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Founded in 1880 as the
League of American Wheelmen

Register Now for the 2005 National Bike Summit®

League of American Bicyclists' staff have already started work with state coordinators to schedule meetings with Members of Congress for the National Bike Summit® (March 16-18). To insure that we have ample time to schedule a meeting for you with your Member of Congress, please register as soon as possible. To receive the *League Early Bird* rate, you must register by February 15.

The program is still being finalized, but many breakout sessions are in place. Some of these include: TEA-21 Reauthorization Update; Diversifying the Bicycling Movement; Safe Routes to Schools: What Happens When We Win?; Complete Streets; National Mountain Bike Agenda; and Quantifying the Economic Benefits of Bicycling. [More to come.](#)

[Bikes Belong Coalition](#) is providing major support for the National Bike Summit®. Other sponsors include: The [National Bicycle Dealers Association](#), the [International Mountain Bicycling Association](#), [Interbike](#), the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center](#), and [Adventure Cycling Association](#).



Palm Beach Post Supports Safe Cycling

Florida cyclists were pleased to learn today that the Palm Beach Post has endorsed their position in urging the building of safe facilities for bicycling on Route A1A in Delray Beach. Today's editorial reads: "Any day now, the Florida Department of Transportation will reveal whether the agency favors public safety and public access for a public road. If those are the state's priorities, the department will recommend 5-foot-wide bicycle lanes and complete sidewalks along A1A in Delray Beach." The Palm Beach Post had earlier supported a compromise to build a 3-foot shoulder that it now says, "fails on the two key points: safety and access. The county's pedestrian/cyclist fatality rate is nearly double the national average. The difference between a 3-foot "shoulder" and a 5-foot "lane" may seem small, but it makes all the difference." [DETAILS](#)

The League has supported the [Boca Raton Bicycle Club](#) and [Safe Bicycling in Palm Beach County](#) in their efforts to win improvements for bicyclists in a fight with national implications because of the precedent it will set for other states. The [editorial follows an extensive article](#) on the subject January 16.

League Board Election Update: Nominating Committee Lists Nine Candidates

Today, the League of American Bicyclists' Board of Directors approved the recommendations of its Nominating Committee and listed a total of nine qualified candidates for the 2005 Board elections. Four Board seats will be filled by vote of members: Regional Directors for Regions 2, 3, and 5, as well

as the “At Large” Director, elected by vote of all members nationwide.

[DETAILS](#)

League and Cycle Oregon Partner For National Rally of Cyclists

[Cycle Oregon](#) will be the official site of the League of American Bicyclists' 2005 National Rally of Cyclists. Mark your calendars for September 10-17 for a week of exciting events, great camaraderie, wonderful food, and even better riding. Cycle Oregon is one of the premiere events in the nation and the League is delighted to partner with the organization to bring League members to Oregon. Stay tuned for February 22, when this year's official route will be announced. You will not want to miss out on this amazing event! Visit the [Cycle Oregon](#) and [League](#) web sites regularly for updates.

Bike Industry Pitches in to Aid Tsunami Survivors

[Fuji Bicycles](#) is supporting the worldwide tsunami relief effort by donating 50 utilitarian-style mountain bikes each year for the next three years to the emergency and disaster relief workers in Southeast Asia. Fuji will work with the [Institute for Transportation and Development Policy](#) to get the bikes to nurses and health care service providers to help them reach the more remote and disaster-ridden areas in Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and other stricken countries. “Bicycles are extremely valuable in helping deliver health care, especially when medical staff has to reach many people in difficult conditions,” said Aimee Gauthier, African Program Manager at ITDP. “We are working with Fuji to help get the bicycles directly to the relief workers who need them most.”

[Phat Cycles, Inc.](#), which makes beach cruisers and chopper bikes—including its 2004 Tsunami model—will donate \$20 of the purchase price of each of its Tsunami bikes sold through June 30 to [World Vision](#) to support its work in countries affected by the tragedy. Ed Hickey of Phat Cycles said, “With more than 3,700 staff living and working in the region hardest hit by the tsunami, World Vision is uniquely equipped and positioned to provide this essential emergency and long-term assistance.” The organization has been distributing survival packs of food, bottled water, medicine, sleeping mats, clothing, and household items to tens of thousands of people.

Bike tire manufacturer [Schwalbe](#) is donating 10 percent of its January web sales to the [American Red Cross](#) to support its relief work in Asia, the U.S., and around the world.

Is Your Community Bicycle-Friendly? Applications Due March 25th

To be included in the next review cycle for the League's [Bicycle Friendly Community](#) awards, communities must submit both Part 1 and Part 2 of the application for BFC status by March 25. The application asks for information on engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation/planning initiatives that encourage bicycling and make cycling safer and more enjoyable. The League will make announcements of winning communities in May during [National Bike Month™](#). Please submit your applications as soon as possible, and thank you for helping create a bicycle-friendly America.

Don't Miss WABA's Winter Gala


The [Washington Area Bicyclist Association](#) is hosting its annual Winter Gala and Benefit Auction, an elegant evening of music, culture, traditional Finnish food, with a live and silent auction, at the Embassy of Finland, on Saturday, February 5th. The auction items include luxurious weekend getaways, dinners at 5-star restaurants, Finnish design items, top of the line cycling gear and a summer trip for two to Finland! [DETAILS](#)

Cascade Bicycle Club to Host Seattle Bike Expo, 2.19 - 20

Taking place Saturday and Sunday, February 19 and 20, the 2005 Group Health Seattle International Bicycle Expo at Warren G. Magnuson Park sounds like a great weekend for bicycle enthusiasts of all ages. The 17th annual expo will host over 140 cycling-related exhibitors. New facilities and new programs, like BMX, kids' events, and an outdoor Mountain Bike track, will be available. World champion mountain biker and Luna Chix team member Marla Streb, who has been featured on the cover of Outside Magazine and co-stars in the IMAX film, "Top Speed", and Bob Roll, former pro road and mountain racer, and now OLN's voice of the Tour de France, will speak and autograph their books. [DETAILS](#)

Don't Miss Race Across America (RAAM)

This Saturday, catch the 3,000-mile long 2004 Insight Race Across America in a two-hour NBC Sports show, 2.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. EST. Inspired to ride? Join in the fun for the 2005 RAAM. This year, race organizers have added a corporate team division for 8-person teams, in which each rider takes on about 1/8th of the challenge a solo RAAM rider handles, riding 3 hours per day. Riders of all abilities will also be invited to participate in organized rides along selected parts of the route, from 10–100 miles. [RAAM](#) starts in San Diego on June 19 and ends in Atlantic City on June 28. The 3,000-mile route includes about 150,000 feet of climbing. Up to 150 cyclists from 15 nations are expected to participate. [DETAILS](#)



February 2, 2005
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Save \$100: Register By February 15 For The 2005 National Bike Summit®

If you want to save \$100, time is running out. You must register by February 15 for the National Bike Summit® (March 16-18) to get the early bird discount. Click [here](#) to register and for the latest information, including the preliminary schedule.

The theme of the 2005 Summit is "From Good Roads to Complete Streets." As we continue to work for a multiyear transportation reauthorization bill, it is important we keep our eyes on the ultimate goal: to ensure the nation's roads safely accommodate bicyclists, pedestrians, and other users. With this goal in mind, several panel sessions will explore Complete Streets implementation at the state and local level and the broadening of the Complete Streets coalition. In addition, Elizabeth S. Mabry, Executive Director of the South Carolina Department of Transportation, will speak about the state's efforts, "to make bicycling and pedestrian improvements an integral part of their transportation planning and programming." Since July, with the support of a generous grant from [Bikes Belong Coalition](#), the League has been working with SCDOT, the Palmetto Cycling Coalition, the Charleston Bicycle Advocacy Group, and the Charleston Metropolitan Planning Organization, to support the implementation of "Complete Streets" in the state.



More reasons to [register now](#):

1. League staff are working with state coordinators to schedule meetings

- on TEA-21 Reauthorization, Complete Streets, and other issues with Members of Congress. To ensure we can schedule a meeting for you with your Member of Congress, please register as soon as possible.
2. To receive the discounted early bird rate, you must register by February 15.
 3. To save on your lodgings. Heavily discounted hotel rooms are available through the League's hotel room blocks, which start to expire on February 16.

[Bikes Belong Coalition](#) is providing major support for the National Bike Summit®. Other sponsors include: The [National Bicycle Dealers Association](#), the [International Mountain Bicycling Association](#), [InterBike](#), the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center](#), and [Adventure Cycling Association](#).

Louisville Bike Summit Next Week

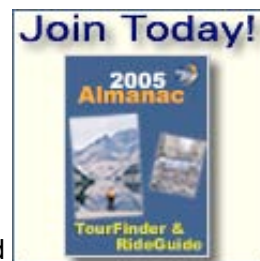
Louisville Metro Mayor Jerry Abramson will host the Metro Louisville Bicycle Summit, February 7-8. The goal of the event is to make the Louisville Metro Region a [Bicycle Friendly Community](#) and to provide all Metro Louisville Region residents the opportunity to safely bike to transit, work, school, shops, playgrounds, places of worship, and recreation. Key topics to be covered include providing a safe, accessible, clean, well-maintained network of bike and multi-purpose facilities and programs with the aim of improving the public health of citizens of the region. Former Milwaukee mayor John Norquist will be the keynote speaker; other speakers of note include Andy Clarke, executive director of the League of American Bicyclists and Earl Jones, president of the [Louisville Bicycle Club](#). For more information and to register, [click here](#).

What Are You Doing At Dawn On Sunday, March 6?

How about riding through Los Angeles on traffic-free streets? You'll need to get up bright and early, but it'll be worth it to ride through the streets of LA without having to compete with cars for space. Get there for the [Acura L.A. Bike Tour](#) XI, which starts at 5:45 AM. The Acura L.A. Bike Tour supports the [YESPAL](#) after school education program, working to inspire educational institutions to introduce bicycling as a viable sport and a healthy competition in their Physical Educational curriculum.

Almanac, Tourfinder & Ride Guide

The League's annual Almanac, TourFinder & Ride Guide is mailing out to League members and member organizations this week. The Almanac is no mere magazine—it's an indispensable year-round bicycling resource, packed with invaluable contact information on clubs, state and local advocacy organizations, League Cycling Instructors and course schedules, bike tours and great rides across the country, and tour companies with destinations from Cambridge to Cambodia. This year, we feature stories with wonderful photos on three of the best rides in the country: RAGBRAI, Bike New York, and Cycle Oregon (the site of the League's National Rally of Cyclists). Not a League member? Visit the [League's site](#) today to join online and get your Almanac, TourFinder & Ride Guide. Quantities are limited, so don't delay.



League Bike Education (BikeEd) Classes Forming Now

Ride better and with more confidence this year: take one of the League's BikeEd classes. Over 500 League Cycling Instructors are scheduling classes during the spring all over the country. Classes are already scheduled in

Florida, California, Colorado, Missouri, New Jersey, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington. [Click here](#) for upcoming courses in your area, or contact a League Cycling Instructor by clicking [here](#).

Virginia Cyclists: Support Pro-Biking Bills In General Assembly

The League urges you to contact the [Virginia Bicycling Federation](#) or write [Allen Muchnick](#) to learn more about and support three bicycle-related bills-- HB 1818, HB 1883, and HB 2677--recently filed for the 45-day 2005 session of the Virginia General Assembly. These bills will promote bicycle commuting, clarify and improve state laws to make cycling safer, and expand citizen input in the transportation planning process of Northern Virginia. HB 1818 would promote commuting by allowing a tax credit of up to \$5,000 for providing bike racks and showers at worksites and providing employees who commute by bike a tax credit of \$15 per month they bike both ways on at least 10 days. HB 1883 would require a red taillight on bicycles operated on highways posted for 35 MPH or higher. HB 2677 would expand citizen input in the transportation planning process of Northern Virginia by requiring the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) to establish regional pedestrian and bicycle advisory committees with citizen members for all nine VDOT districts.

MORE Receives Maryland Grant For Mountain Bike Trail Development

Maryland Governor Robert Ehrlich recently announced a \$75,000 grant to the [Mid Atlantic Off-Road Enthusiasts](#) (MORE), the Washington, DC region's largest mountain bike club, to help the club continue its work of developing and improving trails in Maryland. "We're thrilled and honored to receive this generous grant from the State of Maryland," said MORE President Eric von Eckartsberg. "The grant will help us create new trail systems for all Marylanders to enjoy." A top priority for MORE is to develop trails on so-called ``Brownfield" sites that will turn distressed land into a resource for healthy outdoor recreation.

MORE has received Maryland state funds in past years for a number of projects and was also recently recognized by the State with several awards for exceptional contributions at area parks. Mountain bikers, hikers and equestrians alike have lauded multi-use trails developed by MORE at Schaeffer Farm near Germantown.

Is Your Community Bicycle-Friendly? Applications Due March 25

To be included in the next review cycle for the [League's Bicycle Friendly Community](#) awards, communities must submit both Part 1 and Part 2 of the application for BFC status by March 25. The application asks for information on engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation/planning initiatives that encourage bicycling and make cycling safer and more enjoyable. The League will make announcements of winning communities in May during [National Bike Month™](#). Please submit your applications as soon as possible, and thank you for helping create a bicycle-friendly America.

March 24 Deadline For Walk And Roll California Presentations

The Walk/Bike California 2005 Conference hosts, the California Bicycle Coalition and the City of Ventura, request that potential speakers submit abstracts for consideration by the program committee. The submittal deadline is Thursday, March 24. The event itself, the second biennial conference in California devoted to walking and bicycling, will take place September 14-16 in Ventura. [Click here for details](#) on presentation submissions.



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Secretary Mineta to Address National Bike Summit®

The League of American Bicyclists is pleased to announce that U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta will deliver the keynote address to the National Bike Summit® in Washington, DC on Wednesday, March 16. "As a key author of the landmark Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 when he served in Congress, Secretary Mineta has long supported efforts to improve transportation infrastructure for bicyclists and we are delighted he will address the Summit," said Andy Clarke, Executive Director of the League.

Secretary Mineta will provide the Administration's perspective to Summit participants on the prospects for investments in transportation. President Bush's newly released FY 2006 budget proposes an increase for TEA-21 renewal from \$256 billion to \$284 billion, opening the door for an accelerated timetable for passage of the multiyear transportation reauthorization bill. "This makes the timing for the 2005 National Bike Summit® more critical than ever," said Andy Clarke. "To ensure that bicycling secures the level of support it deserves out of the \$284 billion and that important projects and programs are protected, it is vital that bicyclists meet with their Representatives and Senators during the Summit, March 16-18. The Summit could not occur at a more crucial time—and you can't afford to miss it," said Clarke.



Other confirmed speakers to date will include Elizabeth S. Mabry, Executive Director of the South Carolina Department of Transportation, and bicycling's best friends in Congress—Representatives James Oberstar (D-MN) and Earl Blumenauer (D-OR).

Early registration for the Summit closes February 15—one week from today. (This deadline will NOT be extended). Registration rates will increase by \$100 on February 16. Click [here to register and for the latest information](#), including the preliminary schedule. League staff are working with state coordinators to schedule meetings with Members of Congress on TEA-21 Reauthorization, Complete Streets, and other issues. To ensure we can schedule a meeting for you with your Member of Congress, please register as soon as possible. Save on lodging too. Heavily discounted hotel rooms

are available through the League's hotel room blocks, which start to expire on February 16.

As Secretary of Transportation, Mineta oversees an agency with almost 60,000 employees and a \$61.6 billion budget. He has focused on the President's commitment to improving safety across all modes of transportation. Mineta became the first Asian-American Cabinet member during the Clinton administration. In December 2004, Secretary Mineta accepted President Bush's invitation to continue his service in the Cabinet during the President's second term. From 1975 to 1995, Mineta served as a member of U.S. House of Representatives, representing the heart of California's Silicon Valley. He served as chairman of the House Public Works and Transportation Committee between 1992 and 1994 and chaired its Surface Transportation Subcommittee from 1989 to 1991. During his career in Congress, he championed increases in investment for transportation infrastructure, and helped write the landmark ISTEA legislation of 1991.

[Bikes Belong Coalition](#) is providing major support for the National Bike Summit®. Other sponsors include: [America Bikes](#), the [National Bicycle Dealers Association](#), the [International Mountain Bicycling Association](#), [Interbike](#), the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center](#), [Adventure Cycling Association](#), and [Tailwinds Adventure Tours](#).



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LAST CHANCE TO SAVE \$100 ON THE NATIONAL BIKE SUMMIT® Early registration for the Summit closes at midnight on February 15—tomorrow night. (This deadline will NOT be extended). Registration rates for the National Bike Summit® (March 16-18 in Washington, DC) will increase by \$100 on February 16. Don't delay. Please visit <http://www.bikeleague.org/events/summit05.html> by midnight Tuesday to register and for the latest on the Summit, including the preliminary schedule, travel and logistics tips, press releases, and more. To ensure League staff can schedule a meeting for you with your Member of Congress on TEA-21 Reauthorization, Complete Streets, and other issues, please register as soon as possible. Heavily discounted hotel rooms are available through the League's hotel room blocks, which start to expire on February 16.

