



July 2026

Newsletter

Operation Safe Driver- July 12-18

Operation Safe Driver Week is a safe-driving awareness and outreach initiative aimed at improving the driving behaviors of passenger vehicle drivers and commercial motor



vehicle drivers through educational and traffic enforcement strategies and interactions with law enforcement.

Throughout Operation Safe Driver Week, law enforcement personnel will be on the lookout for commercial motor vehicle drivers and passenger vehicle drivers engaging in risky driving. Identified unsafe drivers will be pulled over and issued a citation or warning. By making contact with drivers during Operation Safe Driver Week, law enforcement personnel aim to make our roadways safer by targeting high-risk driving behaviors.

- Speeding of any kind was the most frequent driver-related crash factor for drivers of commercial motor vehicles and passenger vehicles in the U.S.
- Distracted driving claimed 3,208 lives in 2024 in the U.S.

- In 2024, 22,713 passenger vehicle occupants were killed in the U.S. Nearly 50% of those killed were not buckled. Seat belts saved an estimated 14,955 lives and could have saved an additional 2,549 people if they had been wearing seat belts, in 2017 alone.
- Every day in the U.S., about 32 people die in drunk-driving crashes — that's one person every 44 minutes. In 2024, 11,904 people lost their lives due to drunk driving

Spotlight Driver- John Arbogast

John has been a driver for General Transport since 2011, celebrating his 15th anniversary this July. John began his career at GT as an owner operator before transitioning into a local company driver position. John is dedicated not only to us, but to his customer he works with as well. When he is not behind the wheel of a GT truck, he enjoys the outdoors, hunting, camping, off roading, and spending time with his dog. We are proud to have you as part of the GT Family!





- PAUL B.- TRUCK 639
- GERALD B.- TRUCK 641
- JEROME C.- TRUCK 764
- KRIS B.- TRUCK 615

Fourth of July Freight Theft

While we are all enjoying the fireworks and BBQ that comes with the holiday, unfortunately, cargo thieves often see the holiday weekend as an opportunity.

Extended holiday closures can leave trucks and trailers sitting unattended for days at a time, creating ideal conditions for theft.



To avoid being targeted, plan ahead:

- The best practice if you are parking for the holiday, is to do it empty. Can't steal freight that you do not have.
- Do not assume safe parking. Just because other trucks park there does not mean it is secure.
- Use locks on all equipment- Pad locks on the trailer doors, king pin locks (if a trailer absolutely has to be dropped), and lock your truck.

For added protection you can get air brake locks as well.

- Parking up against a building to prevent the doors from being opened.



The Designer of the 50-Star Flag Lived in Lancaster, Ohio

In 1958, a history teacher assigned a class assignment to redesign the national flag as both Alaska and Hawaii neared statehood.

Robert G. Heft, who was 16 at the time, designed a new flag using the old 48-star flag and \$2.87 worth of blue cloth and white iron-on material. His design earned him a B-minus to which he challenged by sending it to Washington D.C. to be considered by President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

According to his obituary, Heft was one of thousands to submit a flag design but he was the only person who actually stitched together a flag and shipped it to D.C.

Once the flag was selected, Heft's grade was rightfully changed to an A. His design became the official flag in 1960.