win for Four NHTSA Employees



NHTSA's four recent "winners": Wendell A. Cook, TSP, Vincent J. Coletti, TSP, Mary L. Freeman, OFM, and Hartman Studle, OFM.

A good way to express your ideas is through the NHTSA Suggestion Program. Your suggestion could be rewarding for both you and NHTSA.

Our most recently adopted suggestions were submitted by Mary Freeman and Hartman Studle of OFM regarding overtime fraud prevention. Vincent Coletti of TSP found a way to reduce the length of operating budget reports in the Financial Management Information Accounting System (FMIAS), and in April, Contracts and Procurement adopted a suggestion submitted by Mr. Wendell Cook. Mr. Cook of TSP helped NHTSA find a better way to eliminate duplication of efforts in preparing requests for proposals.

For information on the NHTSA suggestion program or assistance in sub-

mitting your suggestion, contact Earleen L. Hughes in OPM on Ext. 60988.

There will be a suggestion poster display on the bulletin board outside of Personnel in the near future. Remember ...

In The Long Run...



Volunteer for Your Own Sake

Have you ever thought about volunteering your skills and talents in your community but don't know how or where you are needed, what you would like to do or how to go about it? There are Voluntary Action Centers in the Greater Metropolitan Area that recruit volunteers for non-profit health, education, welfare, and environmental and advisory agencies that will counsel you and help you find the volunteer job that meets your interest, your available time, and tell you where you are most needed. Counselors, athletic coaches, teachers, lecturers, drivers, office workers, crafts aides, art instructors, tutors, friendly visitors, and many other kinds of workers are needed to help children, adolescents, the elderly, prisoners, mentally retarded, or delinquents.

You can help yourself by helping others, too, because the Federal Government recognizes volunteer work. Standard Form 171 (Personal Qualifications Statement) includes this note: "Section 3311 Title 5, United States Code, provides that in examinations in which experience is a factor, credit will be granted for any pertinent religious, civic, welfare service and organizational activity which you have performed

(See Volunteer on page 4.)

Volunteer (from page 3.)

either with or without compensation."

For additional information phone the:

Volunteer Clearinghouse of the District of Columbia - 333-0455
Montgomery County Volunteer Bureau - 279-1666
Fairfax Action Center - 691-3460.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Careless use of electrical appliances may be fatal.

U. S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) reports that almost 1,200 people died in electrical shock accidents from 1975-77.

A heavy electrical shock can stun your muscles and nerves and stop your heart and breathing. Even a small shock can upset your heart's natural rhythm and kill you.

Accidents involving the installation or repair of outdoor television and CB radio base station antennas were associated with 355 or 30% of the electrocution deaths; household wiring accidents accounted for 215 or 18%. Drills, saws, and other electric power tools were linked with 127 or 11% of the deaths. Other shock incidents involved ladders, electric garden equipment, and haircare appliances.

Accidents with outdoor television and CB radio antennas occur when the equipment inadvertently contacts overhead power

lines. Similar incidents occur with metal ladders, too.

Few people realize that many hair dryers and other appliances do not have to be turned on--only plugged in--to cause a fatal shock if they fall into water. Most of the 33 people who died using haircare equipment were children who dropped a plugged-in hair dryer into a sink full of water or a bathtub while they were bathing.

If victims do not "let go" of the appliance as a result of the initial shock, their muscles contract and may "freeze" their grip. To rescue the victim, someone else must disconnect the current or use an insulated object, such as a wooden chair, to free the victim from the electric circuit.

Remember, when using electrical appliances to:

- read all instructions and labels on electrical products;

- don't remove the third prong (safety ground) from a three-pronged plug;

- and avoid any unnecessary use of electrical products around water or while wet from bathing.

New Director (from page 1.)

public relations and the Congress. He has also authored an article for the Encyclopaedia Britannica Book of the Year on Railroad Transportation of Hazardous Materials.

Umansky, his wife and two children live in Washington, D.C.

Summer School

Interested in continuing your education or spending your cool summer evenings learning something new? Summer courses are beginning at several area universities and community colleges in a wide range of interesting subjects. For schedules of classes and registration information, contact Beverly Smith, Ext. 60959.

Personnel

'Bye and Good Luck

Arquilla Tillman,
Secretary (Steno), NEF,
4-7.

Edward Korzeniowski,
Safety Standards Engineer,
NEF, 4-10.

Nevil Moore, Highway
Safety Management
Specialist, NTS, 4-21.

Congrats on Promotion

Glorious Harris,
Printing Assistant, NAD,
4-8.

Allan Kam, Trial
Attorney, OCC, 4-8.

W. Burleigh Seaver,
Social Science Program
Specialist, NTS, 4-8.

Linda Sink, Contract
Specialist, NAD, 4-8.

Maurice Washington,
Voucher Examiner, NAD,
4-8.

Job Opening

Accounting Technician,
GS-525-5, AD. Opens:
5-3, Closes: 5-23.
NHTSA 79-43.