June 7, 2019

AAMVA Congratulates Rhode Island on a Successful S2S Launch
AAMVA congratulates Rhode Island on successfully implementing State-to-State Verification Service (S2S) during the weekend of June 1, 2019 and becoming the 25th participant using the new service. All migration activities have completed on schedule. CDLIS and S2S services are fully operational now. AAMVA would also like to thank volunteer states Nebraska and Illinois who assisted with Rhode Island's migration. Minnesota is scheduled to begin using S2S on September 30, 2019. Other jurisdictions will also begin using S2S in the upcoming months and AAMVA looks forward to supporting them during their onboarding process. Read more here.

Georgia Conducts NMVTIS Transactions Online
AAMVA is very pleased to announce that Georgia has recently implemented online updates and inquiry in NMVTIS. Congratulations, Georgia! For more information about NMVTIS federal compliance requirements, please contact Tom Manuel, AAMVA's Senior Program Manager.

Looking for Members to Lend Their Expertise
AAMVA is looking for additional jurisdiction members to lend their expertise on our three standing committees. Serving on a committee is an ideal way to influence policy, develop best practices and network with your peers. Visit aamva.org to see the list of specific positions that we are seeking jurisdiction members to fill on our Driver, Law Enforcement, and Vehicle standing committees. If a region is indicated, the applicant chosen will be from that region. If the region is shown as "Any Region," the applicant chosen could be from any of AAMVA's regions. We attempt to maintain jurisdictional and regional balance on all committees and working groups. If you would like to serve on one of our committees, please complete the Committee Member Application Form. All applications must be received by June 15, 2019. Even if you submitted an application previously, please resubmit. If you have questions, please contact Dianne Graham via email (committees@aamva.org) or phone (703.522.4200). Click here for more information.

Good News! Marylanders Have More Time to Renew Real ID (Maryland)
The recall deadline on REAL IDs in Maryland for June has been pushed back to July 3...To check REAL ID status, people can go to the MVA's REAL ID Look Up Tool. When customers enter their driver’s license or identification card number, the tool provides details on their REAL ID status. The message asks customers to collect the required documents and make an appointment, if applicable. Appointments aren't...
required, but those who make one are guaranteed to be seen within 15 minutes of the scheduled time. The Motor Vehicle Administration has opened a new location for appointments adjacent to their Parkville branch called the Parkville Annex, which gives Baltimore County residents 224 additional opportunities each day for an appointment. Read the article at wjla.com.

Too Little Air, Too Much Cement: CVSA Roadcheck 2019 Uncovers Violations (Maryland)
About 130 officers and inspectors with the Maryland State Police and representatives of eight other agencies were on hand to conduct inspections and help out. This year’s Roadcheck emphasis was on steering and suspension systems, said Capt. Josh Barnes of the Maryland State Police...During the enforcement effort, inspectors primarily were conducting North American Standard Level I Inspections, a 37-step procedure that includes an examination of driver operating requirements and vehicle mechanical fitness. However, inspectors said they may opt to conduct the Level II Walk-Around Driver/Vehicle Inspection, Level III Driver/Credential/Administrative Inspection or Level V Vehicle-Only Inspection, CVSA said. Read the article at ttnews.com.

The Real ID Is Coming to NJ. Here’s What You Need to Know Before You Stand in Line at the MVC. (New Jersey)
Real ID driver’s licenses are coming to New Jersey this month, but questions from drivers about the new, more secure license are being asked now. Here’s the quick recap: The Motor Vehicle Commission will start beta testing issuing Real ID licenses — which will be necessary if you want to board a commercial airliner without a passport — at one, unnamed agency in June. That will expand to other agencies, but when, depends on how many problems come up and how quickly they can be solved, said Sue Fulton, MVC chief administrator. Read the article at nj.com.

Will It or Won’t It Go Forward? Vote Scheduled on Controversial Driver’s License Bill (New York)
It is perhaps one of the most controversial issues that the New York State Assembly is looking to tackle before the end of its session: should undocumented immigrants be allowed to get a NYS driver’s license? Those opposed say people who came into the country illegally should not be eligible for a license unless they apply for citizenship. Clerks in all eight (8) Western New York Counties have voiced opposition to the idea because it would allow undocumented immigrants to use foreign documents to prove their identity - something the clerks fear will make it hard to spot fake documents. On the other side, supporters say the bill is needed to help undocumented immigrant families who cannot drive children to school or medical checkups without fear of being deported. Read the article at wkbw.com.