As announced last week, U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta will deliver the keynote address to the Summit on Wednesday, March 16. The Secretary was a key author of the landmark Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 when he served in Congress. With President Bush's FY 2006 budget proposing an increase for TEA-21 renewal from \$256 billion to \$284 billion, there could well be an accelerated timetable for passage of the multiyear transportation reauthorization bill. "It is vital that bicyclists meet with their Representatives and Senators during the Summit, March 16-18. The Summit could not occur at a more crucial time—and you can't afford to miss it," said Andy Clarke, Executive Director of the League of American Bicyclists (<http://www.bikeleague.org>).

Bikes Belong Coalition (<http://www.bikesbelong.org>) is providing major support for the National Bike Summit®. Timbuk2 (<http://www.timbuk2>) recently became a Leader sponsor of the Summit. Other sponsors include: America Bikes (<http://www.americabikes.org>), the National Bicycle Dealers Association (<http://www.nbda.com>), the International Mountain Bicycling Association (<http://www.imba.com>), Interbike (<http://www.interbike.com>), the Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center (<http://www.bicyclinginfo.org>), Adventure Cycling Association (<http://www.adventurecycling.org>), and Tailwinds Adventure Tours (<http://www.tailwinds-tours.com>).

MARK REYNOLDS MEMORIAL BIKE FUND HELPS NEEDY CHILDREN The parents of Mark J. Reynolds, who tragically lost his life while mountain biking near his home in California in January 2004, started the Mark Reynolds Memorial Bike Fund to continue his wonderful work of providing needy children with bikes. Reynolds used to solicit contributions from fellow cyclists to help him give bicycles during the holiday season to kids whose families couldn't afford them. He worked with local churches to find children in need and delivered the bikes himself, just to see the faces of joy. In 2004, the Fund (<http://www.markreynoldsfund.com>) donated over \$12,000 worth of bicycles to less fortunate children, including special bikes for special kids at the Helen Davis State School for the severely retarded in St. Joseph, MO and the Shriners Crippled Children's Hospital in St. Louis. To support this great work, visit <http://www.markreynoldsfund.com>.

IS YOUR COMMUNITY BICYCLE-FRIENDLY? APPLICATIONS DUE MARCH 25 To be included in the next review cycle for the League's Bicycle Friendly Community (<http://www.bicyclefriendlycommunity.org>) awards, communities must submit both Part 1 and Part 2 of the application for BFC status by March 25. The application asks for information on engineering, education, encouragement, enforcement, and evaluation/planning initiatives that encourage bicycling and make cycling safer and more enjoyable. The League will make announcements of winning communities in May during National Bike Month™ (<http://www.bikemonth.com>). Please submit your applications as soon as possible, and thank you for helping create a bicycle-friendly America.

HEALTHY STREETS CONFERENCE IN CHICAGO

The Chicagoland Bicycle Federation is offering a two-day conference on ways to improve bicycling and walking conditions in Chicagoland. The event, for transportation professionals, public officials and advocates, will take place March 31-April 1. Martha Lucy Barriga Hernández, director of Via RecreActiva Sunday Parkways in Guadalajara, Mexico, will deliver the keynote address. Other events to take place in conjunction with the conference include: a full-day Real Intersection Design workshop that addresses the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists; A Tribute to Randy Neufeld; and the Chicago Bike Show. For more information, visit <http://www.biketraffic.org>.

PRO BIKE®/PRO WALK FLORIDA IN TAMPA

Showcasing Solutions in Florida and Beyond will be the theme of Pro Bike®/Pro Walk Florida, presented by the Florida Bicycle Association, April 5-8 in Tampa. Dan Burden, the founder of Walkable Communities, Inc. will be the keynote speaker. Workshop tracks will include Professional Development, Engineering and Active Transportation, Law Enforcement & Education, Advocacy & Legislation, and a Road I for Professionals course will be offered. For registration information and additional details, please visit <http://www.floridabicycle.org>.

TYLER HAMILTON FOUNDATION LAUNCHES ONLINE AUCTION

The Tyler Hamilton Foundation is offering an online auction to raise money for the two causes closest to the gold-medal-winner's heart: multiple sclerosis and youth cycling. The auction is now live at <http://www.thfgala.cmarket.com> through March 3; new items are being added daily. Anyone can log on and support the foundation with bids on vacations, sports gear and unique experiences like dinner for four at the home of Tyler and his wife, Haven, with Tour of Italy champion Andy Hampsten as the chef. Since its 2004 inception, the Foundation and Tyler Hamilton himself have worked tirelessly towards its mission of fighting multiple sclerosis and advancing the cause of youth cycling. For more information about the foundation or the auction, please visit <http://www.tylerhamiltonfoundation.org>.

HAZON ISRAEL RIDE, MAY 10-17

Ride across incredible terrain from Jerusalem to Eilat, May 10-17, while learning about some of the most important political and environmental issues in the world. Join 150 riders on the 2005 Arava Institute Hazon Israel Ride: Cycling for Peace, Partnership & Environmental Protection (<http://www.hazon.org/go.php?q=/rides/2005IL/00-aboutTheRide.html>). The Israel Ride is co-sponsored by the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies and Hazon, a New York-based organization dedicated to environmental education. The main beneficiary is a Masters in Environmental Education program that trains Israeli Jews, Israeli Palestinians, Palestinians, and Jordanians, educating a new generation of leaders in the Middle East to work together towards peace and environmental protection in the region. Last year's riders included Americans, both Jewish and Arab Israelis, and a Jordanian student from the Arava Institute.

“In Israel, there are a few issues that can actually unite ethnic, political, and religious factions,” said Avi Hoffer, who will be participating in the Israel Ride for the second time this year. “The environment is one of those rare issues that bridges many gaps. The Arava Institute embodies the principles of regional co-existence and environmental conservation.” The ride will go from start from Jerusalem and pass through Ashkelon, the Negev, Mitzpeh Ramon, and Kibbutz Ketura, and on to Eilat. It is fully supported; food and lodging will be provided. Visit Hazon (<http://www.hazon.org>) for details.

LEHIGH VALLEY'S BICYCLE CROSSING EVENT, MAY 21

The Bicycle Crossing is a non-profit organization created to support and extend the cycling community of the Lehigh Valley in Pennsylvania. Its mission is to share and celebrate bicycling heritage and enhance the lives of Valley residents by integrating bicycles into their lives for fun, fitness, transportation, entertainment, sports competition and physical rehabilitation. The Bicycle Crossing, which will strive to make the Lehigh Valley a League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community (<http://www.bicyclefriendlycommunity.org>) and will promote Safe Routes to Schools (<http://www.bikeleague.org/educenter/labsrts.htm>) in area neighborhoods. Spring Fling, Expo, Ride and Benefit Dinner on May 21, 2005. For more information, see <http://www.bicyclegcrossing>.

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Bicycle Commuter Act and Conserve By Bicycling Reintroduced in Congress

The bicycling agenda is alive and well in the halls of Congress with less than three weeks to go before the National Bike Summit® (March 16-18 in Washington, DC). In addition to transportation reauthorization, bicycling commuter and conserve by bike legislation are once again being considered in the 109th Congress.



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Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and Mark Foley (R-FL) have reintroduced the Bicycle Commuter Act (H.R. 807). It is anticipated that Senators Olympia Snowe (R-ME) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) will reintroduce the Senate companion measure prior to the Summit. The Bicycle Commuter Act would allow an employer to add bicycling to the definition of transportation fringe benefit in the tax code. The transportation fringe benefit was added as an incentive to get more people to use alternative modes of transportation for commuting. The goal is to reduce traffic congestion, pollution and wear and tear on the roads. Under H.R. 807, employers could offer monthly cash reimbursement of up to \$100 to an employee who commutes to work by bicycle, providing a tax benefit to the employer and helping defray commuting expenses for the bicyclist.

In addition, Congressman James Oberstar (D-MN) has introduced H.R. 722, the Securing Transportation Energy Efficiency for Tomorrow Act of 2005. This bill also includes language very similar to H.R. 807, but with a \$75 a month cap. Furthermore, H.R. 722 includes conserve by bicycling language, comparable to the language in last year's energy bill. This language would provide \$10 million to establish a pilot program with up to 10 geographically dispersed projects to use education and marketing and provide facilities to convert motor vehicle trips to bike trips as an energy savings measure. For more information, visit <http://www.bikeleague.org> or <http://thomas.loc.gov>.

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Official blog of the League of American Bicyclists

the inside scoop.

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League of American Wheelmen

The National Bike Summit®

The National Bike Summit® will be fast upon us (March 16-18 in Washington, DC). If you haven't registered yet and you want your voice heard on bicycling issues in the halls of Congress, then don't delay. As mentioned Friday, [Bicycle Commuter Act and Conserve By Bicycling](#) were reintroduced in Congress, so the Summit is a great opportunity to support this vital legislation.

Please visit the League site to [register](#) and for the latest on the [Summit](#), including the preliminary schedule, travel and logistics tips, press releases, and more. U.S. Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta will deliver the keynote address to the Summit on Wednesday, March 16. To ensure League staff can schedule a meeting for you with your Member of Congress on TEA-21 Reauthorization, Complete Streets, and other issues, please register as soon as possible. The League's hotel room blocks, with heavily discounted rooms, have already started to expire.



[Bikes Belong Coalition](#) and [Federal Highway Administration](#) are providing major support for the National Bike Summit®. [Timbuk2](#) is a Leader sponsor of the Summit. Other sponsors include: [America Bikes](#), the [National Bicycle Dealers Association](#), the [International Mountain Bicycling Association](#), [Interbike](#), the [Pedestrian and Bicycle Information Center](#), [Adventure Cycling Association](#), [Tailwinds Adventure Tours](#) and [WaveCrest](#).

Ride Of Silence On May 18 At 7:00 PM

On May 18, the [Ride of Silence](#) will roll across the country, starting at 7:00 PM. In approximately 75 cities in the US, Canada, Mexico, Brazil, Germany

and Belgium, cyclists will take to the roads in a slow (no more than 12 mph), silent procession to honor fellow cyclists who have been killed or injured while riding on public roadways. Although cyclists have a legal right to share the road with motorists, the motoring public often isn't aware of these rights, and sometimes not aware of the cyclists themselves. Visit the [official site](#) for the Ride of Silence in your area. The ride is held annually on the third Wednesday of May, during [National Bike Month](#)™.

The Ride of Silence will be held in Boca Raton, FL in conjunction with the rides across the U.S. and around the world. This event is a free ride – no registration fee, no t-shirt, no aid stations; food and beverages will not be served, however, as the organization is a nonprofit charity, donations will be accepted, the proceeds of which will be used to assist the families of deceased and injured bicyclists who are in need of financial support. For the route and additional information, please visit the [Ride of Silence site](#).

Rack And Ride Transit Challenge Starts May 1

Which U.S. city boasts the most popular bicycle transit system in the country? Sportworks is holding a contest to find out. Running from May 1 through August 31, 2005, the Sportworks Rack and Ride Transit Challenge will gather information from close to 70 transit authorities on bicycle usage aboard transit buses. Winners will be announced at the International Transit Expo in Dallas in September. Combine bicycling with your local transit system buses for travel to work, to the store, or just to see more of the city where you live and show the world how important bicycling is as a transportation option. ([Details](#))



Stand Up For Kids Rides To Combat Youth Homelessness

Steven Blumenfeld, a 16-year old cyclist from New York, is organizing the first ever Ride for Millions fundraiser for StandUp For Kids (a non-profit organization whose mission, for more than 15 years, has been to assist, stabilize and improve the lives of the homeless youth in the US). The goal is to ride a million miles, raise a million dollars and reach a million kids. All funds will benefit a new program, the "Don't Run Away" program, whose purpose is to raise awareness among youth, as well as adults, about the issues on youth homelessness.

The Ride for Millions will be held at riders' convenience, between March and May of this year. It can simply be an hour at cycling practice or a leisurely bike ride in the park. Gather your family and friends and form a team or ride as an individual. Whenever, wherever and whatever you choose, you can ride. [Click here for more information](#) or write [Steven](#). Steven says, "I look forward to hearing from you because, together, we can bike the distance to make a difference in the lives of homeless youth across our country."

Advocacy and Education Events Calendar

Below we provide a listing of important events in bicycling advocacy and education throughout the rest of this year:

Velo-City 2005 In Dublin, May 31 – June 3

Velo-City Dublin will offer a strong focus on a vision-led, integrated strategy approach to the development of cycling. Underpinning the theme is the recognition that each city is unique; its aspirations, culture, economy, objectives etc. are non-standard; and the role of cycling in each city is highly variable. The aims of Velo-City Dublin are to promote cycling in modern urban living, to share the recent Dublin cycle experiences with developing cities, to provide a forum for the communication of ideas, to demonstrate the role of cycling within an integrated strategy, and to provoke discussion, debate and action and prepare for Velo Mondial 2006. [More Information](#)

Bicycle Education Leaders Conference, May 2-4 In New York City

The Bicycle Education Leaders Conference is the only national conference dedicated to the critical topic of bicycle safety and education. If you teach bicycle safety, you need to be in New York City, May 2-4 to network with and learn from your peers from around the nations. The program includes informative workshops on marketing [BikeEd](#) (the League's national bicycling education program), developing youth education programs, and reaching educators in your community. Come a day early and ride [Bike New York](#), a unique opportunity to see the wonders of New York on your bike. [More Information](#)

Bike-To-Work Week, May 16-20 And Bike-To-Work Day, May 20

Bike to Work 2005 takes place May 16th to the 20th and Bike-to-Work Day is Friday, May 20. Visit <http://www.bike-to-work.com> in April to learn about all of your local happenings and fun bike events. The site provides all you need to know on the how's, why's and simple pleasures of the two-wheeled commute, including how to pick the type of bicycle that best suits your needs. In the commuting information page, you can download a 16-page commuting manual, which will give you the information needed for bicycle commuting. Visit the official [National Bike Month™ website](#) for information on events and ways to promote our favorite activity the entire month of May.

Rails-To-Trails Conservancy TrailLink 2005 Conference

TrailLink 2005 will examine new trends in trail design and management; explore the public health impact of trails; provide the latest policy and legal updates; and examine other core issues affecting national and international trails, all with a focus on improving communities through expanding trail networks. It will take place July 27-30 in Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN. [More Information](#)

Nevada Bicycle/Pedestrian Conference

The conference will take place March 29-30 in Lake Tahoe and cover issues including bicycle, pedestrian and ADA design, safety and education, planning, enforcement, maintenance, advocacy, event planning, bike tourism, trails, and a wide range of other issues of importance to bicyclists and pedestrians in Nevada. [More Information](#)

Healthy Streets Conference In Chicago

The Chicagoland Bicycle Federation is offering a two-day conference on ways to improve bicycling and walking conditions in Chicagoland. The event, for transportation professionals, public officials and advocates, will take place March 31-April 1. Other events to take place in conjunction with the conference include: a full-day Real Intersection Design workshop that addresses the needs of bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists; A Tribute to Randy Neufeld; and the Chicago Bike Show. [More Information](#)

Pro Bike®/Pro Walk Florida In Tampa

Showcasing Solutions in Florida and Beyond will be the theme of Pro Bike®/Pro Walk Florida, presented by the Florida Bicycle Association, April 5-8 in Tampa. Workshop tracks will include professional development; engineering and active transportation, law enforcement and education, advocacy and legislation, and a Road I for Professionals course will be offered. [More Information](#)

IMBA's 24 Hours Of DC

Mountain bikers are invited to join the newest 24-hour event - IMBA's 24 Hours of Washington, D.C. It's your chance to give something back to the sport. The marathon will take place April 6-7, 2005 in the U.S. capital. The goal is simple: raise awareness about access and recreation issues and convince lawmakers that mountain biking deserves their support. After IMBA

staff equip participants with talking points, handouts and advice, participants will hit the halls of Congress and talk to elected representatives and staff about key legislation and how it impacts mountain biking. [More Information](#)

Iowa Bicycle Summit

The Iowa Bicycle Conference will be a way to educate and inform bicyclists, elected officials, government staff, and traffic engineers about issues in bicycling. The summit will focus on sharing information and promoting communication about a variety of issues affecting bicycling and trails in Iowa. Topics include bicycle advocacy, safety, education, trails development, bicycle clubs, and national programs and trends. It will take place April 9 in Des Moines. [More Information](#)

Virginia Greenways, Blueways And Trails Conference

Friends of Virginia 's land and water trails will convene for a four-day conference in downtown Richmond, May 1-4. Guided by the theme Building Active Communities, the event's educational sessions, exhibits and hands-on workshops will address all phases of trail development—from fund-raising through design and construction to long-term promotion. [More Information](#)

Walk And Roll California

Walk and Roll California 2005 (September 14-16 in Ventura) will feature informational sessions, workshops and mobile tours on a wide range of topics. Whether your interest is engineering or planning, public health, research, livable communities, safety, law, transportation reform, or marketing walking or bicycling, Walk and Roll California 2005 is an essential event. March 24 is the deadline for the call for presentations. [More Information](#)



Don't miss out on the League's
2005 Almanac, Tourfinder & RideGuide
Join before March 1st and it's yours!
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the inside scoop.

March, 14, 2005

Vol. 5, No. 7

Welcome to the League of American Bicyclists BikeLeague News. To learn more about the League, visit www.bikeleague.org. Please forward to anyone who may be interested.

