

News Release - For immediate release with photos 04/13/2023 Contact: Abbie Benton TCHD Safe Communities Coordinator abenton@tchdnow.org 330-343-5555 x1530

Teen Driving Roadeo Returns With Seven Schools Participating

DOVER—After a three-year hiatus due to the Pandemic, the 26th Annual Teen Driving Roadeo returned to action on Thursday, April 13th, at the Tuscarawas County fairgrounds. Hosted by the Tuscarawas County Health Department and the Safe Communities Coalition, this year's event featured high school student teams from seven area schools who competed in safe driving tests and maneuverability courses to win cash and bragging rights for themselves and their schools.

The Safety Roadeo seeks to help young drivers learn better driving skills, the rules of the road, and prompt them to think about their actions while driving. The primary focus is to prevent traffic-related crashes and injuries among teens in Tuscarawas County. At the event, students competed through written tests, essays, and driving skills.

The Safety Roadeo is made possible thanks to resources from the Tuscarawas County Community Foundation, Sopher Insurance Agency, Parkway Auto, Ohio State Highway Patrol, Tuscarawas County Sheriff's Office, Dover Police Department, Gnadenhutten Police Department, Ohio Department of Transportation, Ohio State University Extension Office, Educational Service Center of East Central Ohio, Tuscarawas County Coroner's Office, Tuscarawas County Health Department, Safe Communities Coalition, Tuscarawas County Fairgrounds, WJER, WBTC, WTUZ, and school coordinators with support from Subway and Domino's. The Safe Communities Coalition is funded through a grant from the Ohio Traffic Safety Office.

Below are the winners from the Teen Driving Roadeo event.

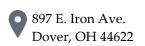
Team Rankings: 1. Dover, 2. Garaway, 3. Indian Valley, 4. New Philadelphia, 5. Newcomerstown, 6. Tuscarawas Central Catholic, and 7. Buckeye Career Center.

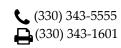
Best Written Test Scores: 1. Macie McMillen, New Philadelphia, \$300; 2. Mia Rose, Indian Valley, \$200; 3. Sammi Miller, Garaway, \$100; 4. Calleigh Trussell, Buckeye Career Center, \$75; and 5. Jenson Garber, Garaway, \$50.

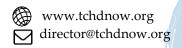
Best Test Question Score: Marlie Moner, Newcomerstown, \$25

Best Essay Answer: Hannah Locke, Dover, \$25

Best Driving Skills: 1. Benjamin Hamm, Dover, \$300; 2. Wyatt Wallick, Garaway, \$200; 3. Olivia VanDonge, Dover, \$100; 4. John "JD" Burrier, Indian Valley, \$75; and 5. Moss Alford, Indian Valley, \$50 Individual Driving Event Top Scorers, \$25 each:









Serpentine—Tyler Stevenson, Dover; Star—Caleb Meek, Garaway; Backing and Lane Change-- Kayden Crosier, Tuscarawas Central Catholic; Right Parallel Park—Erin Brogan, Dover; and Left Parallel Park—Makenna Seikel, Indian Valley.

The Dover team of Erin Brogan, Benjamin Hamm, Hannah Locke, Luke Morris, Tyler Stevenson, and Olivia VanDonge earned a school trophy for their winning team efforts at the Teen Driving Roadeo.

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