Mark Schroeder Confirmed as State DMV Commissioner (New York)
A Western New Yorker is now the state commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The state Senate's vote Tuesday confirmed Mark Schroeder for the job. Schroeder was previously the comptroller for the City of Buffalo and ran a primary against Byron Brown in the last election for mayor. Read the article at spectrumlocalnews.com.

Behold the Vanity Plates DC Rejected in 2018 (Washington, DC)
What does it take to get a personalized plate rejected in the District of Columbia? Follow the same ancient rule about conversation at dinner parties: It’s best to stay away from God and politics. Of the 53 tags DC Department of Motor Vehicles staffers rejected in 2018, eight included application-ending references to God or books of the Bible—tags like 4ULORD, PSALM23, and YESGOD got the hook. Read the article at washingtonian.com.
Age Requirement Drops from 21 to 18 for CDLs in Alabama
Last week, Gov. Kay Ivey signed a bill to lower the age requirement to get a commercial driver's license in Alabama and the change will go into effect in early 2020. The intention is to attract more people to the business of driving trucks. According to long-time truck driver, Justin Dean Faust, who is now a CDL instructor at Trenholm State Community College, the new law allowing drivers to obtain licenses at an earlier age might help younger drivers so they wouldn’t mind the sacrifice of making a good living on the road away from family, so early in their careers. Read the article at dothaneagle.com.

House Transportation Committee Votes to Pass Act Focused on Rideshare Safety (North Carolina)
A bill to make rideshares safer in North Carolina is one step closer to becoming law. The House Transportation Committee voted to pass the Passenger Protection Act Tuesday morning. The bill would put regulations in place to ensure passengers are getting in the right car. These regulations would include requiring rideshare drivers to display the vehicle’s license plate number in a location visible from the front of the vehicle, and requiring drivers to display signage or emblems while active on the rideshare platform. Read the article at wcnc.com.

Stay Safe on the Road: THP Releases TN Traffic Fatalities Report (Tennessee)
The Tennessee Highway Patrol reported that 410 people have died on TN roads this year. The number has increased to 38 more than this time last year. THP reported, Urban area deaths in the state have increased by 40, while rural deaths have decreased. Pedestrian and motorcyclist deaths have also increased as compared to last year, according to the data. Read the article at wvlt.tv.

With a Red Light Camera Ban in Place, Do You Have to Pay an Outstanding Ticket? (Texas)
Gov. Greg Abbott signed House Bill 1631 into law Saturday, banning red light cameras in Texas. But many drivers still have questions about why some cities may be allowed to operate the cameras and whether drivers really have to pay the tickets. The new ban allows local authorities to operate red light camera systems under the terms of vendor contracts -- until those contracts expire. The law also eliminates the enforcement mechanism, saying the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles or a county assessor-collector can not refuse to register a vehicle because of an unpaid red light camera violation. Read the article at nbcdfw.com.

Process to Reinstatate Suspended Driver's Licenses to Begin July 1 (Virginia)
The Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is preparing to send letters to Virginians whose driving privileges are suspended for failure to pay court fines and costs to advise them of any specific requirements for obtaining their driver’s licenses. The state budget includes a provision that prohibits courts from suspending driving privileges solely for failure to pay court fines and costs, effective July 1. Also beginning July 1, any Virginian whose driver’s license has been suspended for that single reason will have his or her driving privileges restored, and the associated reinstatement fee waived. The change only affects a person’s ability to get his or her driver’s license. It does not eliminate the requirement to pay the underlying court costs and fines. Read the article at yourgv.com.
The Missouri Highway Patrol Just Cracked a Big Odometer Fraud Case — Here's How to Check Your Car
Like most big criminal cases, the odometer fraud ring that Missouri Highway Patrol Cpl. Nate Bradley recently busted started with one victim. 'A gentleman came to my shop here in Lee's Summit and he said, "Hey, I bought this car, and I think I got swindled,"' Bradley recalls. 'So I started looking into it and sure enough, he got swindled.' Over a five-year investigation, Bradley eventually uncovered 48 victims of a rollback scheme around Kansas City, according to a grand jury indictment in a case that was recently unsealed. Read the article at kcur.org.

New Driver's License Office Opening (Nebraska)
If you're license renewal is due, there is a new location to pay attention to. A new driver licensing office is opening in North Omaha, replacing the office currently located at N 30th Street. The new office will continue to roll out of the streamlined licensing process, already in place at the Metro South location in Bellevue. This new setup will create a more efficient experience for customers, who will no longer need to line up again to pay county treasurer staff separately. One other change customers will notice is the transition of the north office to become an express station, meaning customers can complete all standard license renewal practices at this location, however the express location will not offer written or driving tests. Read the article at 3newsnow.com.