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Summit Delegates Head to Washington

More than 300 participants from 47 states are heading to Washington this week for the 5th annual National Bike Summit®. The Summit officially kicks off Wednesday morning with the traditional welcome from Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR) and continues with a busy schedule of workshops. The luncheon keynote speaker is Norman J. Mineta, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

On Thursday, delegates take to the halls of Congress. To date, more than 200 Congressional Districts are covered, with more meetings being scheduled every day. View the Summit program, including the all-important issue papers, [here](#).

Friday highlights include a plenary presentation from Ms. Elizabeth Mabry, Executive Director of the South Carolina Department of Transportation and a series of workshops that explore the future of the bicycle movement 15 years from now. The Summit ends with a Congressional Bike Caucus bike ride, Friday afternoon.

Bicycle-friendly Legislation Multiplies in U.S. Congress

The House of Representatives passed their version of the TEA-21 reauthorization legislation, H.R. 3, the Transportation Equity Act – a Legacy for Users, by 417-9 on Thursday, March 10. The legislation preserves core funding programs and adds an \$875 million Safe Routes to



School program (for fiscal years 2005-2009). For more details visit the [House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee](#).

Senate action on the transportation bill is expected this week in the [Committee on Environment and Public Works](#). Senators DeWine (R-OH) and Rockefeller (D-WV) established a marker for highway safety issues by introducing [S. 562](#), the Safe Streets and Highway Act of 2005, on March 8. The legislation includes the Fair Share for Safety provision that would ensure a percentage of highway safety construction funds go to bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements in proportion to bicyclist and pedestrian shares of traffic fatalities in each state.

Watch this space for news of Senate action on the transportation bill, and additional proposed legislation on the Bicycle Commuter Act and Complete Streets.

Clear Channel Radio Disciplines Sacramento DJs

If there is any good news to come out of more offensive remarks from radio show hosts about bicyclists, it is the prompt and decisive action taken by Clear Channel executives in response to the latest outburst. DJs on Sacramento's KSTE station made light of swerving at bicyclists during a morning broadcast, February 24. Within a matter of days, Clear Channel responded by taking the hosts off-air, apologizing for the remarks, broadcasting bicycle safety PSAs, and adding bicycle safety information on the station home page.

Andy Clarke, executive director of the League of American Bicyclists, welcomed the prompt [response from Clear Channel](#). "Almost 18 months ago we agreed on a protocol for responding to such incidents – this is the first time it has been tested and Clear Channel has been as good as its word. Their quick and firm response prevented the situation escalating. We hope KSTE and the local Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates can turn this unfortunate incident into a long term win for bicycle safety."

Last Call for Bicycle Friendly Communities – March 25

Communities wishing to apply for designation as a Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC) have just a few days left to complete their application. Entries received by March 25 will be reviewed during April and the results will be announced at the start of May, National Bike Month. Visit the [BFC site](#) for an [on-line application](#) and [details](#) of the program.


Bicycle Education Leaders Conference Draft Program Posted

If you haven't decided whether or not to register for the League's 3rd Bicycle Education Leaders Conference in New York City, May 2-4, the recently posted [draft program](#) should help you make up your mind to come. In addition to a host of great workshops lead by experts in the bicycle education field, you'll be able to enjoy one of the premier bicycle rides in the world for free: [Bike New York, the Five Boro Bike Tour](#).

And if that isn't enough, author David Herlihy will be delivering a lecture to mark the League's 125th birthday and signing copies of his new book, [Bicycle: The History](#), at Coliseum Books at 6.30pm Monday, May 2.

Don't Forget: IMBA's 24 Hours Of DC

Mountain bikers are invited to join the newest 24-hour event - IMBA's 24 Hours of Washington, D.C. It's your chance to give something back to the sport. The marathon will take place April 6-7, 2005 in the U.S. capital. The goal is simple: raise awareness about access and recreation issues and convince lawmakers that mountain biking deserves their support. After IMBA staff equip participants with talking points, handouts and advice, participants will hit the halls of Congress and talk to elected representatives and staff about key legislation and how it impacts mountain biking. [More Information](#)





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March 28, 2005
Vol. 5, No.8

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2005 National Bike Summit Accelerates Bicycling Agenda

The 5th National Bike Summit, March 16-18 in Washington, D.C. was a resounding success. More than 325 participants from 47 states visited the offices of more than 310 U.S. Representatives and 90 U.S. Senators on Capitol Hill day, March 17.

Keynote speakers included The Honorable Norman J. Mineta, Secretary of Transportation; Ms. Elizabeth Mabry, executive director of the South Carolina Department of Transportation; and Representative Earl Blumenauer (D-OR).

Senator John Kerry (D-MA) received a National Bicycle Leadership Award at a congressional reception, March 17th. The award recognized his role in raising awareness of bicycling and his personal commitment to enjoying the benefits of bicycling even during his grueling Presidential campaign. Awards were also presented to Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), the Palmetto Cycling Coalition in South Carolina, and Pat Cunnane, president of Fuji Bicycles.

The League of American Bicyclists with the support of the [Bikes Belong Coalition](#) organized the Summit. Other sponsors included the [Federal Highway Administration](#), [Timbuk2](#), [Interbike](#), [America Bikes](#), [Adventure Cycling Association](#), [International Mountain Bicycling Association](#), [National Bicycle Dealers Association](#), [Pedestrian Bicycle Information Center](#), [Tailwinds Bicycle Tours](#) and [Wavecrest](#).

Congressional Briefing on Bicycling Agenda

The Congressional Bike Caucus and Senate Bike Caucus are cosponsoring a briefing at 4.00pm, April 7 in the U.S. Capitol to update members and staff on the current status of the bicycling agenda in Congress. Speakers will include professional staff from the Senate Environment and Public Works

Committee, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and bicycle policy experts including Mele Williams (LAB) and Deb Hubsmith from Marin County, CA.

Bicycle Education Leaders Conference Deadline: April 1

Why should you immediately click here and register for the Bicycle Education Leaders Conference in New York City, May 2-4? Here's five good reasons:

1. You'll save \$100 off the registration fee if you register by April 1. That's Friday.
2. The outstanding NYC hotel room rate of \$149 is only good while the room block is available at the Hotel Pennsylvania – and that's no later than April 9.
3. You'll guarantee your place on Bike New York, the Great Five Boro Bike Tour. Don't miss this unique and spectacular ride through the World's greatest city.
4. The BELC program combines inspiring keynote speakers (like Mike Basch, founder of YaYa! Bikes and a little company called Federal Express), practical workshops on all aspects of bicycle education, and a variety of on-bike and field sessions throughout the city.
5. Monday, May 2 you can meet David Herlihy, author of *Bicycle: The History* and have him autograph of copy of his great book.



Check out the program, logistical information and other details at www.bikeleague.org/events.

Cyclists File Amicus Brief to KY Supreme Court

The League, together with local cycling clubs in Kentucky, today filed an Amicus Brief in the Kentucky Supreme Court to defend a bicyclists' right to the road. The case arises from a crash in which the driver of a truck pulling a trailer moved back across the path of a bicyclist before passing the rider. The rider's bike was caught in and dragged under the trailer. The driver admitted in court that he failed to look to see if he was clear of the bicyclist – but the jury ignored this evidence and the judges instruction on the rights of a bicyclist in Kentucky and decided that the bicyclist should have pulled over and stopped to let the driver pass, i.e. they shouldn't have been there. The case was lost on appeal and is now before the Kentucky Supreme Court. The League filed with the brief with the Louisville Bicycle Club, Ashland Cycling Enthusiasts, Bluegrass Cycling Club, Chain Reaction Cycling Club (Paducah) and Bowling Green League of Bicyclists.

Illinois Bicyclists Fixin' to Fix Boub vs Wayne Case

The [League of Illinois Bicyclists](#) and [Chicagoland Bicycle Federation](#) are firing on all cylinders to gather support for House Bill 2390, sponsored by Elaine Nekritz (D-Des Plaines) and Randy Hultgren (R-Winfield). This is a compromise bill to finally fix the problems caused by the 1999 "Boub" case in which bicyclists were determined NOT to be intended and permitted users of the roadway in Illinois. This decision has had serious repercussions on the willingness of local governments to take any action to accommodate bicyclists.


BikeTown Giving Away 1,000 Bikes in 20 Communities...Starting NOW!

Rodale, Inc., publishers of Bicycling magazine, are giving away 1,000 bikes in 20 communities across the country – just to see what impact the bikes have on people's lives. All you have to do, if you don't have a bike and you live in one of the communities, is write a compelling 50-word case statement as to why you deserve a new bike. <http://www.bicycling.com/biketown>

In ten of the communities, recipients have to make a commitment to use their bike for commuting. In five more, half the bikes will go to commuters, and in the remaining five the bikes can go to folks for any purpose. The promotion in 2005 is in conjunction with [Shimano's Bike-to-Work](#) and the [League's National Bike Month](#)™ program, hence the tie-in to bicycle commuting.

Bike to Work Week Posters Available April 4

Speaking of Bike to Work Week, Shimano, and the League, this year's promotional poster for Bike to Work Week is "at the printer" and should be available soon. Go to <http://www.bikemonth.com> to:

- Order your poster
 - List your National Bike Month™ events
 - Find out more about Bike to Work Week
- 



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Bicycle Education Leaders Conference
New York City May 2-4, 2005

[Click Here to Register](#)



This newsletter was originally sent on 4/12/05 with broken links. It is being re-sent with fully functioning links.

April 18, 2005
Vol. 5, No.9

Welcome to the League of American Bicyclists BikeLeague News. To learn more about the League, visit www.bikeleague.org. Please forward to anyone who may be interested.

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Congressional Briefing Highlights Bike/Ped Agenda

The Senate Bike Caucus and Congressional Bike Caucus hosted a briefing on the bicycling agenda in the Federal transportation bill, Thursday, April 7. Speakers at the event in the Capitol included Congressman James Oberstar (D-MN), Mele Williams (LAB), Marianne Fowler (Rails to Trails Conservancy), Deb Hubsmith (Marin County), and Stephanie Manning (House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee). James Koski, Congressional Bike Caucus staff liaison from Congressman Blumenauer's office, chaired the meeting.

The [presentations](#) highlighted the status of the [America Bikes](#) agenda in the House and Senate bills currently working their way through Congress. Rep. Oberstar closed by noting that the Safe Routes to Schools program in the House bill would help change the habits of an entire generation of schoolchildren.

Three Weeks to Bike Month, Bike New York and BELC

May, National Bike Month™, starts in less than three weeks! The month kicks off in style in New York City with Bike New York, the Great Five Boro Bike Tour on May 1, featuring 30,000 riders touring the five boroughs of New York City. Immediately following this is the [Bicycle Education Leaders Conference](#), also in New York City, May 2-4.

Visit these sites to:

- List your National Bike Month event www.bikemonth.com
- Sign up for Bike New York at www.bikewhenyork.org
- Register for the Bicycle Education Leaders Conference at www.bikeleague.org/events
- Order your Bike to Work Week posters and supplies at www.bikemonth.com/supplies.htm
- Find out more about Bike to Work Week at www.bike-to-work.com

- Discover details of BikeTown events in 20 communities at www.bicycling.com/biketown

The Downside of Bicycling

We typically focus on the positive side of bicycling – our mission, after all, is to promote bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation. However, bicycling isn't without risk and a few recent events have brought that home to all of us. Two weeks ago, New York City bicycle advocate Noah Budnick was seriously injured in a bicycle crash at the Brooklyn end of the Manhattan Bridge – a notorious trouble-spot for bicyclists that Noah was working to fix. Find out about Noah's condition and efforts to fix the Manhattan Bridge at www.transalt.org.

A lengthy [article](#) on the South Carolina-based MetroBeat.net documents a discouraging trend of hit and run incidents involving bicycling victims in South Carolina, and quotes extensively sources including National Bike Summit speakers Natalie Cappuccio-Britt and Elizabeth Mabry.

Finally, the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition reports the death of the third bicyclist this year at the hands of drunk drivers – a driver with at least five prior DUI convictions killed the latest victim. “How did society, the courts, and his family allow him to get behind the wheel ever again,” said Christine Culver, executive director of the SCBC. Visit www.bikesonoma.org to follow this story and the coalition's “share the road” campaign.

Dealing with the Downside

Fortunately, there are also good things happening at the state and local level in relation to bicyclist safety. In March, for example, the Utah governor signed into law a [“safe passing” bill](#) that requires motorists to leave at least 3 feet of clearance when passing a bicyclist. Arizona already has a similar law on the books – both pieces of legislation were inspired by the death of bicyclists.

In Maryland, the Governor is expected to sign [SB 551](#) (Exceptions to Stay to the Right) that was passed by the General Assembly on Saturday, April 9. The legislation clarifies when bicyclists may move away from the right side of a travel lane and also encourages motorists to leave 3 feet of space when passing a cyclist.

Legislative efforts to improve conditions for bicyclists continue in many states including California, Florida, Illinois, and Missouri.

- California: many [bicycle-related bills](#) still active in the legislature including important funding bills.
- Florida: [legislation](#) to strengthen the commitment to include bicycle and pedestrian provision in all projects.
- Illinois: [legislation](#) to overturn Boub versus Wayne.
- Missouri: [changes](#) to the state vehicle code, including a safe passing bill.
- Texas: legislative season is in full swing with [Cyclists in Suits day](#), April 18.

Don't forget the [Ride of Silence](#), May 18.

Riders Needed – RAAM, Tour de Hope

Two big national cross country rides need your support!



The third [Tour de Hope](#) ride – supporting cancer research – is looking for twenty riders to share the riding on a 3,300 mile route from San Diego to Washington DC starting September 29. There are lots of other ways to support the ride besides riding.



The [Race Across America](#) also starts in San Diego (June 19) and heads to Atlantic City for a total ride of 3,046 miles – this is most definitely a race, but there are solo and team options available. Also, organizers are encouraging clubs and other bicyclists to come out and cheer the riders on as they race across the country. Look at the route and time stations at <http://www.raceacrossamerica.org>.

National Bike Summit Updates

More resources generated by the National Bike Summit last month are now available at www.bikeleague.org. You can find photos from each of the main events, the workshops, and bike ride by [clicking here](#). In addition, you'll find links to presentations (at least from those who've provided them...) given at the Summit and the main keynote speeches. The [issue papers](#) (and Mele Williams' [presentation](#) given at the issue training) have been posted, and you can download and send us your [congressional feedback forms](#) and [evaluations](#).

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Bicycle Education Leaders Conference

New York City May 2-4, 2005

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April, 26, 2005
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Senate Debating SAFETEA This Week

The Senate today started floor debate on their transportation reauthorization bill, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Equitable Transportation Efficiency Act of 2005 (SAFETEA). The bill contains numerous programs to enable communities to improve conditions for bicycling including continuation of core programs such as transportation enhancements, and two new programs: Safe Routes to School (funded at \$70 million per year for five years) and Fair Share for Safety (requiring states to spend their safety construction funds in proportion to the percentage of bicycle and pedestrian fatalities). The debate is expected to last through the end of this week, and resume the week of May 9 after a Senate recess.

Senator Harkin Introduces Safe and Complete Streets Act

On April 14, Senator Harkin (D-IA) introduced S.794, the Safe and Complete Streets Act of 2005, with the goal of getting the provisions of his bill included in SAFETEA. One way this can happen is for the leadership of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee to include these changes in what is called a "manager's amendment" to the bill. An action alert from America Bikes can be found at www.americabikes.org.

S. 794, The Safe and Complete Streets Act contains three key provisions:

1. Nonmotorized Transportation Safety, including a requirement for state transportation departments to adopt a "complete streets" policy.
2. Safe Routes to School, which adopts the [higher] funding levels and policy language from the House reauthorization bill, and
3. Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program, also taken directly from

the House bill.

Conserve by Bike Provision in House Energy Bill

An [amendment](#) introduced by Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D–OR) to add “Conserve By Bike” provisions to H.R. 6, the Energy Policy Act of 2005, was adopted April 21 by the House of Representatives. This amendment establishes within the Department of Transportation a Conserve by Bike pilot program, which will oversee up to 10 pilot projects across the country designed to conserve energy resources by providing education and marketing tools to convert car trips to bike trips.

Last Call for Bicycle Education Leaders Conference

There’s still time to [sign up for the Bicycle Education Leaders Conference](#) in New York City, May 2-4. Join us for three days of inspirational keynotes, educational workshops, entertaining evening programming, short rides in and around New York City, and get to hang out with leading bicycle educators from around the country. Go on, do it. You know you want to!

National Bike Month Kicks Off Sunday, May 1

Yes, it’s here already! A month long celebration of bicycling with events across the country ranging from the 30,000 rider Bike New York (which is where we are going to be!) on May 1 to bike rodeos, club rides, helmet giveaways and commuter challenges. Among the highlights to which we want to draw your attention are:

- www.BikeMonth.com. Register your events; download great resources; read about what’s happening all over the country.
- www.bike-to-work.com. Discover how 15 communities are celebrating Bike to Work Week (May 16-20). More great resources to download.
- www.bicycling.com/biketown. Enjoy the stories of 1000 people in 20 communities across the country being given FREE bikes.

National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project, May 9-15

This important initiative taking place during bike month is sponsored by the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) in association with Alta Planning + Design. The objective is to develop consistent baseline data on bicycle and pedestrian use for research and informational purposes. A full description of the project along with training instructions and forms can be obtained by contacting Michael Jones at mjones@altaplanning.com. These documents are available at [Alta's website](#).

Vote for the League Board!

