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WIBW's Chris Fisher kicks off traffic safety blog series on Sept. 13

*FHWA's Brandye Hendrickson, other Kansans share
experiences to help reduce traffic fatalities*

"One day after his 60th birthday, my father was killed in a car accident that he would have walked away from - had he been wearing a seat belt," said Chris Fisher, Anchor/Reporter at WIBW-TV in Topeka. "While I already knew his lack of a seat belt was the difference between life and death in this accident, seeing how intact the cab of that truck was multiplied the pain of losing my father a thousand times over."

Early morning of Sept. 6, 1995, Master Trooper Dean Goodheart was struck on I-70 while inspecting a semi. The driver had been driving all night to return to college.

"It has been 23 years since we lost Dean, and a day doesn't go by that I don't think about him," said his wife, Marilyn Goodheart. "He is greatly missed by me, his children and the grandchildren who missed an opportunity to grow up with such a great Grandad."

Starting Thursday, Sept. 13, Fisher and Goodheart are two of 20 people who will be sharing personal stories in the safety blog series as part of Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day efforts in Kansas. Acting Federal Highway Administrator Brandye Hendrickson is also participating. New stories can be viewed each weekday until Oct. 10 at <http://kansastransportation.blogspot.com/>.

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day focuses on all types of traffic safety, whether you are in a vehicle, on a bike, on a motorcycle or walking across the street, and encourages everyone to take extra safety precautions.

The Kansas Department of Transportation, the Kansas Highway Patrol and other transportation safety agencies are organizing these events. For more details, go to <http://www.ksdot.org/events/PutTheBrakesOnFatalitiesDay/default.asp>

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