Ohio Decides to Eliminate Its Front License Plate Requirement
Since 1908, the state of Ohio has required drivers to install a front license plate on their vehicles. Starting next year, that is all about to change. Governor Mike DeWine recently signed a new transportation bill for the state of Ohio. Among the provisions in this bill was the elimination of a front license plate requirement for the state. Currently, Ohio is one of 36 states that require a front license plate. Despite being a part of this majority, Ohio is surrounded by states that do not require a front license plate. The debate on whether to keep front license plates or eliminate them was a heated one leading up to the bill. Read the article at thenewswheel.com.

WisDOT Catches Fraudulently Ordered Driver's Licenses of 71 Dane County Residents (Wisconsin)
Duplicate driver's licenses were fraudulently ordered for 71 Dane County residents, indicating that those residents' identifying information had been compromised, officials with the state Department of Transportation said Friday. Several callers told the DOT that they received duplicate driver's licenses in the mail that they had not ordered, Department of Motor Vehicles administrator Kristina Boardman said. Officials discovered that the driver's licenses had been ordered through the DMV's online system, Boardman said, which requires knowledge of a person's Social Security number, driver's license number and date of birth. Read the article at wisconsin.com.

State Senate Passes Bill Waiving Title Transfer Fee for Deceased Spouses (Wisconsin)
A bill is working its way through the corridors of the State Capitol that would waive the $69 title transfer fee when removing the name of a deceased spouse’s name from a motor vehicle title. The state Senate unanimously passed S.B. 162 on Wednesday; it now goes to the Assembly where it is expected to pass. 'When a spouse dies, it is an emotionally and financially difficult time for the surviving loved ones,' state Sen. Van Wanggaard, R-Racine said in a statement. 'While it may seem like a small fee, this fee can be an obstacle to moving through the grieving process. This bill helps individuals heal when they are ready to do so.' Read the article at journaltimes.com.
Service Alberta Enacts Section 75.1 of the Operator Licencing and Vehicle Control Regulation, Alta Regulation 320/2002
The Registrar of Motor Vehicle Services (Service Alberta) has enacted section 75.1 of the Operator Licencing and Vehicle Control Regulation, Alta Regulation 320/2002. This is to assist residents under evacuation order from the communities of High Level, parts of Mackenzie County south of High Level and Dene Tha’ First Nation communities of Bushe River, Meander River and Chateh who may encounter difficulties renewing their driver's licence, identification card and vehicle registration(s). Evacuees with expiring driver's licences and/or vehicle registrations have until July 31, 2019 to renew these documents. Read the article here.

Arizona Is Getting More Specialty License Plates
Arizona residents already have more than 60 specialty license plates to choose from, and they may soon have even more options. State lawmakers approved several bills during this legislative session, which wrapped up earlier this week, to create seven new specialty license plates. 'The nice thing about having so many specialty plates, of course, is that there are a real diverse number of charitable organizations that get a lot of people’s interest,' said Doug Nick, a spokesman with the Arizona Motor Vehicle Division. Read the article at ktar.com.

DMV Hears Comment on Regulations for Testing AV Delivery Vehicles (California)
California is moving a little closer to allowing self-driving delivery vehicles to shuttle packages from companies like Amazon or even restaurant takeout orders. The state’s Department of Motor Vehicles heard comments on May 30 regarding new regulations that would establish the testing of autonomous light-duty delivery vehicles with a gross weight of less than 10,001 pounds. The comments Thursday at DMV headquarters came from industry representatives, business groups, transportation planning officials and others. Most encouraged the DMV to move forward with setting up rules that would allow for the testing. The state already allows for the testing of other forms of autonomous vehicles. Read the article at techwire.net.

Hey, Idahoans! Don't Want to Wait in Line at the DMV? You May Not Have to Anymore (Idaho)
Idahoans may be able to avoid the lines at the Department of Motor Vehicles with a new service that the state is offering. The Idaho Transportation Department announced Thursday that renewing a driver's license, identification card or vehicle license plate can now be done through a new website, Drive Idaho, at itd.idaho.gov/DriveIdaho. 'Qualified Idahoans can now skip the line at the county sheriffs' and assessors' offices by going online for DMV services,' Division of Motor Vehicles administrator Alberto Gonzalez said in a news release. Read the article at idahostatesman.com.