Members of the League (as of March 31) are encouraged to cast their votes in Board elections. The latest issue of the membership magazine has your ballot form, candidate statements etc. Please take a few minutes to review the choices and cast your vote. There are three regional seats and one at-large seat up for grabs. And thanks to all the candidates for running!

Active Living Research Reports Available

Active Living Research has released three new Research Summaries that present solid science in a format useful for policy makers, planners, developers, public health officials etc. Each 4- to 6-page brief summarizes the latest research findings on the links between health and the way we build communities, presenting results from the latest peer-reviewed studies as short bullet points. A new summary, Designing to Reduce Child Obesity, shows the importance of giving children better access to healthy choices for both physical activity and nutrition. Updated versions of Designing for Active Transportation and Designing for Active Recreation present newly published research as well as new charts and graphics. All three can be downloaded from the [Active Living Research website](#).

Ride with the League!

Rest assured, we are not just desk-bound, conference-going, policy wonks. We like to ride, and we're looking forward to seeing you on the road sometime soon! Two great events coming up that you should know about are:

- **League of American Bicyclists 125th Anniversary Celebration**, Hosted by the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen. June 10-12, 2005. The NBW is hosting a series of rides to "celebrate cycling in the southeastern New England area and honor the United States' oldest bicycling organization. Founded in Newport, RI, in 1880 as the League of American Wheelmen, the League has grown to be the country's largest and most important cycling advocacy and cyclists' rights organization. As the LAB's spiritual descendent in Rhode Island, we are welcoming all riders to join us in enjoying a weekend of great riding and camaraderie to honor what cycling and the League means to all of us." Couldn't have said it better myself! Visit www.nbwclub.org for all the details.
- **[Cycle Oregon, September 10-17](#)**. Sign up now for one of the great bicycle rides in North America. So good, in fact, that we've designated it this year's National Rally of Bicyclists and we'll be having a League town meeting, running education programs, and introducing people to the League during the course of the week-long ride. So not only do you have a week of incredible riding, scenery, history, camaraderie etc., but you also get to ride with some of the League board and staff! Spaces are going fast.

Two International Events, May 31- June 3

Whether you are a gonzo mountain biker or urban street rider, there's an international conference just for you May 31- June 3.

- **[15th Velo City International Bicycle Planning Conference](#)**, Dublin, Ireland. Bicycle planners, traffic engineers, advocates etc. gather to learn how to deliver on the vision of bicycling as part of the solution to challenges facing cities across the globe.
- **[2nd Annual Northshore Credit Union World Mountain Bike Conference](#)**, North Vancouver, BC. This year's conference brings together business, municipal planners, environmental and legal professionals, leading bike advocates, land managers and mountain resorts to discuss the most vital issues affecting the sport today.

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Official blog of the League of American Bicyclists

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Bicycle Education Leaders Conference

New York City May 2-4, 2005

[Click Here to Register](#)



May 9, 2005
Vol. 5, No.11

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FINAL CHANCE TO GET COMPLETE STREETS IN TEA-21 REAUTHORIZATION

Letters and e-mails to U.S. Senators are needed NOW asking them to support the "Harkin Complete Streets Amendment" currently scheduled for introduction on Wednesday, May 11. Senator Harkin (D-Iowa) is asking for inclusion into the Senate reauthorization bill (SAFETEA) of language establishing complete streets policies in each State. For more details, visit www.americabikes.org.

Today, please call or e-mail your Senators asking them to do two things as they reconvene this week:

- a) Pass S. 732, the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act (SAFETEA) as soon as possible, and
- b) Support the Harkin Complete Streets Amendment when it is introduced.

Senator Harkin is focusing on just one section of his bill, S. 794, the Safe and Complete Streets Act: nonmotorized transportation policy (Section 2). The other two sections of his bill (introducing the House language on Safe Routes to School and nonmotorized pilot programs) will still be on the table when the House and Senate bills are debated in Conference Committee – stay tuned for more news on that when the Senate has passed its bill.

NATIONAL BIKE MONTH KICKS OFF WITH CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION

Congressman Earl Blumenauer (D-Ore.) has introduced a resolution to recognize May as "National Bike Month." The League of American Bicyclists has celebrated May as National Bike Month since 1956. Sponsors of the bill hope that by recognizing May as "National Bike Month," they will be able to highlight bicycling as a one of the most efficient modes of transportation.

Blumenauer's bill, H Con Res 145, was introduced with bi-partisan support and is co-sponsored by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Ranking Member, Congressman James Oberstar (D-Minn). Blumenauer is the co-founder of the Congressional Bike Caucus. His "Conserve by Bicycle" Amendment was incorporated into the Energy Policy Act (H.R. 6) passed by the House of Representatives last month. He has also introduced the Bike Commuter Act (H.R. 807) in the 109th Congress to change the

Transportation Fringe Benefit of the tax code to include bicycle commuters.

BIKE TO WORK WEEK – JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED

If you filled a prescription at one of thousands of drugstores recently (and in the next few weeks), you may notice information about bicycling to work on the bag containing your medication. Tips on riding to work are provided as part of general National Bike Month information on bags supplied to more than 12,000 drug stores including Rite Aid and Walgreens.

Meanwhile, Bike to Work events are shaping up in cities across the country throughout Bike to Work Week (May 16-20) and on Bike to Work Day. More than 10,000 are expected to register for rides in California (May 19) and 5,000 is the target in the DC metro area, May 20. Visit www.bike-to-work.com and www.bikemonth.com for more details.

BICYCLE EDUCATION LEADERS CONFERENCE CONCLUDES WITH MARKETING PLEA

More than 150 of the nation's leading bicycle safety educators gathered in New York City, May 2-4 for an inspiring and informative three days of rides, workshops, and training. Participants at the Bicycle Education Leaders Conference enjoyed plenary speeches covering everything from critical mass to safe routes to school to traffic justice, concluding with a remarkable speech from Chief Michael Scagnelli, head of the New York Police Department's Transportation Division who was twice delayed getting to the conference by the need to ticket motorists behaving like "animals".

Of all the myriad issues covered during the event, one powerful and recurring theme was the need for more effective marketing of bicycle safety education – the need for both more recipients of bicycle safety education and the key messages that need to get out. Tentative plans are set for the fourth BELC to be in Austin, Texas in 2007.

A TRIBUTE TO LUCINDA MEANS

We are all shocked to hear the sad news of the death of Lucinda Means, executive director of the League of Michigan Bicyclists. Lucinda was a powerful champion for bicycling in Michigan, and before that in San Francisco, and she will be sorely missed. Lucinda passed away in her sleep April 29. For more details, and to contribute to the continuation of her work, visit www.lmb.org/ljm2005.htm.

DON'T FORGET...


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· Cycle Oregon, September 10-17. Sign up now for one of the great bicycle rides in North America. So good, in fact, that we've designated it this year's National Rally of Bicyclists and we'll be having a League town meeting,

running education programs, and introducing people to the League during the course of the week-long ride. So not only do you have a week of incredible riding, scenery, history, camaraderie etc., but you also get to ride with some of the League board and staff! Spaces are going fast. (www.cycleoregon.com)

· 15th Velo City International Bicycle Planning Conference, Dublin, Ireland, May 31- June 3. Bicycle planners, traffic engineers, advocates etc. gather to learn how to deliver on the vision of bicycling as part of the solution to challenges facing cities across the globe. (www.velo-city2005.com)

· 2nd Annual Northshore Credit Union World Mountain Bike Conference, North Vancouver, BC, May 31- June 3. This year's conference brings together business, municipal planners, environmental and legal professionals, leading bike advocates, land managers and mountain resorts to discuss the most vital issues affecting the sport today. (www.nsbmfc.com)





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May, 16 2005
Vol. 5, No.12

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- » [Vote in League elections](#)
- » [Help Select 125 Most Influential People in Bicycling](#)

League Designates 16 Bicycle Friendly Communities

Sixteen cities across the United States can celebrate the start of national Bike to Work Week today with the news that the League of American Bicyclists has awarded them the coveted designation of "Bicycle Friendly Community". The award, given at levels from Bronze to Platinum, recognizes those communities that are improving conditions for bicyclists and bicycling safety.

Five cities are awarded the BFC designation for the first time (marked with *):

Gold

- Boulder, Colo.
- Corvallis, Ore.
- Palo Alto, Calif.

Silver

- Chicago, Ill.*
- Fort Collins, Colo.
- Santa Barbara, Calif.
- Scottsdale, Ariz.*

Bronze

- Ann Arbor, Mich.*
- Beaverton, Ore.
- Bend, Ore.*
- Burlington, Vt.*
- Cary, NC
- Denver, Colo. (formerly Silver)
- Redmond, Wash.
- Schaumburg, Ill.
- Shawnee, Kan.

For more information visit www.bicyclefriendlycommunity.org.

Transportation Bill: One Last Call for Senate Action

Alabama Senator Jeff Sessions is offering an amendment today, Monday May 16, which would slash funding for bicycle and pedestrian projects in the Senate transportation bill. Although the measure is not expected to pass,

The League of American Bicyclists is urging its supporters to contact their Senators to ask them to oppose the Sessions Amendment (646).

A strong show of support for bicycle and pedestrian project funding will help us in the final stages of negotiation: the conference committee between House and Senate members that will convene after the Senate has passed its bill (SAFETEA). The Senate is expected to end debate on SAFETEA as early as Tuesday.

Action!

Contact your senator by e-mail, visit <http://www.senate.gov> and then go to your senator's individual Web site to find contact information.

Vote in League Elections

League members are reminded to cast their ballots for board members before the June 6 deadline – all members in good standing as of March 31 are eligible to cast a vote for one at-large board member; members in three regions may also cast a vote for their regional director. Refer to your spring magazine for a copy of the ballot and candidate statements, or visit the website at www.bikeleague.org.

Help Select the 125 Most Influential People in Bicycling

Who has had the greatest influence on bicycling in the United States in the past 125 years? We want to know who you think deserves to be on the list! A distinguished panel of judges will pore over nominations prior to announcing the final list in September – so please send in your nominations right now!

Go to <http://www.bikeleague.org/events/125-index.htm>.





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TRANSPORTATION FUNDING BILL MOVES INTO CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

On Tuesday, May 17 the Senate passed SAFETEA – a bill to reauthorize Federal transportation programs – by an overwhelming majority. Immediately prior to passage of the bill, an effort to reduce overall funding by \$11bn by slashing funds for transportation enhancements, congestion relief and transit programs was defeated decisively by 86-14. The Senate action paves the way for the final stage of reauthorization: a conference committee to resolve the differences between the House and Senate bills. There's good news for bicyclists in both bills, including:

- Core funding for bicycle projects remains intact and at slightly higher funding levels than in previous years
- Both bills include creation of a new Safe Routes to School program; the only issue is the level of funding. The House bill has \$875 million over five years, the Senate has \$312 million
- The Senate bill would ensure 13% of safety construction funds nationwide are spent improving the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists.

For more information, keep visiting www.bikeleague.org and www.americabikes.org.

BIKE TO WORK WEEK AND BIKETOWN GIVEAWAYS MAKE A SPLASH

More than 750 people have been given new bikes in the past 30 days as part of a national promotion encompassing National Bike Month, Bike to Work Week, and Bicycling magazine's Biketown program. The most recent giveaways were in Washington, D.C., Ann Arbor, Mich., and Minneapolis, Minn. on Bike to Work Day, May 20. The D.C. event went ahead despite record rainfall

(2.6 inches)! Biketown giveaways are scheduled for Cleveland, Ohio, and New York City in the coming week.

See how the events unfolded in two communities:

<http://bayareabikes.org/btwd/biketown.html>

<http://www.biketexas.org>

Visit www.bicycling.com/biketown and www.bike-to-work.com for more details. For more information about the last few days of National Bike Month 2005, go to www.bikemonth.com.

MAKE BICYCLING BETTER: BECOME AN LCI

If you are an experienced and knowledgeable cyclist with a desire to make cycling safe and accessible for others, become a League Cycling Instructor! This is a great way to advance cycling in your community. The League seeks to certify its members who are self-starters, passionate about cycling and are recognized within their communities as riders with experience and know how. Three upcoming seminars will be held in Topeka, Kan. on July 8-10, Washington, D.C. on July 15-17 and Boise, Idaho on July 22-24. To register for one of these seminars, or for more information, visit <http://www.bikeleague.org/educenter/seminars.htm> or call 202-822-1333.

RAIL-TRAIL DESIGN AWARDS

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy and the American Society of Landscape Architects are holding the second Rail-Trail Design Recognition Awards. The awards will be presented at a ceremony during TrailLink 2005, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's international trails and greenways conference. Winners will also have the opportunity to present their designs at a conference session. The submission deadline is June 1, 2005, and trail designers are encouraged to submit their creative and innovative designs.

Applications can be submitted for trails which are open, conceptual, or in the planning and construction phases, and submissions may be from anywhere in the world. To find out more about how you can enter your trail design, go to <http://www.railtrails.org/traillink2005/program/recogprog.asp> or contact Betsy Goodrich at betsy@railtrails.org.


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- » [Bicyclists, Officials Gather to Honor Lucinda Means](#)
- » [BikeTown Donates Bikes, Classes to Students](#)

New Bicycle Touring Web Resource to the Oregon Coast, Columbia River Gorge and More

Visitors & Residents wanting to travel by bicycle have a new resource at www.GettingAroundPortland.org. The City of Portland Office of Transportation has added to an already comprehensive bicycle resource & information web site by launching a new section on bike touring in and around Portland. Just in time for summer, the web site provides detailed information for cyclists heading out to the beautiful destinations that surround the city: the coast, the gorge, and more.

In addition to the new Bike Touring information, the web site also has an abundance of Portland bicycling information: multitudes of maps, resources, event & safety information, and much more. For more information on cycling in Oregon, visit www.cycleoregon.com or www.gettingaroundportland.org.

Bike to Work Month Continues Successfully

Rainy DC Bike to Work Day Covered in the Washington Post

John Kelly, a columnist for the Washington Post, wrote a humorous article about riding to work on this year's muddy, rainy, cold Bike to Work Day in D.C. Despite the weather, thousands showed up at bike stations around the city to pick up a well-earned t-shirt, eat some bagels, and discuss commuting by bicycle with other dedicated riders. To find out more about this year's ride, visit www.waba.org.

Denver Bike to Work Day Gets Additional Press Through Launch of Nationwide Site

Denver's Bike to Work Day gives many reasons to get active, including a giveaway of 50 bikes, sponsored by Bicycling magazine. The Denver region's bike to work day, one of the largest in the nation with more than 17,000 participants, will also host the national rollout of the Active Transportation Web site. This year's event includes more than 100 breakfast stations along major bike routes and prizes for corporate participation and for individual

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bicyclists. The Cherry Creek shopping district Bike Rack will be a breakfast station as well as the location for the bike giveaway. For more information, visit www.bicyclecolo.org.

Louisville, Ken. Hosts Successful Family-Style Ride

There were close to 1,000 bicyclists and walkers who participated in the Louisville mayor's Healthy Hometown Hike & Bike event, part of a new Healthy Hometown Movement designed to help people kick unhealthful habits and start exercising. Also, the city's bike-to-work week celebration was a huge success—recruiting more people than ever to bike to work. For more information, visit www.louisvillebicycleclub.org.

Chicago Issues Commuter Challenge

The city's Commuter Challenge encourages employees to bike to work, and organizations with the highest percentage of bicycle commuters are rewarded. With support from the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation, businesses and organizations in Chicago and the suburbs are encouraging their employees to make at least part of their commute to work June 11-17 on bicycle. Businesses and organizations achieving the highest percentage of bicycle commuters receive awards and cheesecake from Eli's Cheesecake. The challenge is divided into three categories and four divisions based on size. In 2004, more than 1,000 employees from 76 businesses and organizations accepted the challenge. Organizations can sign up online at www.biketraffic.org as an entire company or simply as one department or division.

Lahore, Pakistan Adopts Bicycle-Friendly Policy

The Honorable Mian Amir Mahmood, Mayor of Lahore, signed the Velo Mondial (London, Amsterdam) Charter and Action Plan for Bicycle Friendly Communities, on behalf of the City of Lahore today. This is a significant step for Lahore to become a bicycle friendly city. Christopher Huggins countersigned the Charter on behalf of Velo Mondial and the League of American Bicyclists, with the sponsorship of UNESCO (Paris, France). This Charter provides a blueprint and a set of directives for promoting the bicycle as an efficient, environmentally friendly alternative to motorized transport. For more information, go to www2.dw-world.de/southasia/eu-southasia/1.140458.1.html or www.360ways.org


Bicyclists, Officials gather to Honor Lucinda Means (Excerpted from the City Pulse of Lansing, Mich.)

Bicyclists and city officials gathered in late May to honor Michigan's foremost proponent of bicycling, Lucinda Means, head of the League of Michigan Bicyclists, who had died of a stroke at the age of 49 just two weeks before. The persistence of Lucinda Means made many converts to the cause of bicycling, even within city leadership. At the time of Means' death, Sen. Michelle McManus of Michigan's 35th District, covering the northwestern Lower Peninsula, was working closely with Means on pending legislation to make the state's vehicle code more bicycle-friendly. While declining to offer details until negotiations are completed, she predicted that something special was in the works for this fall. "I believe it's a package Lucinda would be proud of," McManus said.

