Truckers Against Trafficking Newsletter

Notable quotes from this month

When asked the question "Why are you a TAT?" owner/operator Jim D. answered, "Being part of TAT is only natural. As a father and a professional truck driver I believe it is my duty to protect the innocent. If only one person sees the decal and calls for help, or if I make a call and help one person get out of the human trafficking industry, I have made a difference."

Human trafficking in the news

Anglicans, Roman Catholics, and Muslims sign historic agreement to combat human trafficking, slavery
Objectives include getting the G20 to condemn modern-day slavery, persuading 50 major corporations to commit to slavery-proofing their supply chains and... click to continue reading.

This hotel is fighting human trafficking like people's lives are depending on it
Human trafficking is a global issue. As a global company with operations in 160 countries, we have the "sphere of influence" to make... click to continue reading.

Helping women escape 'the life'
Ninety-five percent of the women Vednita Carter helps struggle with addiction, abuse, trauma, financial instability and... click to continue reading.

TAT spreads the word at MATS about human trafficking and the role of trucking to fight it

The 2014 Mid-America Trucking Show in Louisville, Kentucky at the end of March proved to be a busy three days for TruckersAgainst Trafficking. Volunteers handed out over 6,000 wallet cards and 150 DVDs.

Trucking personalities Dave Nemo from Sirius XM Radio and country-western singer Tony Justice stopped by the booth. Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, represented TAT at the first annual
follow up a call and find it is nothing (and it rarely is nothing) than to not have someone call in and have the situation end in tragedy. I have been attending conferences on human trafficking for a few years, and this is stressed over and over. Please call it in!!! Don't think that because you don't see and hear lights and sirens and people getting arrested that your information is unimportant or being dismissed. Your information might be the one thing more they need for an investigation to move forward. It takes dedicated men and women time to gather enough for an arrest. Sometimes they have to hold back on a small lead so they can save more people at one time by waiting a bit longer."

TA/Petro Citizen Driver Award luncheon. Seven grand prize winners had their favorite TA or Petro location named in their honor. TAT also hosted a table at the Salute to Women Behind the Wheel event put on by Women in Trucking. "We were very encouraged by the positive response to TAT from the WIT membership," said Paris.

After speaking with TAT volunteers, one trucker stated, "Thank you for changing my perspective. I hadn't thought of it that way. We are all God's children." Another trucker, Ron "Straydog" Witherspoon, shared a poignant poem he'd written about an encounter with an exploited and prostituted woman at a truck stop. It spoke to the sadness and lack of humanity endured by these women and girls in their world.

Kylla Leeburg, TAT social media coordinator, explains the TAT wallet card and the importance of calling the national hotline when drivers suspect trafficking.
SiriusXM host Dave Nemo poses with TAT board member Molly Wolff.

Bill Brady, trucker and TAT speaker and driver, shares information on human trafficking with MATS participants.
Country-western singer Tony Justice poses with his mother. Justice puts a TAT wallet card in each of his CDs.

Molly Wolff helps MATS participants learn what they can do to fight human trafficking.

TAT to make upcoming appearances

Fresh off an appearance at the Truckload Carriers Association conference in Grapevine, Texas, as well as manning a booth at MATS, TAT will be represented at the following events:

- American Trucking Association’s Safety Management Council meeting on April 3, Kendis Paris, TAT executive director, speaking
- TAT Coalition Build in Indianapolis, Indiana on April 8, Kendis Paris speaking
- In Our Own Backyard: Human Trafficking in Iowa event April 28, Kendis Paris speaking with the Iowa Department of Transportation, local healthcare providers and public
officials on what is being done now

- Concerned Women of America in Manchester, Maine on April 9 at Hope Baptist Church, Kylla Leeburg, TAT social media coordinator, speaking
- Maine Motor Transport Association meeting on April 9 in Augusta, Maine, Kylla Leeburg speaking
- Coastal Bend Coalition Against Modern Day Slavery Symposium on April 11 in Corpus Christi, Texas, Lyn Thompson, TAT strategic volunteer for communications, speaking

To learn more about our coalition builds, click here.

Thank you to our new corporate sponsor Landstar

In addition to joining TAT by training its employees with TAT materials and adopting other TAT best practices, Landstar, long known for its safety-first culture, is TAT’s newest bronze level corporate sponsor.

Landstar provides supply chain solutions and complete global and domestic transportation services. Through their network of independent transportation and warehouse capacity providers and independent sales agents, they have the flexibility and experience to meet any supply chain challenge.

What is TAT?

Truckers Against Trafficking (TAT) is a non-profit organization that exists to educate, equip, empower and mobilize the trucking industry to combat human trafficking as part of their regular jobs. Domestic sex trafficking occurs along our nation’s highways and at its truck stops, where traffickers can sell their victims to a transient population they believe are less likely to attempt rescue. In response, TAT is asking the 3 million domestic truckers, as well as other members of the trucking industry, to become aware of this issue, and, when they suspect a human trafficking case, to call the national hotline and report it. Visit our website at www.truckersagainsttrafficking.org to learn more.