Lyft Completes 50,000 Self-Driving Rides in Las Vegas (Nevada)
Last week, the ridesharing service Lyft announced that the company had completed more than 50,000 autonomous for Lyft passengers. The company’s effort is in partnership with Aptiv, and with the recent milestone, the two make for the largest commercial self-driving program in the nation. The program was launched in 2018 after the Consumer Electronics Show, or CES, with Aptiv’s Autonomous Mobility platform was introduced to Lyft’s ride-hailing app. A fleet of 30 self-driving vehicles took to the streets, accomplishing 5,000 rides by August 2018 using Aptiv’s three different types of sensors to maneuver. Read the article at news3lv.com.
Stolen Title Advisory (New Mexico)
To all jurisdictions, please be on the lookout for and do not accept titles from New Mexico for the following sequence 23404501 to 23404631. These are the paper stock numbers and are listed in the middle of the title under NOT A TITLE NO. If you should notice one of these titles being submitted please contact our investigator at either his email or phone number (Jason.Wagner@state.nm.us, 505-383-2370).
Read the letter here.

FMCSA Launches Interstate Pilot Program for Drivers Ages 18-20 with Military Experience
The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration is now accepting applications for a pilot program that would allow people between the ages of 18 and 20 who possess the U.S. military equivalent of a commercial driver license to operate trucks in interstate commerce. FMCSA announced the pilot program’s launch June 3. The program, slated to run for up to three years, is meant to help veterans and reservists find jobs in the trucking industry. Current federal law does not allow this age group to drive Class 8 commercial motor vehicles across state lines. Read the article at ttnews.com.

GM Adds Trickier Roads to Its Semi-Autonomous Driving System
General Motors is adding 70,000 miles (113,000 kilometers) of roads across the U.S. and Canada to the area where its Cadillac Super Cruise semi-autonomous driving system can run, including some with cross traffic similar to those that have confused Tesla's Autopilot system. Currently the GM system can travel on 130,000 miles (210,000 kilometers) of limited-access highways that don't have crossing traffic or intersections. It will expand to 200,000 miles (320,000 kilometers) in the fourth quarter of this year. GM says it has tested the system and it should spot cross traffic and brake. But it also tells drivers they have to pay attention and be ready to act if necessary. Read the article at oklahoman.com.

Heavy Metal, Classical Music Cause Bad Driving, Study Finds
Music experts have long pointed out similarities between the conventions of heavy metal and the music of Bach, Beethoven and other classical masters, and it turns out both genres correlate to opposite but similarly dangerous behaviors. Whether you like head banging or pretending to conduct an orchestra, you shouldn't do it while driving. A U.K. road safety study conducted by IAM Roadsmart and Auto Express magazine examined the effects of different types of music on driver behavior. Listening to heavy metal while driving distracted the test subject and made his driving more irregular, but listening to classical caused him to be overly relaxed and too slow, the study found. Read the article at iheart.com.

How to Keep Your Teens Safe During the '100 Deadliest Days of Summer'
Schools are closing, and teens are officially on summer break. Parents, do you know what that means? Your teens are hitting the road with their friends. This period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is known as the '100 Deadliest Days of Summer.' Unfortunately, this is the time of year where teen accident rates are much higher than usual...Here are seven ways to keep your teens safe during these dangerous days of summer. Read the article at foxreno.com.

Leaders Discuss Roadway Automation Readiness at the
ITS America Annual Meeting (Washington, DC)
At the ITS America Annual Meeting, taking place in Washington DC from June 4-7, key leaders and members from US organizations gathered to discuss how roadways can be readied for automation. Insights and knowledge were shared from several bodies and organizations, including ITS America, the US Department of Transportation’s Federal Highway Administration (FWHA), the Institute of Transportation Engineers, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA), the Cooperative Automated Transportation Coalition, the International Bridge, Tunnel and Turnpike Association (IBTTA)...Cathie Curtis (above), director of vehicle programs at the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA), commented that the attention should be on existing technologies. 'We need to focus on technology that can already be found in cars,' she said, 'such as advanced driver assistance systems (ADAS). Consumers are confused about these technologies. As a result, AAMVA is developing guidance about these systems for states, regarding how to test and use them.' Read the article at traffictechnologytoday.com.

Motorcycle Safety Foundation’s ‘Ride Along with Dr. Ray’ Video Series Now Available
The Motorcycle Safety Foundation announced the availability of an exciting new video series called “Ride Along With Dr. Ray,” available at msf-usa.org/RideAlong.aspx. In this twelve-part series, you can get inside the mind of MSF’s Dr. Ray Ochs as he rides along a variety of Southern California roads and deals with situations that motorcyclists face every day. As you listen to his stream-of-consciousness narration, you’ll see how he applies decades’ worth of MSF’s collective wisdom to make his rides safer and more fun. Read the article at motorcyclepowersportsnews.com.