BikeTown Donates Bikes, Classes to Students

BikeTown, the bicycle give-away program sponsored and promoted by Rodale/[Bicycling Magazine](http://www.bicyclingmagazine.com) and other contributing sponsors has selected the Helen A. Fort Middle School in Pemberton, N.J. to receive 50 new bicycles

and helmets. Fifteen of those bikes and helmets will be available to the Fort Dix army base middle school, located nearby. The bikes will be available through a "loan program" like a library, for a week or through the summer. The H.A. Fort Middle School contracts counseling services to Drenk Behavioral Health Center, through the NJ After 3 program. The Bike Town bikes donation will be supplemented with a requirement that in order to take out a bike, a student must have completed a League of American Bicyclists (LAB) Bike Ed Kids II program. Sharing the costs of the Bike Ed. Program, Drenk and Rodale have contracted with Bikeways Engineering, Inc. of Princeton, NJ to provide Kids II programs. The program began on May 24 with first group of 17 students receiving on-bike instruction after and orientation and introduction. Additional session will be held until all willing students (estimated at 50, total) complete all modules of the Kids II program. LCI's John Waltz, Damion Miller and Carolyn Hohne are the instructors. LCI Fran Horn is also expected to participate. For more information, contact John Waltz at bikewayeng@aol.com.



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League Elects New Board Members

Members of the League of American Bicyclists have elected W. Preston Tyree, Ellen Jones, Don Sparks and Harry Brull to serve on the board of directors. Each are elected to serve three-year terms, which will begin September 15, 2005 at the board of directors meeting during Cycle Oregon.

Tyree was re-elected at-large director, a national seat. He has served on the board since 2003, and an active bicycle advocate in Texas. Jones was elected to serve Region 2, which includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. She served as executive director of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association for 11 years, and is currently the director of transportation for the Downtown Business Improvement District in D.C. Sparks was re-elected to serve Region 3, which covers Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia. He is the founding president of the Charleston Bicycle Advocacy Group and helped draft South Carolina Department of Transportation's Bicycle Policy. Brull was elected to serve Region 5, which includes Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin and Wyoming. He is senior vice president at PDI, based in Minneapolis, Minn.

"I am excited about the new directors the membership has chosen," said outgoing League President Chris Kegel, owner of the Wheel and Sprocket bicycle shops in Wisconsin. "They are innovative leaders and strong bicycling advocates who will help the League continue to grow and exceed expectations in the coming years."

League Celebrates 125th Anniversary in Rhode Island

On June 10, 11 and 12 League of American Bicyclists board members past and present joined League staff members and the Narragansett Bay Wheelmen in Providence, R.I. to commemorate the 125th Anniversary of the League. Phyllis Harmon, member and supporter of the League since 1937 (!),

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drove up from Florida to join Board Members John Allen (from Massachusetts) and Mike Abrams (from Ohio) in commemorating this monumental event. In an address to the membership, Executive Director Andy Clarke thanked the members for their devotion and urged them to continue to support the League and its initiatives as we begin another 125 years of success. For pictures of the weekend, click [here](#).

New York City Cyclists Gather to Demand Protection

On Thursday, June 16, New York City cyclists representing Transportation Alternatives and an alliance of city bicycle groups went on a Vigil Ride from 5th Avenue and Warren Street in Brooklyn to the steps of City Hall to memorialize Elizabeth Padilla, Brandie Bailey, Jerome Allen and all 204 NYC bicyclists killed since 1995. At City Hall, the cyclists laid down 204 flowers in memory of the 204 fallen cyclists and asked Mayor Bloomberg to convene a multi-agency task force to develop -- in cooperation with the NYC cycling community -- an action plan to prevent further deaths and injuries. According to NYPD data, a total of nine cyclists have perished in crashes this year, representing a 50 percent increase in fatalities over the same period in 2004.

Boston, Mass. Police Offices Will be Trained on Bicycle Laws

The Boston, Mass. Municipal Police Training Committee has officially voted to incorporate training on bicycle laws into their "In-Service Legal Update" program for Fiscal Year 2006, which provides professional development training for veteran officers. The Municipal Police Training Committee has also pledged to incorporate this training for new recruits in the near future. The curriculum adopted by the Municipal Police Training Committee was developed by MassBike using a \$50,000 grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and was completed in June of 2004. This innovative national curriculum project was initially launched with financial support from the Charles River Wheelmen, a local recreational bicycling group.

Call for Papers on Bicycles as a Mode of Transportation

The TRB Committee on Bicycle Transportation (ANF20) is looking for papers for the upcoming TRB Annual Meeting in 2006. The Committee is interested in papers on all topics related to the bicycle as a mode of transportation. Papers should focus on bicycling and not combine bicycling with walking. Please indicate ANF20 on the Submission Review form to indicate that the paper is being submitted in response to this call for papers. Papers for the 2006 Annual Meeting must be submitted electronically no later than August 1, 2005. No papers can be accepted after that date. Paper submission information is posted on the TRB website at <http://www.trb.org/meeting/>.


Infrastructure, Education Increase Bicycle Commuters

A study by Jennifer Dill and Theresa Carr, "Bicycle Commuting and Facilities in Major U.S. Cities: If You Build Them, Commuters Will Use Them," found that only 0.53 percent of people in Denver commute by bike. In comparison, 2.59 percent of people in Sacramento are bike commuters, San Francisco cites 1.80 percent, Boston 1.48 percent, Washington D.C. 1.42 percent, Los Angeles and Philadelphia 0.63 percent, Chicago 0.51 percent, and New York 0.42 percent. They conclude that "the percentage of people commuting by bicycle is significantly correlated with the bicycle infrastructure," specifically designated bike lanes. For perspective, Sacramento boasts 1.42 bike lanes per square mile to Denver's 0.07. For typical U.S. cities with populations of more than 250,000, each additional mile of bike lanes per square mile is associated with a roughly one-percentage point increase in the number of people who commute by bike. However, Dill and Carr note that "bicycle lanes

and paths alone are not likely to increase bicycle commuting." They cite education about bicycling as an important component of increasing the numbers of commuters.

Newly Launched Web Site Encourages Active Lifestyles

To help promote bicycling, Andy Clarke, executive director of the League, and Tim Blumenthal, executive director of Bikes Belong, unveiled a nationwide Web site designed to encourage people to lead more active lives: www.activetransportation.org. The Web site was created by Active Living by Design, a national program of The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and will be managed by the League of American Bicyclists and Bikes Belong. "Our vision is to see walking and bicycling as widely accepted forms of behavior for transportation and recreation," said Richard Killingsworth, outgoing director of Active Living by Design. "We're delighted to launch this site and put its management in the capable hands of the League of American Bicyclists and Bikes Belong."



AMERICAN bicyclist update



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Funding to Encourage Bicycling

The Bikes Belong Coalition is sponsored by the bicycle industry, with the mission of putting more people on bicycles more often. The [Bikes Belong Coalition Grants Program](#) provides grants of up to \$10,000 to nonprofit organizations and public agencies at the national, regional, and local level for facility, capacity, and education projects. Priority is given to organizations that are directly involved in building coalitions for bicycling by collaborating the efforts of bicycle industry and advocacy groups. Requests are reviewed quarterly and the remaining deadlines in 2005 are August 29, and November 28. For application guidelines, visit the website listed above.

Got a Flat? We'll Pick You Up!

The League has a new benefit for its Silver Spoke members (\$100 or more annually)—roadside assistance! This benefit provides nationwide emergency roadside assistance for you and your bicycle. Through our relationship with the Better World Club, we'll take you and your bike to the nearest repair facility, or home, within 30 miles from pick up. There is a maximum of two service calls per covered member per year. This benefit covers one person. To become a Silver Spoke member, click [here](#).

Act Now to Improve Cycling in Grand Teton

Round-the-World cyclist Tim Young is looking for help to improve bicycling in his own back yard: Grand Teton National Park. The Park is currently considering alternative transportation plans for the future, and none of those on offer adequately address the need for improved bicycle access and safety. The issues facing the Park are similar to those facing many other national treasures such as Grand Canyon, Yosemite and even the National Capital Region - so Grand Teton may serve as a model for others to follow. The National Parks Conservation Association has proposed an "Improved Alternative 4" for Grand Teton featuring improved roadways for bicyclists, a world-class trail system for bicyclists, pedestrians and people with disabilities, better transit and stronger demand management. Comments on the plan are due by August 1. Visit <http://www.grandtetonpathways.org/index.htm> for more information and to support better bicycle access.

SB 523 Moving Forward in California

In late June, the California Assembly Transportation Committee voted 8-2 in favor of retaining the current \$7.2 million level of funding made available to cities and counties for bicycle transportation projects. It is currently scheduled to drop to \$5 million a year next July. Senate Bill 523, authored by Sen. Tom Torlakson, passed out of the Assembly Transportation Committee with support from Democrats and Republicans. This bill would maintain the amount of money transferred from the Highway Users Tax Account to the Bicycle Transportation Account beginning next



July. The BTA has funded 98 cities and 21 counties for a total of 119 projects. These projects promote bicycle commuting, improve the safety of bicyclists and pedestrians, ease traffic congestion and improve air quality. SB 523 will now go the Assembly Appropriations Committee for further consideration. Once the bill is passed out of this committee it will go to the floor of the Assembly.



Share the Road License Plates Popping Up All Over ...

In December of 2004, Ohio Governor Bob Taft signed the Share the Road license plate into law as part of House Bill 406. This law is the culmination of five years of efforts by the Ohio Bicycle Federation. Proceeds from the plate pay for publishing *Ohio Bicycling Street Smarts*. Ohioans may purchase a Share the Road plate any time during the year. The SHARE THE ROAD plate became available on March 23, 2005. Visit www.ohiobike.org for more information. To get your Ohio Share the Road plates on the web: Go to www.oplates.com; click on "special plates." Scroll down and click on "Share the Road" or pedal to your local deputy registrar. Other states with Share the Road plates include Texas (www.biketexas.org/share_the_road.html), Florida (www.bikeflorida.org/sharetheroadspecialtytags/license_plate.htm), Oklahoma (<http://www.oklahomabicyclecoalition.com/Tag/srt5.pdf>), South Carolina (www.scdmvonline.com/VehPlateSpecialty.aspx), Virginia (www.bikewalkvirginia.org/) and Washington (the bill has just passed the state legislature).

Join the League at Cycle Oregon in 2005

The League's annual rally will be held in conjunction with Cycle Oregon this year, Sept. 10-16. The ride is a 450-mile, weeklong adventure featuring a full array of challenges and rewards. The League board meeting will be held on Sept. 15 and will be followed by our annual town meeting. This year, the Town Meeting will include a famous guest speaker! Sign up today at www.cycleoregon.com because spaces are limited!

New Conn. Bike Advocacy Group Launched

A new bicycle advocacy group has formed in the Greater Hartford area to promote bicycling in Central Connecticut. The Central Connecticut Bicycle Alliance (CCBA) has been formed by a group of area bicyclists as a non-profit organization that will work to: Promote bicycling as an environmentally friendly, healthy and economical form of transportation and recreation, improve the bicycling environment and the quality of life in the Central Connecticut Region, and educate motorists and bicyclists about their respective rights and responsibilities. The CCBA is an outgrowth of the Capitol Region Bike to Work Committee, a project of the Capitol Regional Council of Governments (CRCOG). For those interested in learning more about the CCBA or in becoming a member, visit www.wecyclect.org.

New Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge in Calif.

From the San Jose Mercury News

The first phase of construction on the Mary Avenue Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge, which will span California's Interstate 280 and provide a new link between Cupertino and Sunnyvale, is scheduled to start in September. Construction of the bridge—which will feature two 85-foot towers—will start next spring and is expected to take 12 to 14 months to complete, said Terry Greene, Cupertino's city architect. The bridge will complete an important but long-missing link in the bicycle and pedestrian pathways system in



the South Bay. It's expected that the structure will become an area landmark.

The \$9.25 million project is being funded through local, regional and state sources. The Valley Transportation Authority has appropriated \$7 million and Caltrans an additional \$600,000. Cupertino's share is \$475,000, and Sunnyvale has contributed \$110,000 to the project.

Bicycle Traps Coming to Utah ...

You've heard of speed traps but have you heard of a bicycle trap? Five Utah police agencies will be participating in a state-sponsored crackdown on motorists who aren't sharing the roads with bicycles. Plainclothes officers will ride bicycles to catch motorists who aren't sharing the road. Assistant Chief Craig Gibson says it's a growing safety problem.

Assistant Layton Police Chief Craig Gibson says what they'll do is put plainclothes cops on bikes to catch motorists. Cops in cars will then write the tickets. On average, the state health department says 900 bicyclists are hit each year. Four other Utah police departments are participating in the statewide enforcement program.

Chicagoans Win Prizes for Shopping by Bike

The Chicagoland Bicycle Federation and two Chicago-area neighborhoods—Forest Park and Downtown Oak Park—are making it pay to *Shop By Bike*. As part of the promotion that encourages a healthy way to shop locally, people who cycle to shop become eligible to win prizes including a Giant comfort bike, \$550 in gift certificates, and more. The *Shop By Bike* program runs through Sept 30. Bike shoppers simply need to make a \$5 purchase at any participating merchant to get their cards punched, with one punch per purchase and five punches completing a card. Bike shoppers may complete as many cards as they want. Many of the participating merchants are also offering special discounts and promotions for bike shoppers. To read more about Bike and Shop, visit www.biketraffic.org/shopbybike.

Blue Bikes Program Helps America Get Active

DASANI and Rails-to-Trails Conservancy are providing **more than 150 bikes for free, unlimited public use on approximately 200 miles of trails** through the "Blue Bikes" community bicycle program, supported by Trek®. The initiative also offers each trail several other enhancements including park benches, picnic tables, shelters and recycle bins. In each participating city, the bikes are housed along an area trail in special storage lockers, giving residents free access, 24 hours a day. Area residents take part in the program by registering for a card at the trail's main offices. Cyclists pass the card through the reader to remove a bike and to return it at the end of their ride.

Participating cities and trails include: Baltimore, Gwynns Falls Trail; Villa Park, Ill. (Chicago metro area), Illinois Prairie Path & Great Western Trail; Pittsburgh, Three Rivers Heritage Trail; Rockmart, Ga., Silver Comet Trail; Salt Lake City, Provo River Parkway; Seattle, Sammamish River Trail; Orlando, West Orange/Little Econ Greenway; and Dallas, Katy Trail.

In other Rails to Trails news, the early registration deadline for *TrailLink 2005*, which will be in Minneapolis/St. Paul on July 27-30, 2005, has been extended to July 8. For more info, visit www.railtrails.org/traillink2005.

Greenway Hiring Trail Program Coordinator

The East Coast Greenway Alliance, a non-profit organization spearheading development of a Maine to Florida urban trail system, is hiring a trail program coordinator. This position carries system-wide responsibility for implementing the "Close the Gaps" Campaign - getting the Greenway substantially built, designated and signed by 2010. The Coordinator will train and supervise four Regional Trail Liaisons (to be hired over coming months) who will work with our volunteer state committees and directly with agency personnel involved with trail building to meet trail development goals. She/he will also help to build and staff the newly formed Alliance Trail Council in its oversight role for trail policy and development. The work location is the new and expanded ECGA headquarters in Wakefield, R.I. Limited travel to meetings and site inspections will be required. For more information, or to apply, go to greenway.org/jobs.htm.

ACA Seeks Communications Associate

Adventure Cycling Association is hiring a communications associate to work on two of our key publications and to serve as our liaison with the media. We seek an individual who enjoys bicycling, loves to tell stories and communicate with people, and is an excellent writer and editor. The position is based in Adventure Cycling's headquarters in friendly and beautiful Missoula, Mont. For more information, click [here](#).



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July 6, 2005

Final Days of Reauthorization: Don't Let Up Now!

After more than two years of debate over the eventual funding level for the next surface transportation bill, we are now inside the final two weeks of action!

One more call to your members of Congress – or one more meeting while Members are back home in their districts this week – could make all the difference between important pro-bicycling provisions staying in the bill or being left on the cutting room floor!

As [America Bikes](#) reported last week, Congress has passed an eighth – and hopefully final – extension to TEA-21 that carries us through July 19 th; and the House and Senate have reportedly agreed on a total funding package of \$286.5 billion over the six years of the bill. These two actions mean that the outcome of years of debate, meetings, proposals and negotiations all hinge on decisions made in the next two weeks.

Now is the time to make sure all the hard work we've put in to ensure the law has strong provisions for bicycling comes to fruition. We are extremely grateful that core programs such as Transportation Enhancements and Congestion Mitigation remain in the legislation with robust funding levels.

However, in the rush to finish the legislation, your call or visits to your members of Congress in the next few days can also help make these critical differences:

- a) The fair share for safety policy language in the Senate bill is included in the final legislation – this will ensure adequate funding is directed towards improving bicyclist and pedestrian safety
- b) The House funding level (or closer to it) and policy language are adopted for the new Safe Routes to School program – the Senate bill has \$312 million over five years compared to \$875 million in the House
- c) The House funding level (or closer to it) is adopted for the Recreational Trails program – the Senate bill has \$280 million versus \$503 million in the House.

For more information on each of these America Bikes priorities and additional issues, go to www.americabikes.org. Armed with this information, please contact your Representative and Senators by either calling the capital switchboard at (202) 224-3121, or looking up local contact information at www.senate.gov and www.house.gov.

