

# Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland

## SAFETY NEWS



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Summer 2006

### Summer is Here!

by Tammy Griffin, Coordinator

In observance of National Safe Kids Week, Safe Kids Day was held on May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Mid-Shore YMCA in Salisbury. This year's theme "Safe Pools for Safe Kids" was a hit! The event drew in more than 350 adults and children from across the shore. With contributions from State Farm and several local businesses, we were able to provide 86 bike helmets to participants. Beautiful weather allowed children to visit the 25 outdoor learning stations and end the day with a splash in the pool. Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland (SKLSM) would like to thank all the volunteers and community donors that made this event possible.

This spring, SKLSM also participated in two large events: the 2006 Farm Tour and Tykes on Bikes Pinehurst Safety Day. Both were extremely successful! Additionally, we hosted several car seat clinics and conducted trainings on child passenger safety, poison prevention, sun safety and safe home environments for parents, childcare providers and healthcare personnel. We have been working closely with local media stations including PAC14 and WBOC. In April, WBOC ran a story featuring choking hazards of the popular recalled candy "KinderEgg."

This summer, PAC 14 is running a drowning prevention public service announcement (PSA) developed by National Safe Kids, and a child passenger safety PSA developed locally, in conjunction with the Salisbury YMCA. We will continue to conduct free car seat clinics monthly throughout the summer, and offer safety education presentations throughout the community. We will begin planning for the next National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Child Passenger Safety Technician training to be conducted in October 2006. Until Fall, SKLSM wishes all of our readers a fun, safe and cool summer!

*Sammy*

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### Safe Kids Day 2006



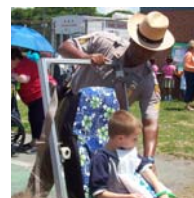
Erian Andrews of Salisbury learns Bus Safety from Linda Green, Worcester Co. Health Dept.



SunGuard Man demonstrates how to be safe in the sun.



Stephanie Adams of the American Red Cross demonstrates child CPR.



Child Passenger Safety with Sgt. Bratten of MD State Police & Brandon Joseph of Delmar.



Jennifer Johnson from the Wicomico Co. Health Dept. demonstrates Poison Prevention.

### Lawn Mower Safety



The power lawn mower is one of the most dangerous tools around the home. Every year in the U.S., 9,400 children under the age of 18 receive emergency care for lawn mower related injuries. Injuries range from deep cuts, loss of fingers or toes, broken bones, burns and eye injuries.

To prevent lawn mower injuries, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends the following:

- Children should not be allowed to ride as passengers on riding lawn mowers or pulled in a trailer behind the mower.
- Look for a power mower with a handle control that stops the motor if the handle is let go. This control should never be disconnected.
- Do not allow children younger than 14 to use ride-on mowers.
- Do not allow children younger than 12 to use push mowers.
- Wear sturdy shoes (not sandals or sneakers) while mowing.
- Prevent injuries from flying objects by picking up objects from the lawn before mowing begins.
- Use a collection bag for grass clippings or a barrier that covers the opening where cut grass is released.
- Wear protective eyewear and ear protection while mowing.
- Keep others away from area being mowed to ensure their safety.
- Start and refuel mowers outdoors, not in a garage or shed.
- Always refuel your mower with the motor turned off and cool.
- Make sure that blade settings for wheel height and dislodging debris is completed by an adult and with the mower off and the spark plug removed or disconnected.

Sources: [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)  
[www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov)

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Farm Tour A Success

The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Farm Tour was held at Beachnut Farm in Mardela Springs May 9-11, 2006. Hosted by the Harcum family and sponsored by the Maryland Cooperative Extension 4-H program, the three-day event is held annually during the second week in May. Each year the event is very successful, and this year was no exception with 2,400 children and 600 adults from Wicomico, Somerset, Dorchester and Worcester visiting the farm in three days. The Wicomico County Health Department, in conjunction with Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland, provided education on Poison Prevention and Sun Safety. The Farm Tour is a great opportunity for children and adults to experience farm life and to learn everything from milking cows to making paper through recycling. A special thank you to the Harcum family for their commitment to the community.