Pop Quiz: What Do You Know About Motorcycle Safety?
The warmer weather means more people will be heading out for a cruise on their motorcycles. To help keep everyone safe, the state is kicking off a new campaign this year to help motorists prevent crashes with motorcyclists. 'It's geared to raise motorcyclist awareness,' said Chad Teachout with our friends at the Michigan Secretary of State. Do you know a lot about motorcycle safety? Teachout has a quiz that will test your knowledge. See how you do! Read the article at clickondetroit.com.

Secure Your Load Day: Check Your Load Before You Get on the Road!
[June 6th] is National Secure Your Load Day! An important reminder every year about the dangers of driving on roads with loose items in the back of your vehicle. This causes major accidents nationwide every year. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2016, there were 683 deaths, 19,663 injuries and 90,266 incidents related to unsecured loads. In just three years, between 2011 and 2014 there were more than 200,000 crashes, resulting in 39,000 injuries and 500 deaths. Unsecured loads cause harmful road debris as well...Founder Robin Abel spoke to the importance of everyone taking the time to check their loads before they get on the road. She said, 'We put on our seat belts and fasten our children in car seats so why is it that we think it's OK to leave anything loose in the bed of our trucks and risk endangering others on the road? A 20-pound object at 55 MPH has a force of 1,000 pounds at impact.' Read the article at foxreno.com.
Stay on top of the chatter in the MVA and LE community. You may be surprised at what you’re missing! Follow @AAMVAConnection.

Check out recent @AAMVAConnection Twitter action.

***Thank you for the @AAMVAConnection mentions!***

CVSA @CVSA | View the Tweet
Today, June 6, is Secure Your Load Day. CVSA encourages everyone (commercial motor vehicle drivers and passenger vehicle drivers) to properly secure their loads to help safeguard lives, and keep roadways safe and clean.

Arizona DOT @ArizonaDOT | View the Tweet
ADOT TRIVIA POLL: In honor of Arizona Secure Your Load Day on Thursday, here’s our question: About how many debris-related crashes are there annually? Hint: https://www.azdot.gov/media/blog/posts/2019/06/06/see-road-debris-don-t-us-call-911 …

- 39,000
- 44,000
- 51,000

Vote 76 votes • 17 hours left

CHP Headquarters @CHP_HQ | View the Tweet
In honor of #NationalDonutDay, the CHP has a sweet reminder for motorists… Doughnut forget to #BuckleUp - Every trip, Every time! We Donut want to be without you. Seat Belts Save Lives!
FLHSMV @FLHSMV | View the Tweet
#FHP's Office of Commercial Vehicle Enforcement recently hosted an 80-hour commercial motor vehicle post-crash inspection course for members of FHP, the @kshighwaypatrol and @MEStatePolice in Jacksonville.

MaineSOS @MESecOfState | View the Tweet
@AAMVAConnection has recognized the State of Maine for having the highest organ donor designation rate in Region 1, which includes 18 U.S. States and Canadian provinces, at 55.8% @GovJanetMills celebrated with us today at the State House. Sign up here: https://www5.informe.org/cgi-bin/online/bmv/organ_donor/index.pl ...
MD_MVA @MD_MVA | View the Tweet
Thanks to @tzd_maryland, @MDSHA, our speakers and Signal Woman for helping to spread awareness about pedestrian and bicyclist safety. Be sure to use crosswalks, stop for pedestrians, obey signs and signals and #LookAlive. #MDOTsafety

New Jersey MVC @NJ_MVC | View the Tweet
ICYMI – For all you need to know about REAL ID Readiness at the NJMVC, check out Chief @SueFulton’s recent interview on @Jersey Matters with Larry Mendte.
NYS DMV @nysdmv | View the Tweet
@NYGovCuomo announced that @nypolice issued 13,693 tickets and arrested 225 people for impaired driving over Memorial Day weekend, as part of the STOP-DWI traffic enforcement period. The initiative targeted impaired and reckless drivers, read more here: https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-state-police-arrest-225-people-impaired-driving-over-memorial-day …

PA Department of Transportation @PennDOTNews | View the Tweet
#DYK Harsher penalties went into effect for drivers convicted of DUI? A 4th DUI in 10 years is now a felony. A 3rd DUI offense in 10 years may also be a felony, depending on the driver’s BAC. #NationalRepeatDay CC: @PAStatePolice
We are updating the security features of Driver's Licenses and ID cards, which means starting in July, licenses & IDs will no longer be printed during your DMV visit.

Today the first group of employees were trained on how to use the new system.
To manage all your AAMVA subscriptions, click here.

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