Remember, when America Bikes, America Benefits! Gently remind your Members of Congress that these policies and programs aren't just good for bicycling; they are good for individuals, the community and the nation. Thanks for your help.





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July 18, 2005

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Transportation Bill Nears Completion

From the Congressional Quarterly

Top negotiators on a new surface transportation authorization bill planned to meet later today with only "a few remaining issues" awaiting resolution, congressional and lobbyist sources said. "As of this morning, everyone is still confident that we'll get the conference wrapped up either tomorrow or within the next few days," said Bill Holbrook, spokesman for the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. "They made a great deal of progress this weekend, but are still working on a few remaining issues." Staff members worked until 2 a.m. this morning to draft conference report language for the bill (HR 3), which would reauthorize highway, public transportation and road safety programs through fiscal 2009.

Is Your Community Bicycle Friendly?

The deadline to apply for bicycle friendly community status is August 19. You have just over a month to complete the application and get support from your mayor and city council. This program, which is supported by generous grants from [Bikes Belong](#), evaluates communities on five criteria. League reviewers and local advocates extensively analyze a community's efforts in education, enforcement, engineering, encouragement, and evaluation. To find out more about the program, or to begin the application process, click [here](#).

The League Is Coming to You!

As part of our member outreach efforts, the League will be at the opening day of [RAGBRAI](#) this year, as well as several other large cycling events. Look for our signature blue tent! In addition, there are still some spaces available for [Cycle Oregon](#), which is the League's national rally this year. League staff members will ride [Cycle Oregon](#), and our annual town hall will be held there. For more information on the League, or to tell us about your event, visit us at www.bikeleague.org.

Learn How to Influence Public Policy

With only days remaining before the signing of the federal transportation bill, the [Thunderhead Alliance](#) is ready to tap these new funds through its member organizations for bicycling and walking. Thunderhead's 2005 professional development series sets leaders of bicycle and pedestrian advocacy organizations to work on campaigns that leverage their Congressional and other governmental connections to ensure that government funding goes towards projects and programs that increase bicycling and walking as they decrease crashes. "The [Thunderhead Training](#) gave me a how-to kit for influencing public policy," said Gary Wysocky, president of the Sonoma County Bicycle Coalition.

The next [Thunderhead Training](#) will include specifics on how



leaders of organizations can tap funding in the federal transportation bill including new funding for Safe Routes to Schools and safety funding specifically for improving bicycle and pedestrian safety. The training will be Aug. 26-28 in Decatur, Ga.



Share the Road License Plates: Get Yours Today!

An article in this newsletter two weeks ago about Share the Road license plates neglected to mention three additional states that are in the final stages of Share the Road plates. They are [Indiana](#) (pre-sale deadline extended until July 22!), [Georgia](#) (must pre-sell 1,000 before state will manufacture plates), and [Kentucky](#) (needs 900 applications before Sept. 1). Way to go, advocates!

Ride with Lance in the Tour of Hope 2005

Registration is now open for the Tour of Hope's DC Fundraising Ride on Oct. 8. All of the funds raised will benefit cancer research through the Lance Armstrong Foundation and the Tour of Hope's partner organizations. In 2003 and 2004, the Tour of Hope raised more than \$2 million. Participants may choose between a 50-mile ride beginning in rural Maryland or a 10-mile ride starting in Glen Echo, Md. Visit www.tourofhope.org for all the details.

Mass. Appoints Bicycle Advisory Committee

The Massachusetts Executive Office of Transportation has established a Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for the first time in more than 10 years. In addition to government representatives, this committee will include 14 citizen members, seven of who will address bicycling issues and seven of whom will represent pedestrian concerns.

The appointees for the bicycle advisory positions are: League Board Member John Allen, the author of *Bicycling Street Smarts*; Dan Tieger, founder of the North Shore Bikeways Coalition; Rob Miceli, co-founder of Mad About Cycling; Joe Repole, founding member of the Framingham Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee; Michael Halle, co-creator of Cambridge's "Be Bright" bike light campaign; Jennifer Miller, the Director of Marketing for Seven Cycles, Inc.; and Dick Miller, a founding member of the Cochituate State Park Advisory Committee.



LMB Appoints Oberle Interim Exec. Director

The League of Michigan Bicyclists' Board of Directors has appointed Rick Oberle of Lansing, Mich. as LMB's Interim Executive Director. Rick has already started, and will be working part time until a permanent executive director is appointed to replace the late Lucinda Means. This is expected in about four months. Rick is a long-time cyclist, cycling advocate, and LMB member. He has extensive experience in non-profit, association and business management.

League Certifies 43 New LCIs

Forty-three new League Cycling Instructors have been certified in Washington, D.C., Spokane, Wash. and Springfield, Mo. Becoming an LCI, which means you are certified to teach BikeEd, is a great way to help cyclists in your community. [Check here](#) for more information on how to become an instructor.

Support Virginia Ridge & Valley Act Today!

Working closely with the [Virginia Wilderness Committee](#), the [International Mountain Biking Association](#) has helped forge an innovative bike-friendly agreement that will protect parts of the Jefferson National Forest in southern Virginia as Wilderness. Wilderness designations ban bicycle access and, traditionally, are problematic for mountain bike advocates. However, the Virginia bill employs boundary adjustments and diverse designations to protect riding opportunities, and so could become an important model for other states. The bill is endorsed by more than 100 organizations, including dozens of businesses, local government officials, Virginia Wilderness Committee, Virginia Audubon Council, the Virginia Tourism Corporation and local mountain biking clubs. U.S. Representative Rick Boucher (D-VA) and U.S. Senator John Warner (R-VA) introduced the bill. With Senator Allen's support it has a good chance of becoming law. To read more, and to offer support, click [here](#).

Two Bikes Win Prestigious IDEA Awards



The [SHIFT bicycle](#) (at left), which helps children learn how to ride a bike by gradually teaching them how to balance on their own, won a gold [Industrial Design Excellence Award](#). IDEAs are dedicated to fostering business and public understanding of the importance of industrial design excellence to the quality of life and the economy. The [iXi bike](#) won a bronze IDEA for its visually appealing, user-friendly build.



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August 1, 2005

\$3 Billion Guaranteed for Biking in Final Bill

The new Transportation Bill, H.R. 3 SAFETEA-LU, almost doubles the amount available for bicyclists and pedestrians from the previous bill, guaranteeing at least \$3 billion will be spent on bicycle programs through 2009. The bill creates a new Safe Routes to School program, with \$612 million allocated for the program over the next 5 years. To learn more about the bill, and for updated analysis, visit www.bikeleague.org.

Is Your Community Bicycle Friendly?

The deadline to apply for bicycle friendly community status is August 19. You have just over a month to complete the application and get support from your mayor and city council. This program, which is supported by generous grants from [Bikes Belong](#), evaluates communities on five criteria. League reviewers and local advocates extensively analyze a community's efforts in education, enforcement, engineering, encouragement, and evaluation. To find out more about the program, or to begin the application process, click [here](#).

New Bicycling Statistics Paint a Positive Picture

The Outdoor Industry Foundation has published its 2004 *Outdoor Recreation Participation in the United States* with 2004 statistics, and they found that 79.1 million Americans rode a bike on a paved road in 2004, as compared with 77.8 million in 2003. To see more cycling statistics, read the bike section of the study [here](#).

Let's Complete America's Streets!

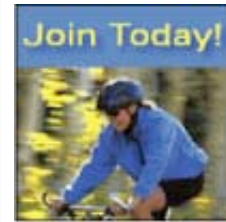
A new Web site, www.completethestreets.org, was launched to offer advocates, volunteers and industry leaders information on how to create complete streets across America. The site includes a [chart](#) of existing policies, [model language](#) for how to get to Complete Streets, and early [success stories](#). A diverse coalition makes up Complete the Streets -- the participants are listed [here](#). For other site resources, click [here](#).

Lance on Letterman Tonight

Seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong will be featured on the David Letterman show tonight on CBS. For schedule and broadcast information, click [here](#).

Complete Streets News in Colorado

On the Colorado legislative front, Colorado House Bill 1148 clarified the state's toll road rules and in doing so specifically added that bikeways and sidewalks are eligible for funding from collected tolls. The change is an improvement but is still far from a complete streets policy. Bicycle facilities should be included in every project unless exceptional reasons justify their exclusion.



Even with this new change, citizens have to work to get bikes included in a project. Bicycle Colorado is leading efforts to get complete streets in Colorado. For general information, visit www.completethestreets.org.



N.C. Gets Share the Road License Plates

It's official! The N.C. House and Senate have approved and the governor has signed the bill -- North Carolina now has a Share the Road license plate. \$20 from each plate will go to NC-DOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Division. In order for the DMV to produce the plates, 300 people need to order them. [Sign up](#) today!

APBP Looking for New Board Members

The [Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals](#) will be electing three board members this September. If you know of someone (including yourself) who is worthy of and eager to serve, please submit a candidate statement. The qualifications for the Board are two-fold: (1) be a member in good standing (dues paid), and (2) have a minimum experience level of two years working in the public, private or nonprofit sector on projects, initiatives or campaigns related to the purpose of the association as stated in the bylaws. Candidate statements are due August 18, 2005 to Judy Paul, Managing Director, [APBP](#), 957 Route 33, Suite 307, Hamilton Square, NJ 08690, 609.581.8244 (fax) or email to apbp@hq4u.com. It should be no more than four paragraphs and should: summarize your professional qualifications in the world of pedestrian and bicycle issues, describe what specific talents you would bring to the Board, and articulate a vision for the future of [APBP](#).

Want to Become an LCI? Sign up Today!

Becoming a League Cycling Instructor (LCI) is a great way to help cyclists in your community. Certified instructors can teach BikeEd classes to children and adults. If you are an experienced cyclist and League member who has completed Road I, you can apply to become an instructor. Instructors are trained at Seminars held throughout the year. Click [here](#) to see seminars scheduled for the coming months, including ones in Tampa, Fla. and San Luis Obispo, Calif. If you have any questions, contact [Bill Nesper](#) at the League or the site coordinator for the seminar you are interested in attending.

2005 Bicycling Hall of Fame Inductees

The board of directors of the U.B. Bicycling Hall of Fame has announced the inductees for the class of 2005. Selections are made based on review of nominations accepted from the national cycling community and the general public. The inductees are: William Spencer, veteran pre-1945 competitors category; Oliver "Butch" Martin, modern 1945 - 1975 competitors category; Ron Skarin, modern post - 1975 competitors category; Greg Hill, BMX category; Juliana Furtado, mountain bike category; Michael Aisner, contributors category; and Pierre Lallement (1843-1891), contributors category.



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August 15 , 2005

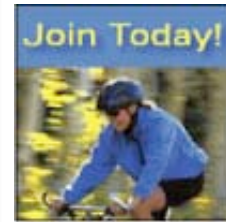
Ensure SAFETEA-LU Is Spent on Cyclists; Sign up for 2006 National Bike Summit

The National Bike Summit, is scheduled for March 1-3, 2006 at the International Trade Center in Washington, D.C.. The Summit features extensive seminars, workshops and panels exploring how to ensure the \$3.5 billion set aside for bicyclists and pedestrians in the latest Transportation Bill will actually be spent as Congress intended. To find out more and register, click [here](#).

Response to SAFETEA-LU, has come from around the industry. Here are some excerpts, with links to the entire articles:

- *America Bikes*: "This bill will help states provide substantial benefits for adults and children who ride bicycles." [More](#).
- *American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials*: "AASHTO leaders and other state transportation officials found much to praise in the reauthorization bill they have been waiting for almost two years." [More](#).
- *American Road & Transportation Builders Association*: SAFETEA-LU "is a step in the right direction, but will not come close to meeting the nation's highway/transit needs." [More](#).
- *Bikes Belong*: "We were successful because we banded together to support great advocates and lobbyists." [More](#).
- *Bicycle Transportation Alliance* (Oregon): "The core bicycling programs we support are represented strongly, and the passage of this bill includes some big victories for cyclists." [More](#).
- *Bicycle Retailer and Industry News*: "Cycling advocates were ecstatic at the news that many of their pet projects had made it through." [More](#).
- *International Mountain Biking Association*: "This new bill is great for mountain biking. We're pumped that funding for the Recreational Trails Program will increase." [More](#).
- *Rails to Trails*: The bill "contains several pieces of exciting news for trail users." [More](#).
- *Surface Transportation Policy Project*: " State and local transportation leaders should now do the same by squeezing every penny to deliver real travel options, healthier and safer communities, and better performance from existing facilities and services." [More](#).
- *Thunderhead Alliance*: "... is ready to tap these new funds through its member organizations for bicycling and walking." [More](#).

To learn more about the bill, and for updated analysis, visit www.bikeleague.org.



Bikes Belong Hires Deb Hubsmith

Bikes Belong Coalition has hired Deb Hubsmith of Marin County, California to coordinate the Safe Routes to School National Partnership. This network of organizations and professional groups is working to set goals, share best practices, secure funding, and provide detailed policy input to implementing agencies for Safe Routes to School, a new \$612 million federal program. Click [here](#) to read more.

Conserve By Bike Program in Energy Bill

The energy bill that President Bush signed into law on Aug. 8 includes a provision for \$6.25 million to go to up to 10 communities for Conserve by Bike. This new program will enable the communities, which have yet to be chosen, to promote bicycling as an energy reduction strategy. Special thanks to [Congressman Earl Blumenauer \(D-OR\)](#) and [Senator Richard Durbin \(D-IL\)](#) for getting this important passage in the bill. We look forward to working with the [Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta](#) to develop this program in the coming months.

Bike Racks on Buses Increase Commuters

Putting bike racks on buses brings new people to public transportation and to commuting by bicycle, new data from the National Study for Transit Research shows. The research showed that investment to put bike racks on buses is low, and return is high, with thousands of new riders using the racks and demand increasing for racks that hold three or more bikes. In fact, the study showed that one in four bikes on bus users is new to transit, and more than 80 percent of these new riders said the ability to use their bike on the bus was the reason they began using public transportation.

Approximately 72 percent use the service to commute to work. The study included 14 Florida transit agencies as well as Phoenix, Ariz., King County, Wash., Eugene, Ore., and Santa Clara, Calif. Most of the agencies have 100 percent of their buses equipped with bike racks. For more information, or to see the complete study, click [here](#).

NHTSA Releases Helmet Law Study

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has posted on its Web site a new study of bicycle helmet laws. The study was done by independent researcher Carol Stroebel. She examined six communities where helmet laws of various kinds had been passed, including one where it was subsequently repealed.

The study suggests: that law enforcement must make the law a priority; if the law is not enforced, it loses its effectiveness; on-going efforts in education and awareness are needed, similar to those supporting safety belt laws; proponents should educate the news media about the need for the law; the public needs to be better educated on the physics of injury; and those implementing the law must "continuously deliver the message" about bicycle helmet use and the law. Click [here](#) to see the whole study.

New Report on Obesity, Nutrition & Activity

There is a terrific new resource from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation that lists legislation that has been introduced and summarizes bills that were passed by states in 2005 to address obesity, nutrition and physical activity. It includes legislation that addresses PE, school foods, food marketing, menu labeling, BMI reporting in schools, access to walking and biking, industry liability, health education, and other issues. Click [here](#) to read the report.

National Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day

For the second year in a row, the International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) "National Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day" initiative has gained support from the U.S. Congress. A joint resolution (H. Con. Res. 205/S. Res. 195) sponsored by Senator Richard Burr (NC) and Congresswoman Virginia Fox (NC) has been earmarked for passage this fall. Additional co-sponsors are Senator Ken Salazar (CO) and Representative Mark Udall (CO).

In 2004, thousands of kids participated in more than 100 events nationwide and in several other countries. IMBA expects even greater numbers of participants in 2005. Click [here](#) to learn more.

DC Bike Registration to be Eliminated

The Washington, D.C. Police Complaints Board submitted a recommendation to the city's mayor and police chief recommending the elimination of DC's mandatory bike registration law. A number of complaints received by the Board suggest that MPD officers have enforced mandatory bicycle registration in Washington, DC, sporadically and improperly, raising questions about possible bias in these stops. The Board referenced the League's position paper in the report. Click [here](#) to read the position paper and [here](#) to read the report.

New Bicycle Coordinators Hired in La., Va.

The Louisiana Regional Planning Commission has hired Audrey Warren as the new RPC Bike and Pedestrian Education Administrator guiding a new initiative to address education, public awareness and enforcement issues for bike and pedestrian safety in the New Orleans Region.

The Virginia Department of Transportation hired David L. Patton as VDOT's new statewide bicycling and pedestrian coordinator. Patton will work on making Virginia a national leader in accommodating and promoting non-motorized transportation and recreation.

Job Postings in Michigan and Oregon

The League of Michigan Bicyclists is looking for an executive director. Click [here](#) to read the job description.

The Bicycle Transportation Alliance, based in Portland, Ore., is searching for a director of finance and development. More [here](#).

The League in the News

The League of American Bicyclists has been featured recently in the National Journal (not available online), on the radio show [Association Nation](#) (click on the July 31st show), and in a [Charlotte Observer](#) profile by member Robert M. Perkowitz.



AMERICAN bicyclist update



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August 29, 2005

Advocacy in Action: NIH Responds

The Bike Commuter Club at the National Institutes of Health, which boasts more than 300 members, sent out a call to action last week when they learned that new security gates at NIH's Bethesda, Md. campus would not permit bicycles to enter through the vehicle gates, forcing them to wade on the sidewalk and wait in long queues with pedestrians.