*Submitted by Jennifer Johnson*

## SAFE KIDS LOWER SHORE AND MARYLAND TRIAL LAWYERS ASSOCIATION CELEBRATE TYKES ON BIKES SAFETY DAY AT PINEHURST ELEMENTARY



On May 25<sup>th</sup>, the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA) teamed up with Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland (SKLSM) to hold "TYKES ON BIKES SAFETY DAY" at Pinehurst Elementary School in Salisbury. The event was made possible by funds donated to SKLSM by the MTLA to provide helmets to all 418 students at Pinehurst Elementary.

Bicycles are associated with more childhood injuries than any other consumer product except for motor vehicles. Since 2000, MTLA and Safe Kids have teamed up to provide more than 5,000 bike helmets to elementary school students in Maryland. MTLA has focused on providing such grants because wearing a helmet is the single most important thing a child can do to prevent a serious head injury in a bike crash.

Salisbury attorneys Jim Otway (pictured above) and Leslie Hayes Russo worked with SKLSM to organize the event. This was the first such program on the Eastern Shore. Attorneys from across the Shore volunteered to fit each child with a safety helmet and to share tips about how to prevent injuries. Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland members offered hands-on safety exhibits to demonstrate how to make a 911 call, cross the road safely, check the fit of their car seat, identify poisons and avoid the harmful rays of the sun.

MTLA and SAFE KIDS wish to acknowledge Tammy Griffin, SKLSM Coordinator and Barbara Beckett, Safe Kids Maryland coordinator, as well as members of the Safe Kids Lower Shore Maryland coalition, who donated their time to make this a successful affair.

MTLA and SAFE KIDS wish to thank Otway Russo, LLP and participating attorneys Judge Kathleen Beckstead, Thomas J. Maloney, Rodney Gaston, Lawrence Greenberg, Mitchell Greenberg, J. Scott Robertson, William C. Hudson, Heather Brinton, Cecilia I. Lavrin, Paula Price, Nancy Chernoff, David Douse, John Williams, Karen Payne, and Mark Brennan. The letter (right) from Mrs. Mackes' class at Pinehurst says it best.

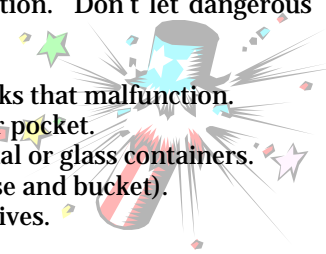


*Submitted by Leslie Hayes Russo*

## Celebrate Safety this Fourth of July!

Fireworks and celebrations go together, especially during the Fourth of July. Fireworks can be dangerous, causing serious burns and eye injuries. Remember to observe local fireworks laws and practice extreme caution. Don't let dangerous sparks stand between your family and a wonderful Fourth of July celebration!

- ★ Always have an adult present and never give fireworks to children.
- ★ Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- ★ Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface.
- ★ Never use fireworks indoors.
- ★ Be sure spectators are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- ★ Never try to re-ignite fireworks that malfunction.
- ★ Never carry fireworks in your pocket.
- ★ Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.
- ★ Have water handy (water hose and bucket).
- ★ Stay away from illegal explosives.



*Source: www.fireworksafety.com*

# Summer 2006 Consumer Product Safety Alerts



**Product:** Baby 2-Pack Pacifiers (white or blue)

**Distributor:** KI, Kole Imports of Carson, California.

**Hazard:** Pacifier's nipple can easily detach from the guard, posing a serious choking hazard.

**Sold:** Discount dollar stores nationwide from August 2005 – March 2006 for about \$1.

**Remedy:** Consumers should take the recalled pacifiers away from babies immediately and contact the retailer where they purchased the pacifiers or KI at **(800) 874-7766** for a full refund. Consumers may also e-mail: [recall@koleimports.com](mailto:recall@koleimports.com).

**Product:** Sling Swing Seat

**Distributor:** Rainbow Play Systems of Brookings, S.D.

**Hazard:** Swing seats can unexpectedly break in half, causing user to fall to the ground.

**Sold:** Rainbow distributors and dealers nationwide from July 2004-February 2005 as part of Carnival, Sunshine and Rainbow Series play structures that cost between \$1,500 and \$2,000 or about \$50 to \$60 when swing seat purchased alone.

