

Sharing the road with trucks and buses safely is focus of recent presentations at GHS, Waterloo Container

- Alan Brignall

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The Virginia Tech Transportation Institute came to Ontario and Seneca counties Oct. 14 to provide free presentations focusing on educating student drivers about how to share the road with trucks and buses safely.

Seneca Falls Town Justice and retired State Trooper Steven Kelley helped coordinate VTTI's visit to Geneva High School that morning, along with a second event later in the day for the Seneca County Magistrates and Clerks Association, of which Kelley is vice president.

Earlier this year, Kelley said he attended a judicial training program in Grapevine, Texas, that focused on commercial vehicle issues. After observing VTTI's "Share the

Road" program, he believed it would be a valuable and relevant presentation for area high school students, especially given the high volume of commercial traffic in our region.

Kelley shared the idea with his daughter, Shannon Kelley, the recently appointed principal of Geneva Middle School. Steven said his daughter collaborated with new Geneva High School Principal Matt Heath, who was receptive to the idea and helped facilitate scheduling at Geneva High.

The "Share the Road" presentation at Geneva High also featured a traffic safety rollover demonstration conducted by the New York State Police, along with a meet-and-greet with Geneva Police Department officers and a State Police recruiter.

Kelley said after speaking with Waterloo Container owner Bill Lutz, Lutz offered his Route 414 facility to host a joint meeting of the Seneca County and surrounding magistrates associations. The "Share the Road" program was presented to area judges and clerks at the Waterloo Container facility.

, and the session also included a live demonstration of a North American Standardized Truck Inspection by the State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit.

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