The League responded immediately, sending a letter to NIH's board, director, and executive staff, as well as to local media. In addition, local advocacy groups, bike clubs and bike shops rallied --- pointing out that the agency charged with national health should place a high value on people who commute by bicycle.

Thanks to the tireless efforts of the NIH Bike Commuter Club president, Angela Atwood-Moore, the policy was changed. Last Friday at 4:45 p.m. (the new gates began operation today) the executive staff contacted Atwood-Moore and told her that cyclists would be allowed to pass through the vehicle gates. Success!

If you are facing a similar bicycle-related issue in your community, be sure to let the League know --- we are here to help you.

America Keeps Putting on the Pounds

In the past year, the adult obesity rate rose in 48 of America's states, and nationally from 23.7% to 24.5%, Trust for America's Health found. Currently, about 119 million, or 64.5%, of U.S. adults are either overweight or obese. According to projections, 73% of US adults could be overweight or obese by 2008, Trust for America's Health warned. In turn, this would mean many more people with obesity-related illnesses such as diabetes and heart disease, which could cost the nation billions of dollars.

Bicycle riding, for fun, fitness and transportation, continues to be a great way to battle obesity, and the recent funding given to bicycling in the transportation bill will help spread the word to more potential cyclists during the next five years.

Call for Papers: Velo Mondial 2006

Velo Mondial is accepting abstracts until Wednesday, August 31. For more information, or to submit an abstract, contact info@velomondial2006.com.

LCI Hired as OSU Bike Coordinator

Shawn Gibson, who became a League Cycling Instructor in May 2005, has been hired as the bicycle maintenance and training coordinator for the Oklahoma State University Bike Patrol Program.

LCI Seminars in TX, PA, AZ, CA

Becoming a League Cycling Instructor (LCI) certified to teach



BikeEd is a great way to help cyclists in your community. Certified instructors can teach BikeEd classes to children as well as adults. If you are an experienced cyclist and League member who has completed Road I, use the forms below to apply to become an instructor. Instructors are trained at Seminars held periodically throughout the year. Upcoming seminars are: Sept. 23-25 in Lancaster, Pa.; Oct. 7-9 in Houston, Texas; October 7-9 in Phoenix, Ariz.; Oct. 28-30 in Morgan Hill, Calif.

For more information, or to attend, click [here](#).

League Annual Meeting at Cycle Oregon

The League of American Bicyclists is just two weeks away from its annual meeting, which will be held on Thursday, Sept. 15 at 6:30 p.m. at Champoeg State Park.

Executive Director Andy Clarke and the League's board of directors will speak about the League and field questions. We are also hosting David Herlihy, author of *Bicycle*, who will give a presentation on the history of bicycling at the park at 5 p.m.

For more information, or to attend, contact [Todd McDonald](#).



AMERICAN bicyclist update



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September 20, 2005

League Elects New Officers at Annual Rally

The League of American Bicyclists held its annual rally at Cycle Oregon last week, and the board elected a new slate of officers. Effective Sept. 15, Mike Greehan was elected president. The other officers are: Preston Tyree, vice president; Paul Wessel, treasurer; Amanda Eichstaedt née Jones, secretary; and Don Sparks, at-large member of the executive committee. Special thanks to outgoing president Chris Kegel for all of his hard work.

The Cycle Oregon rally was deemed an enormous success by all involved. Freda Brown, League member extraordinaire, rode her bike to Oregon from Chicago and then participated in the week-long ride. Four staff members spoke to thousands of riders about the League, and the entire board joined Cycle Oregon for Thursday night's karaoke (board member John Allen even sang!). Special thanks to the Cycle Oregon organizers who made the entire week a huge success.

Speak Up, Be Heard: Looking for Volunteers

Want to get more involved with the League? Volunteer to serve on one of our committees: Advocacy, Communications, Development, Ethics, or Education. The committees recommend directions for the League to the board, which then approves them and directs the staff. We are accepting volunteers until Sept. 30. You'll be notified in early October if you've been chosen to serve. For more information on what volunteering entails, or to sign up, e-mail marthea@bikeleague.org.

Sharrows Gain in Popularity in Western U.S.

From the Urban Transportation Monitor

Pioneered in Denver in the mid-1990s, sharrows -- shared-lane pavement markings -- are attracting the attention of transportation officials around the United States. But the markings are controversial. In June, Boulder, Colo., became one of the few cities outside of California to install the shared-lane markings; that same month, sharrows were rejected by the National Committee on Uniform Traffic Devices, an organization that sets national traffic standards. Portland, Ore. has also started using the markings. To read the entire article, click [here](#).

Cleveland Extends Bike-on-Train Hours

Like many cities across the country, when Cleveland, Ohio began allowing cyclists on commuter trains, they were limited to non-rush-hour times. However, with 100 percent of the city's buses now outfitted with bike racks, the city ran a pilot program this summer allowing bikes on the train at all times except two hours -- one in the morning and one in the evening. The program was such a success -- users increased from 388 in July 2002 to 858 in July 2005 -- that it



has been extended indefinitely.

Finally! A Use for Discarded Bike Chains

Worn out bike chain, a common waste product of bicycle repair, is getting a second chance at life thanks to a new recycling program sponsored by [Resource Revival](#). The company, which repurposes the chain to make functional and decorative home décor items, is offering free chain pick up at cycling shops in 10 Western states. The effort will help save shop owners disposal costs and keep recyclable parts out of local landfills.

Celebrate International Car Free Day Sept. 22

Leave your cars at home on Sept. 22 in celebration of International Car Free Day. Thousands of cities around the world close their streets to cars, and walking, cycling and using public transportation is encouraged. For more information, click [here](#).

Michigan, Hawaii, DC Bicycle Job Openings

The League of Michigan Bicyclists is looking for an executive director. To read more about the position, click [here](#).

The Hawaii Bicycling League is also looking for an executive director --- the complete job listing appears [here](#).

The Washington (D.C.) Area Bicyclist Association is hiring a membership & development manager. Click [here](#) to learn more.



AMERICAN bicyclist update



September 26, 2005

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League Announces Top 25 at Interbike

The League of American Bicyclists is celebrating its 125th anniversary in 2005, and as part of the celebration the group enlisted a panel of celebrity judges to select the top 25 change agents in American cycling history. The final list will be unveiled on Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 8:40 a.m. in the League's booth at Interbike, and featured in the fall issue of *American Bicyclist* -- which mailed to League members today.

The list was chosen from more than 300 nominees from members and cyclists across the country, and finalized by industry leaders, advocates and pioneers. Look for it in your mailbox soon!

Silent Auction for Safe Routes to School

Bikes Belong and Interbike have donated exciting bike-related items and space on the Interbike show floor for the League of American Bicyclists silent auction. The auction is benefiting the League's Safe Routes to School program, and will be held throughout the event. On Friday, Sept. 30 at 12 p.m., the bidding will officially close and the winners announced.

Donated items include Trek Travel trips, Bell helmets worn by George Hincapie and Ivan Basso, a CycleOps 300PT Indoor Cycle signed by Floyd Landis, and much more. Stop by the League booth to find out more or place your own bid on these spectacular items.

New Bicycle Friendly Communities

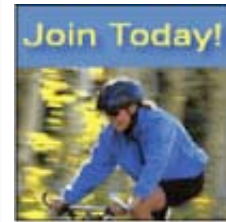
The latest list of Bicycle Friendly Communities, including the first platinum-level award, will be announced on Wednesday, Sept. 28 at 8:40 a.m. at the League's booth. Stay tuned for more info!

Mass. Buses to Incorporate Bike Racks

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) has announced that more than 250 new bike racks will be placed on buses in Massachusetts. In all, the MBTA plans to purchase close to 300 bike racks (some will be kept as spares) at an estimated cost of \$255,000. Federal grant monies distributed by the Boston MPO are funding the program, and installation is scheduled to begin in the spring of next year. MBTA Bus Operations staff will closely monitor the bike rack program, and then make recommendations on whether to expand the program to other bus garages and routes. The Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition (MassBike) lauded the MBTA and its new General Manager Daniel Grabauskas for its plan.

Ride with the Governor in South Carolina

Everyone in South Carolina is invited to Sunday lunch at the Governor's Mansion on October 9, Gov. Sanford said, but he conceded that there is one small catch. "In keeping with my frugal



nature, there's no such thing as a free lunch - you're going to have to work for it. All you have to do is bike with us from Aiken to Columbia," Gov. Sanford said. "This is just one more way we hope to encourage people to be a bit more active in their day-to-day lives, which will go a long way toward improving our health and overall quality of life as individual South Carolinians."

Lunch at the Mansion will conclude the Sunday, Oct. 9 bike ride for participants in Gov. Sanford's Second Annual Family Fitness Challenge. The 59.7-mile bike ride from Aiken to Columbia will begin at 9 a.m. at the Newberry Street Festival Center in downtown Aiken (100 South Newberry Street). More details of the route are posted on the Web site, www.scgovernor.com, where cyclists are encouraged to register for updates and information.



AMERICAN bicyclist update



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Gas Prices Provoke Media Coverage

League board member Harry Brull was featured in a Sunday Styles story of the New York Times on October 10 (click [here](#) to read it -- free registration required) and League Executive Director Andy Clarke was interviewed by Liane Hansen on NPR's Weekend Edition about cycling to work (click [here](#) to listen to the interview).

Davis, Calif. First Platinum-Level Community

Davis, Calif. has been designated a Bicycle Friendly Community at the platinum level, the first time the top designation has been awarded to any community in the United States. Two communities are recognized at the bronze level (Albuquerque, N.M. and Vancouver, Wash.), bringing the total number of communities in the program to 52. For more information on the latest designations, or to see all the Bicycle Friendly Communities, click [here](#).

Call for Papers: National Bike Summit 2006

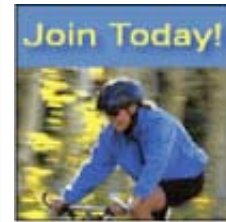
We are now accepting papers for the sixth annual National Bike Summit, which will be held March 1-3, 2006 in Washington, D.C. Papers and presentations should reflect the 2006 Bike Summit's focus on building bicycle friendly communities with the funds secured through SAFETEA-LU. Papers are due **no later than December 2, 2005** and may be submitted via email to sarah@bikeleague.org, or via mail to League of American Bicyclists, 1612 K Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006. For more information, click [here](#).

Safe Routes Moves into High Gear

Implementation of the new federal Safe Routes to School program moves into a higher gear this month.

- the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has appointed Tim Arnade as the Safe Routes to School program manager in their Office of Safety.
- FHWA has asked their division offices to identify -- by October 15 -- who will be handling Safe Routes issues, and for State DOTs to appoint their full-time SR2S coordinator by the end of the year.
- the League is co-hosting a meeting of the Safe Routes to School National Partnership with Bikes Belong on October 24-25; developing a short promotional DVD on Safe Routes; and offering training to the new state SR2S coordinators in conjunction with the National Bike Summit, March 1-3, all courtesy of a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

For more information about the National Safe Routes to School Partnership and how to join, click [here](#).



Majority of Americans at Risk for Obesity

A large, community-based study — considered the first study to assess the long-term risk of developing overweight and obesity in adults — found that over 30 years, nine out of 10 men and seven out of 10 women were overweight or became overweight. In addition, more than one in three were obese or became obese. The study was supported by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI), one of the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Researchers analyzed the short-term and long-term chances of developing overweight and obesity among more than 4,000 white adults enrolled in the offspring cohort of NHLBI's landmark Framingham Heart Study, an ongoing longitudinal study in Framingham, Massachusetts. Participants ages 30 to 59 were followed for 30 years, from 1971 to 2001. The results appear in the October 4, 2005, issue of the *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

Cities Win Contest for Most Bikes on Buses

Phoenix, Ariz., with 302,416 boardings, has the highest total number of bicycle boardings for May - August 2005, and Fort Myers, Fla. had the highest percentage during the same time, with 4.24 percent of riders bringing a bicycle on the bus. Other communities recognized in Sportworks' nationwide Rack and Ride Transit Challenge include Marysville and Santa Cruz, Calif. and Honolulu, Hawaii.

Santa Cruz, Calif. Gives Bikes Away

The city of Santa Cruz, Calif. is giving away about 100 bikes to people stranded by a bus strike. The City Council unanimously passed an emergency ordinance during a special meeting with the city Public Works Commission. "We have no illusion this is a solution to end the strike," said Mayor Mike Rotkin, also a transit director. "This is one small thing we can do to help people cope with the difficult situation we're in." Bicycle resource group Hub for Sustainable Transportation, led by Micah Posner, will work to restore and distribute the city's bikes. Posner, who approached city leaders with the bike idea, said Metro bus drivers will pitch in to fix the bikes — many in poor condition — and pass them out to bus riders left without transportation by the strike.

Vegas Has Bike Map; Plans Improvements

The City of Las Vegas unveiled a 2006 Bicycle Map at a Regional Transportation Commission-sponsored Viva Bike Vegas. The glossy, color-coded map caps a lengthy review process to update the previous map published in 1999, RTC spokeswoman Shannon Stevens said.

The RTC estimates about \$50 million in sales tax funds will have been spent on a network of on-street bicycle paths by the end of 2016. Those improvements will include changes to existing roadways that already have room for bike lanes and reconfiguring those that don't to accommodate new lanes at a cost of roughly \$60,000 a mile. By then, the RTC expects there to be 634 miles of off-street paths, up from the 56 miles now in place. Another 809 miles of bicycle lanes are expected to be built or reconfigured, up from the 74 existing miles, according to the agency.

Venues Sought for LCI Classes

The League is currently creating the 2006 schedule for League Cycling Instructor Seminars. If you are interested in hosting a seminar or in becoming a League Cycling Instructor, contact Bill Nesper at bill@bikeleague.org or 202-822-1333.

League of Illinois Bicyclists Hiring

The League of Illinois Bicyclists is hiring a bicycle education program manager. To read more about the position, click [here](#).



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AMERICAN bicyclist update



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October 19 , 2005

CNN to Feature Bicycle Commuting Tonight

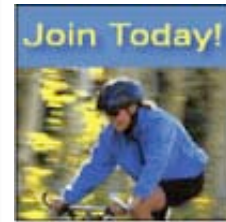
Tom Foreman, a CNN correspondent, is doing a series on different methods of transportation, and today he is focusing on bicycle commuting. Monday he drove to work, Tuesday he took the subway, and Thursday he is planning on walking his entire 11-mile commute. Tonight, during the 11 p.m. news hour, eastern time, he will discuss bicycle commuting, its pros and cons, and how to get started. As part of his ride, he stopped by League headquarters in Washington, D.C. and interviewed our staff. Be sure to watch!

Pima, Ariz. to Provide Cycling Education

Pima County, Ariz. is providing bicycle driver and commuter education classes that include a free bike lighting kit (\$40 value) and free food. The classes and perks are funded via local non-profit support, a \$15 registration fee and a Transportation Enhancement Activities grant. Contact Matthew Zoll, AICP, Bicycle and Pedestrian Program Manager, Pima County Department of Transportation, 201 N. Stone Avenue, 5th Fl, Tucson, AZ 85701-1215, 520-740-6746, Matt.Zoll@dot.pima.gov.

Seattle Bike Works Searching for Exec. Dir.

David Strong is leaving his position as executive director of Bike Works in Seattle (Columbia City). His departure leaves an opening for a community-minded cycling advocate to promote positive values to underserved youth in south King County. Applications are due by Oct. 24. To find out more, click [here](#).





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AMERICAN bicyclist update



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Nominate Bicycle Club of the Year

Don Stathos, Bicycle Advocate Passes Away

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November 7, 2005

Bike Safety Legislation Works

Missouri recently passed bicycle safety legislation, and it is already having a noticeable effect: Cyclist Jon Cunningham of Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. was riding at the fort when the mirror of a passing car hit him. Because the new law requires motorists to leave a safe distance when passing a bicyclist, the driver of the vehicle was fined \$1,000. To read more, click [here](#). To see copies of the Missouri state statutes regarding bicyclists and pedestrians, click [here](#).

SR2S National Partnership Launched

Since 1970, the percentage of U.S. children who bike and walk to school has plummeted. During this time, childhood obesity has tripled, and sedentary lifestyles are widely recognized as a major contributing factor. Safe Routes to School is a logical solution. The movement to create safe routes for kids to walk and bike to school took a big step forward on October 24 when the Safe Routes to School National Partnership held its first formal meeting in Washington, D.C. Forty diverse groups from throughout the U.S. met to identify goals for the national movement, and to initiate a productive working relationship with the Federal Highway Administration, which is charged with administering the new Safe Routes to School federal program. More information is available at www.bikesbelong.org.

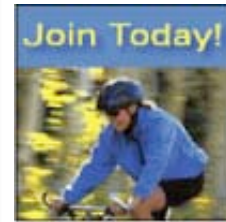
Rep. Inglis Speaks Up for Bicycle Safety

On Nov. 2, U.S. Rep. Bob Inglis (R-SC) spoke on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives in support of bicycle safety, following the recent death of Greenville's Jeanne Menard. "As a society we want people to ride bikes in order to relieve congestion in our streets, in order to make them healthier and also just to have some fun. The problem is we're not all attentive to those bikes. In South Carolina, there were 21 bicyclists killed in 2004, and so far this year 10. Nationwide 600 bicyclists have been killed yearly in crashes with automobiles. I applaud the groups like the League of American Bicyclists, the Palmetto Cycling Coalition, the Spartanburg Freewheelers and the Greenville Spinners, of which Jeanne Menard was a part, in their efforts to promote bike safety. I hope that all of us will take the time to spread the word in our own districts."