**Remedy:** Consumers should immediately stop using these sling swings and contact Rainbow Play Systems, Inc. at **(800) 724-6269** or return them to their place of purchase for a free replacement swing. Customers who have already been contacted by Rainbow for a replacement are not affected by this recall.



**Product:** Phil & Ted's E3 Twin Buggy Stroller

**Distributor:** Regal Lager, Inc. of Kennesaw, Georgia.

**Hazard:** The plastic hinge on the handlebar can crack or break causing the handlebar to detach while in use. This poses a risk of injury to young children.

**Sold:** Web retailers, baby furniture and baby product stores nationwide from November 2005 – March 2006 for about \$650.

**Remedy:** Contact Regal Lager at **(800) 593-5522** or e-mail [info@regallager.com](mailto:info@regallager.com) for information on receiving a free replacement hinge set for the handlebar.

**Product:** Cordless Push Button Toy Telephone

**Distributor:** Marvel Education Co., of New York, New York.

**Hazard:** The push buttons on the toy phone can detach, posing a choking hazard to young children.

**Sold:** Major school supply distributors, including Kaplan and Ajax School Office Source, from January 2004 – February 2006 for about \$20.

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the recalled toy phone immediately and contact Marvel Education Co. at **(866) 460-8769** for a free replacement toy phone.

**NOTE:** The replacement toy phone has red push button numbers and red graphics printed on it.



*Photo representative  
of recalled models.*

**Product:** Adventure Playsets Wooden Swing Sets

**Distributor:** Adventure Playsets, dba Backyard Ventures Inc., of Amarillo, TX.

**Hazard:** Defective bolts could cause the swing set frame to detach from the fort structure, posing a fall hazard to the user.

**Sold:** Wal-Mart, Menards and Toys R Us stores nationwide from February 2006-March 2006 for about \$1,000.

**Remedy:** Consumers should stop using the swing sets immediately and contact Backyard Ventures at **(800) 856-4445** to receive repair instructions and free replacement bolts for the recalled swing sets.

**NOTE:** Models included in recall are Durango, Tacoma, Odyssey, Bellvue, Monarch, Grand Teton and Outlook II. Visit the company website at [www.adventureplaysets.com](http://www.adventureplaysets.com).

## Beat the Heat

To protect your health when temperatures are extremely high, remember to keep cool and use common sense.

- Drink plenty of fluids.
- Dress infants and children in cool, loose clothing.
- Shade heads and faces with a hat or umbrella.
- Limit sun exposure during mid-day hours.
- Do not leave infants, children or pets in a parked car.
- Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher and reapply every 2 hours.

## SUN SAFETY WORD FIND

SMEDI ZZSTNSWUJHYMLEADISX  
UYNUEAMGYUSNNQSUNBURNNK  
NFRECKLESWGIEORWERBXDELN  
GUGHIOHPSSACLWUHATGOKMSA  
LTESOPI SERSNSKINCANCEREC  
AORBRIURYHSESAFETYAEDLER  
SDOREYCHCQURGTDSUNBLOCKC  
SSGHHRBDTUUUTHSAMWMEQKEB  
EITVSESMGUFENRHRWRUEMMCP  
STRIHSTINTNTWFAAIOIEZTMB  
DGESUNTUSNOSCWDCCRIFYCTU  
TNXURBLDATMKAEREAYQUMIH  
TNKYLRUJBLETENUWOUSDYBLI  
STERINHYUCITERSERUSOPXEG  
GUYUPEDROKASUBLISTERINGI



### Word List:

HAT  
SAFETY  
SHADE  
SUN  
SKIN CANCER  
FRECKLES  
EXPOSURE  
BLISTERING  
SUNBURN  
SUNBLOCK  
TSHIRT  
SUNGLASSES



### *Preventing unintentional injuries.*

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### **HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

SKLSM is looking for community support. If your organization is interested in joining, please contact us for more information.