New Bikestation Opens in Long Beach

Bikestation, a public Park & Ride for cyclists, opened on Friday in a new, state-of-the-art center in downtown Long Beach, Calif. *Bikestation* offers an advanced entry system accessible 24 hours a day to members; indoor bicycle parking; shared-use bicycles; and a repair-retail shop. Bike parking is free during daily business hours. For more information, click [here](#).

Submit a Paper for the National Bike Summit



We are now accepting papers for the sixth annual National Bike Summit, which will be held March 1-3, 2006 in Washington, D.C. Papers and presentations should reflect the 2006 Bike Summit's focus on building bicycle friendly communities with the funds secured through SAFETEA-LU. Papers are due **no later than December 2, 2005** and may be submitted via email to sarah@bikeleague.org, or via mail to League of American Bicyclists, 1612 K Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006. For more information, click [here](#).

Nominate the Bicycle Club of the Year

To help choose between the hundreds of great and active clubs affiliated with the League, we have asked our six regional directors to do the impossible: recognize just one club in each of their regions for making an outstanding contribution to advancing bicycling in the community. If you know of an outstanding club or think that your club deserves recognition for making an contribution to advancing bicycling in your community, send the club name to your League regional director.

Don Stathos, Bike Advocate, Passes Away



Don Stathos passed away on October 20 (pictured behind Tom McCall, signing the Oregon Bicycle Bill). Stathos was author of the Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Bill, a tireless member of the Oregon Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee for more than 30 years, shepherd of Oregon's groundbreaking bicycle lifestyle, and a lifelong Republican who believed in taking care of each other and building strong communities.



AMERICAN bicyclist update



November 21, 2005

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Davis, Calif. Becomes Platinum BFC

In a ceremony today, Andy Clarke, the League's executive director, awarded Davis, Calif. the platinum-level bicycle friendly community designation, marking the first time the highest level of this award has been given out. "For 40 years, Davis has had one of the highest levels of bicycle use in the country — currently 17 percent of journeys to work are made by bike," said Andy Clarke, executive director of the League of American Bicyclists. "This comes as a direct result of policies and choices [Davis residents] have made over the years. Bike lanes and trails permeate the community and enable people of all ages to ride to school, to work, and for recreation and errands." For more information about the award, or the program, click [here](#).

Share the Road Campaign 2006: Speak Up!

The League of American Bicyclists is launching a new campaign: Share the Road 2006: Protecting the Rights of Cyclists. We won't rest until we've put an end to cyclists being intimidated, abused, buzzed, run off the road, or killed by motorists who don't obey the laws. Our goal is to empower cyclists to take a stand when they face harassment and to continue teaching all users to share the road. Read about the campaign, and the impetus behind it, in a letter from League president Mike Greehan, [here](#).

Bicycling Can Extend Your Life

A new study published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine* concludes that avoiding a sedentary lifestyle not only reduces the risk of heart disease, it actually expands the total life expectancy by up to four years. To read more, click [here](#).

Bikes Belong Awards \$26,400 in Grants

Bikes Belong awarded grants in November to four innovative bicycling projects. They were given to the [Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia](#), [One Less Car](#) in Baltimore, Md., [Friends of the Falling Water Trail](#) in Jackson, Miss., and the [Mid-Atlantic Off Road Enthusiasts](#). For more information, click [here](#).

Deadline Approaches for Bike Summit

We are now accepting papers for the sixth annual National Bike Summit, which will be held March 1-3, 2006 in Washington, D.C. Papers and presentations should reflect the 2006 Bike Summit's focus on building bicycle friendly communities with the funds secured through SAFETEA-LU. Papers are due **no later than December 2, 2005** and may be submitted via email to sarah@bikeleague.org, or via mail to League of American Bicyclists, 1612 K Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006. For more information, click [here](#).

Major Taylor Curriculum Expanded



The Major Taylor Association, Inc., and Massachusetts State Sen. Harriette L. Chandler, D-Worcester, have expanded the Major Taylor free curriculum guide. The lessons about trailblazing black athlete Marshall W. "Major" Taylor, 1899 world cycling champion, now include materials for all grade levels. For more information, click [here](#).

Vote Hincapie Athlete of the Year

Sports Illustrated has nominated George Hincapie as one the athletes competing for the title Sportsman of the Year. The voting will continue until the announcement on Dec. 9. Click [here](#) to read the nomination and vote.

League of Mich. Bicyclists Hires Exec. Dir.

Rich Moeller of Pulaski, Pa. has been hired as executive director of the League of Michigan Bicyclists, replacing Lucinda Means, who passed away unexpectedly in April 2005. "I can think of no better way to use the skills I have developed in my YMCA career than to channel them into what has been my life-long passion -- bicycling. I relish the opportunity to promote bicycling and the rights of bicyclists in Michigan," said Moeller. For more information, click [here](#).

New Wisconsin Bicycle Map Released

The Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and American Bike Trails have joined forces to publish the 2005 edition of the Wisconsin State Bicycle Map. The new map highlights the most favorable bicycling conditions and rates all roadways for bicycling. The map is split into 8 panels printed on 4 separate "maps." To buy it, click [here](#).

New York Bicycling Coalition Wins Award

The Automobile Club of New York (AAA) presented its Outstanding Achievement Award in Traffic Safety to the New York Bicycling Coalition. The October 6th, 2005, ceremony recognized NYBC's efforts to educate motorists on safely sharing the road with bicyclists and pedestrians. This award, in the Organization Category is the latest of several NYBC has garnered over the years from various groups. The current program is an effort to educate Driver's Education teachers on information regarding safe motorist interaction with bicyclists and pedestrians. By educating the trainers it is the goal of the program that more Share the Road material will be integrated into both the standard driver's education class as well as insurance reduction program. For more information on the award or the Share the Road program contact NYBC at 518-436-0889 or nybc@nybc.net.

Mt. Shasta, CA Gives Free Bike Registration

Mt. Shasta, Calif. police are giving away a National Bike Registry registration to any bike owner in the city who requests one. The NBR program gives the Mt. Shasta Police Department, as well as other police departments nationwide, access to the extensive NBR registry, so they can track down the rightful owners of bikes they recover.

CycleTexas.com Launches Cycling Guide

CycleTexas.com, a Texas-based cycling resource, has released a comprehensive, web-based guide to cycling in Fredericksburg and the Texas Hill Country. The online resource provides free, detailed cycling information, including routes, visitor resources, local events calendar, tips on avoiding obstacles unique to rural roads (e.g. cattle guards), and public service information regarding responsible cyclist use of public roadways.



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AMERICAN bicyclist update



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November 28, 2005

Cyclists Score Important Victory in Kentucky

In an important victory for cyclists everywhere, the Kentucky Supreme Court has struck down a decision blaming a cyclist for being on the road when a passing vehicle hit her. In reaching this decision, the Supreme Court specifically noted that a driver's duty when passing a cyclist such as the plaintiff in this case requires that the driver not pass "unless he can do so without interfering with the safe operation of [the] bicycle, and that if, in fact he did pass [the cyclist] that he not drive to the right until he was reasonably clear of [the cyclist]."

"This decision is important because it reaffirms cyclists' right to the roads. As an appellate decision, it is binding precedent for future cases in all of the courts in Kentucky," says League Region 1 Director John S. Allen, who has served as an expert witness in bicycling cases. "And we can expect the decision, as it is by a state Supreme Court, to be cited by other courts in future cases throughout the United States."

The League, with in conjunction with local Kentucky bike clubs, filed an amicus brief in support of the cyclist. To read the entire decision, click [here](#).

Send in National Bike Summit Papers by Fri.

We are now accepting papers for the sixth annual National Bike Summit, which will be held March 1-3, 2006 in Washington, D.C. Papers and presentations should reflect the 2006 Bike Summit's focus on building bicycle friendly communities with the funds secured through SAFETEA-LU. Papers are due **no later than December 2, 2005** and may be submitted to sarah@bikeleague.org, or to League of American Bicyclists, 1612 K Street, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20006. For more information, click [here](#). To register for the Summit, click [here](#).





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AMERICAN bicyclist update



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Bikes Fly Free

December 5, 2005

Colorado Cyclists Fight State Patrol Ban

Colorado, one of the most bicycle friendly states in the U.S., has a tempest brewing over the sudden and inexplicable move of its State Patrol. On Nov. 28 the State Patrol published a decision it made to limit rides in the state to 2,500 riders--effective immediately. Because of the immediate and effective public outcry, the ban has now been put on hold for one year, but it should be rescinded outright. In a letter to the State Patrol, League Executive Director Andy Clarke said, "States around the country, from Texas to Oregon, have found safe and effective ways to host cyclists in the thousands, understanding that encouraging a healthy lifestyle and fun means of transportation is worth the extra work that large rides may entail." To learn more about this issue from Bicycle Colorado, and to sign a petition, click [here](#).

South Carolina Looks at Complete Streets

Senior staff at the South Carolina Department of Transportation will benefit from a four-hour Complete Streets training on Wed., Dec. 7. The program, hosted by the League and the Palmetto Cycling Coalition, and supported by a generous grant from the Bikes Belong Coalition, offers real life examples and design scenarios of complete streets, encouraging South Carolina to implement their existing policy for current and future road projects. The training program, developed by the Toole Design Group, is designed to be a model for other states nationwide. The half-day training, which is given in conjunction with the state's annual bicycle and pedestrian conference, will be complemented by a 90-minute workshop on Complete Streets and a reception.

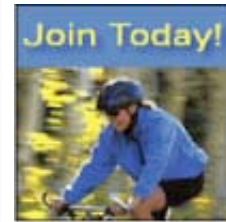
Transportation Research Board Update

The Transportation Research Board's annual meeting, Jan 22-26, 2006 in Washington, D.C., will also help spread the word about Complete Streets. The meeting is a gathering of hundreds of bicycle/pedestrian experts, and includes a major emphasis on complete streets with workshops and conference sessions. Other highlights include: ITDP's announcement of Seoul, Korea as the Sustainable Transport Award recipient; the Bicycle Transportation Committee meeting on Wed., Jan. 25 at 2:30 p.m.; and the Feet First Caucuses on the same day at 6:30 p.m. To learn more about the meeting, or to register, click [here](#).

Integration of Bicycles & Transit

In more Transportation Research Board news, the agency has released its latest analysis on the integration of bicycles and transit. The research, which was led by Toole Design Group, shows that many transit agencies nationwide have implemented bicycle programs since the original study was done in 1994. To read the entire analysis, click [here](#).

Deadline Extended for Velo Mondial



The early-bird deadline for Velo Mondial has been extended to Jan. 20, 2006, and hotel accommodations in Cape Town, South Africa are selling out quickly. The global bicycle planning conference, with a theme of "Toward Prosperity," will be held March 5-10, 2006. To register, click [here](#).

Bicycle Leadership Conference News

The Bicycle Leadership Conference, which will be held Jan. 29-31, 2006 in Tempe, Ariz., includes a bike tour of Tempe, a bicycle friendly community, and an analysis of how 15 years of federal funding have made a difference locally and nationwide. For more information, or to register, click [here](#).

Cyclist/Advocate Stops Robbery in Maine

Cycling advocate Jeff Miller, executive director of the Bicycle Coalition of Maine, helped stop a robbery in Augusta, Maine when he chased a robber on his bicycle. A pedestrian also gave chase to the would-be thief, and the purse-snatcher was stopped by them both. To read the whole dramatic tale, click [here](#).



AMERICAN bicyclist update



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2. Supreme Court of Kentucky Recognizes Cyclists' Rights
3. Bringing Bicycling to Omaha, Neb. and Platinum Davis, Calif.
4. More League Cycling Instructors Than Ever
5. Reaching Tons of Clubs and Advocacy Groups
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December 19, 2005

Top Ten Ways We Worked for You in 2005 ...

1. Funding for Better Bicycling

When the League put on its first National Bike Summit in 2000, it would have been hard to imagine a success as large as the transportation bill that passed in August 2005. Thanks in part to the work of hundreds of cycling advocates and bike industry leaders speaking up on Capitol Hill during past National Bike Summits, more than \$4.5 billion will be invested over the next four years in improving conditions for bicycling and walking. The law includes a \$612 million Safe Routes to School program in addition to increased funding for core bicycling programs. Of course, none of this could have happened without the strong coalition behind America Bikes and the generous financial support of Bikes Belong. To register for National Bike Summit 2006, click [here](#).

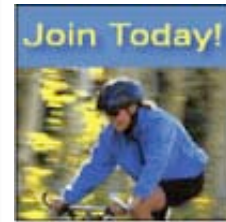
2. Standing Up for Cyclists in Kentucky

While it seems ironic to claim a court reading the law correctly as a victory, that is exactly what cyclists are doing in Kentucky this year. In November, the Kentucky Supreme Court decided in favor of a cyclist who was hit by a passing motorist --- overturning lower court decisions that said the cyclist did not have a right to be on the road in the first place. In reaching this decision, the Kentucky Supreme Court specifically noted that a driver's duty when passing a cyclist such as the plaintiff in this case requires that the driver not pass "unless he can do so without interfering with the safe operation of [the] bicycle, and that if, in fact he did pass [the cyclist] that he not drive to the right until he was reasonably clear of [the cyclist]." The League, in conjunction with Kentucky bike clubs, filed an amicus brief in support of the cyclist.

3. Creating Bicycle Friendly Communities

After decades of building an incredible infrastructure for bicycling, the city of Davis, Calif. applied to, and successfully became, the first platinum-level Bicycle Friendly Community. As an additional sign of the strength of this program, cities around the county are asking for workshops to learn how to improve their communities for bicycling:

- Louisville, Ky. hosts first regional bike summit and adopts BFC status as a goal for 2008
- Omaha, Neb. organizes BFC training workshop; within one month a regional advocacy coalition is established to move forward
- Norman, Okla. re-establishes a defunct bicycle advisory committee in effort to become the first Okla., community recognized by the program.



This program would not be possible without the generous support of the Bikes Belong Coalition.

4. Education Across the Nation

Buzz Feldman, a bike shop owner in Longmont, Colo. who became an LCI this year, has since put his shop staff through Road One so they can share BikeEd principles with their customers. In 2005, the League doubled the number of League Cycling Instructor seminars from 2004 (offering 20 seminars as compared to 10 the year before), and doubled the number of certified instructors. We're going to do even more in 2006--three seminars are already scheduled for January and February.

5. Growth in Club Outreach

The Plano, Texas Bicycle Association has been working with the League on ride leader training courses, appealing to the mayor of Plano to become a Bicycle Friendly Community, and donating money to make sure our advocacy work continues in Washington. This kind of education, promotion and advocacy work is vital to the League's relationship with most of our 537 clubs and advocacy groups. In 2005, we launched the *Cue Sheet*, a quarterly newsletter just for clubs, and grew our club membership from 420 clubs to 537. We're going to continue to strengthen these bonds in 2006.

6. Energy Bill Rises

Even before gas prices skyrocketed to more than \$3 per gallon, the Conserve by Bike amendment was included in the Energy bill passed by Congress in August. The provision, an important element of the League's National Bike Summit agenda in recent years, authorizes \$6.25 million to study the impact of programs that encourage people to use bicycles rather than drive for some trips. Special thanks go to the Chicagoland Bicycle Federation, the Bicycle Coalition of Maine and their respective congressional delegations for their hard work on this amendment.

7. Safe Routes for Young Riders

We're making sure the next generation of riders gets an early start by continuing to co-host a national meeting for Safe Routes to School program leaders. In 2005, the meeting was under the auspices of the newly formed Safe Routes to School National Partnership. The partnership will ensure wise use of the \$612 million federal program approved as part of the transportation bill. The League also put the finishing touches to a Safe Routes riding curriculum that will be launched in 2006.

8. Promoting Cycling Everywhere

Did you start riding your bike to work this summer, driven by your love of riding and the cost of fuel? League board member Harry Brull did, and was featured in the New York Times. In addition to that great article, the League was featured on CNN, NPR's Weekend Edition, the Wall Street Journal, Washinton Post and Newsweek. The coverage was prompted by SAFETEA-LU, the increase in fuel prices, and the increasing popularity of cycling. Next year, we plan on doubling fuel prices so everyone will ride their bikes (just kidding).

9. Bringing the League to You!

Thousands of members and cyclists nationwide had the opportunity to learn first-hand about the League thanks to an outreach campaign spearheaded by staff, board, and volunteer members in recognition of the 125 th anniversary of the League's founding. Major events included Bike New York (35,000), MS-150

from Houston to Austin (13,000), RAGBRAI (10,000) and Cycle Oregon (2,000). League staff—and the new League tent—attended events in more than 20 states. And we've got more planned for next year!

10. Listening to You; Improving Your Ride

During 2005, the League completed a member survey, launched a new magazine, and increased the frequency of our electronic newsletter. The feedback from members was immediate and vocal --- you like the new magazine, love more pictures of cyclists in our publications, and -- most importantly -- want us to focus even more on protecting and promoting the rights of cyclists. As we launch our Share the Road campaign in January 2006, we will continue to fight for the rights of cyclists across America. Thanks for a great year, and here's to 2006!



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